

GE moving its Queensland headquarters to Greater Springfield



GREATER SPRINGFIELD: Springfield Land Corporation today announced that GE Australia had chosen Greater Springfield, located just 35 minutes south-west of the Brisbane CBD, as its new Queensland headquarters.

At a cost of \$72m, the purpose-built 14,000 square metre office building will cater for 1200 people and aims to achieve a 5-star Green Star rating. The site, which will have access to restaurants, cafes, crèches and a gymnasium as well as other shopping, services facilities and extensive parklands, is under construction.

GE will base its Queensland Headquarters at the site, housing the majority of its Queensland office-based employees there from early 2015, along with other tenants.

With a population of nearly 25,000, and expectations of housing more than 100,000 people by 2030, Greater Springfield is emerging as one of the most dynamic urban growth and business hubs in Australia. Greater Springfield and GE are jointly working towards accreditation under the new Green Building Council of Australia GreenStar Communities initiative, one of the world's first national schemes to assess and certify the sustainability of precinct-level projects.

Steve Sargent, President and CEO, GE Australia and New Zealand, said GE's decision to move its Queensland headquarters to Greater Springfield was a significant investment in the company's Queensland operations and formed part of its broader commitment to Greater Springfield as a key technology partner for the emerging city.

"We have been working alongside Springfield Land Corporation since 2009 and we share their vision of Greater

Springfield as a sustainable city of the future. I'm confident that this new office location will offer our employees a modern, healthy and productive working environment.

"Our new purpose-built, energy-efficient site will provide our employees with a huge variety of choice for eating and shopping, as well as easy access to essential services such as banks and chemists.

"Greater Springfield will not only be the site of our new Queensland headquarters, but will showcase some of our world-class technologies in distributed energy and water infrastructure. We also look forward to working with Springfield Land Corporation and its partners in developing a leading-edge, integrated health ecosystem for all Greater Springfield residents," Mr Sargent said.

Along with the doubling of the local University of Southern Queensland campus and the SouthBank-style parklands underway, city founder and visionary Maha Sinnathamby said the growing community was in great shape to reap the many benefits of becoming a world-class city.

"I want to welcome GE and its employees to the wonderful community that is Greater Springfield with everything it has to offer." he said.

Speaking at today's announcement ceremony, Mr Sinnathamby and Mr Sargent jointly thanked Queensland Premier, The Hon Campbell Newman MP for visiting the site and for the State Government's ongoing support and planning for the region.

GE's new office will be within eye view of Greater Springfield's \$253 million Polaris Data Centre, considered one of the biggest and most advanced 'clouds' in Australia.

In June, Mater Health Services announced construction of a \$85 million private hospital for the area's Health City.

In December, the State Government's \$1.2 billion dual-track rail line opens to Springfield and Springfield Central stations. A duplication of a major part of the Centenary Highway is also due for completion in March 2013.