



QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED

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For immediate release

QAL Community Forum celebrates 10 years

Last week, Queensland Alumina Limited's (QAL) Community Forum celebrated 10 years of the refinery and community members working collaboratively to improve the plant's environmental performance.

The community-based initiative was established in late 2001 with the aim of giving community members an avenue to discuss issues with QAL's senior management. The forum soon became a constructive two-way communication tool, whereby QAL management was able to listen while also updating community members on the refinery's commitment to implementing environmental improvement projects.

The forum has averaged around 25 members over the last decade, three of which were at the original forum in 2001 and remain active members to this day.

QAL Manager Director, Phil Campbell said the forum has achieved its primary goal of working alongside the Gladstone community and, as a result, QAL is continuously working to reduce its impact on the community.

"One of the key reasons we developed the Community Forum was so that the community could put a face to QAL's operations and work through concerns together with senior management," Mr Campbell said.

"Community input is greatly valued and has impacted upon future operation goals and the direction of many environmental projects. The Forum has allowed us to further see where we are doing right and wrong, while also establishing successful collaborations, including an annual meeting between the QAL Board of Directors and Forum representatives and members assisting us to monitor environmental impacts outside the QAL boundary," he said.

"The QAL Community Forum was the first of its kind in Gladstone and its continuation for a decade is testament to its success and the need for quality two-way communication with our community."

Rennie Fritschy, QAL Managing Director at the time the Community Forum was established, was also in attendance at the celebrations and acknowledged how far QAL's relationship with the community has come.

"When I look at all of QAL's environmental achievements over the past decade, I am blown away. As the years go on, community expectations grow and it is evident that QAL is working hard to grow with them," Mr Fritschy said.

Celebrations on Wednesday included an informal dinner prior to the Forum celebrations at QAL's Bob Druitt Training Centre. Forum members were joined by special guests from Department of Environment and Resources Management,

Gladstone Regional Council, Gladstone Industry Leadership Group and the local member for Gladstone, Liz Cunningham.

QAL Community Forums are held every three months at QAL. Community members wishing to attend or receive copies of presentations can phone the Community Hotline on 1800 181 110.

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QAL representatives, community forum members and special guests marked a decade of collaboration and acknowledged environmental improvements.

About Queensland Alumina Limited:

Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) commenced operation in March 1967 with an annual production rate of 600,000 tonnes of alumina. Today QAL is one of the world's largest alumina refineries, producing 3.95 million tonnes of the world's best smelter grade alumina per year. With an average workforce of 1050 employees, QAL is the region's largest employer and annually contributes approximately \$400 million directly to the local economy.

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