

Media Release

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Boral to build new \$33m masonry plant in Western Australia and progresses plans to build a new masonry plant in South Australia

Boral Limited announced today that it intends to build a new \$33 million concrete masonry plant at its Middle Swan (Midland Brick) site in Western Australia. The new masonry plant will replace Boral's existing 40-year old, high cost, low capacity Cannington plant more than doubling that sites current output.

Keith Mitchelhill, Executive General Manager of Boral's Clay & Concrete Products division, said: "Boral remains committed to the growing WA economy and in particular our valued customers. We see a real opportunity to expand the market for masonry products by increasing capacity because growth in the WA concrete masonry market, as a whole, has been restricted since 2000 due to installed capacity operating at close to full utilisation."

"Boral's new masonry plant will be highly automated and include the world's latest technology, having the capability to produce a broad range of concrete block and paver products for residential and commercial markets, which coupled with Midland Brick's market presence and sales and marketing expertise, positions us well to realise future growth potential."

The new masonry plant will produce masonry products at substantially lower cost than current WA production and will deliver safety and environmental benefits including reduced product waste, greater energy efficiency and reduced manual intervention.

All external approvals have been granted and construction on Boral's new WA masonry plant is expected to commence in the June quarter of 2008. Construction is expected to be complete in the June 2009 quarter, with the plant being fully operational shortly thereafter. Following completion of the new plant, Boral's existing masonry plant at Cannington will be decommissioned and the land sold. Boral's second WA masonry plant at Jandakot will continue operating.

Boral has also announced that it is progressing plans to replace the older of its two concrete masonry plants in South Australia. Planning and development applications have been granted by the relevant local authorities to construct a new 145,000 tonne per annum masonry plant at Pooraka to replace Boral's 40 year old *Plant 1* with a modern technology, automated plant. Subject to Board approval and building approvals, the new plant would increase Boral's masonry capacity in SA by around 80% and is expected to be under construction during 2009. The new plant will give Boral the capability to manufacture paving products with a variety of surface textures currently not manufactured in the South Australian market.

For further information please contact

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