

Queensland government trade representatives Susan Rae (second left) and Ray Matta (far right) with AIS staff (l-r) Elena Gosse, Alex Volobuev, Roman Orlingis and Kerry Gosse.



Exporting success to Middle East

Brisbane-based water disinfection technology company Australian Innovative Systems (AIS) is successfully exporting its products to the Middle East.

As part of the Queensland government's Export Week last month, the state's trade and investment commissioner for the United Arab Emirates Susan Rae and trade and investment business manager Middle East Ray Matta visited one of AIS's three manufacturing facilities at Tingalpa.

In September, the company signed an agreement with Qatar firm Protec to market and sell AIS products in the Gulf region.

In 2008, AIS modified its salt water chlorine generator

(marketed as Autochlor) to better suit the harsher environment and higher salinity water of the Middle East. In 2009, the company developed an in-line, on-site chlorine generator (marketed as Ecoline) capable of sterilising fresh water to achieve potable quality.

AIS's technology has been used in the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Dubai and Al Forsan International Sports Resort in Abu Dhabi.

"Progressive businesses in the region are looking to countries such as Australia for innovative, cost-effective water treatment solutions," AIS executive director Elena Gosse said. ■

Training for water industry

by Karen Wrigglesworth

The Australian Water Association (AWA) and engineering consultancy Opus International Consultants launched a new registered training organisation to serve the Australian water sector – the AWA Opus Water Training Institute (WITI) in March. The first round of training is expected to start in early 2013.

WITI will deliver nationally recognised water industry training in partnership with training organisation The Learning Collaborative. Opus is owner of the Environmental Training Centre, the primary provider of water industry training in New Zealand.

WITI will initially focus on delivering NWP30107 Certificate III in Water Operations and intends to provide NWP20107 Certificate II in Water Operations in the future.

"We have had a multitude of enquiries from regional

clients such as shire councils and organisations from the mining sector, and we're excited about working with these groups further to develop individual training packages," WITI marketing manager Petra Kelly said.

WITI was established as the result of concerns expressed by AWA members over increasing skills shortages in the Australian water industry, and the lack of access to quality training in regional Australia.

The WITI model involves high levels of face-to-face training – something that is typically unavailable for industry operators in regional Australia. WITI also aims to ensure robust supervision for the non-contact periods of the training courses.

For further information go to www.witi.com.au. ■

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