



Media Release

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HOLCO EXPANDS IN THE TOP END

With the expansion of its Darwin operations, Holco will become the Northern Territory's largest dedicated meat supplier.

Construction has commenced on a new \$5 million state-of-the-art cold storage and distribution centre, which will increase the company's delivery capacity, give customers better access to products and diversifies its product range.

Holco Managing Director, Mr Mike Rankin, said the company was building the new facility to help better serve its continually growing customer base from a range of key industry sectors.

The development will increase Holco's cold storage capacity by 400% to 500 tonnes of meat, and support the delivery of fresh beef, chicken, lamb, pork, seafood, kangaroo and crocodile to mining sites, healthcare organisations, restaurants and supermarkets across the Northern Territory.

"Holco has maintained a strong presence in the Northern Territory and has served the region for more than 20 years," Mr Rankin said.

"Heath Wilson, our Food Service General Manager in the NT, has worked tirelessly to build strong relationships with our customers and drive further growth.

"Our Darwin operation has grown over the years and has become an invaluable part of our business today.

"Expanding our current facility at Winnellie will encourage further growth but also help us to lift the standards of meat supply across the entire industry."

The company's Northern Territory operations have been a solid contribution to its overall business growth.

Holco, which has operations in Adelaide, Darwin, Brisbane and Coffs Harbour, has grown its annual turnover to around \$200 million, up from \$120 million five years ago.

Mr Rankin said the expanded Darwin processing facility could also serve as a platform for further growth opportunities in the future.

"By broadening our foot print, we're also positioning ourselves to target export markets," he said.

“There’s a burgeoning middle-class market overseas, particularly in South East Asia, that’s driving demand for high quality, affordable meat products.

“While our first priority is the local NT market, we plan to build stronger relationships with key trading partners in the coming years.”

Civil works have commenced on the new site with construction expected to be completed by December 2015.

Holco currently employs 18 staff in the Northern Territory, out of a total workforce of 370.

Established in 1955, Adelaide-based Holco services customers across Australia with industry-leading reputation for high quality products, competitive prices and outstanding customer service. Thomas Foods International acquired a 50% share of Holco in 2012, formalising a long-standing association between the two South Australian family companies.

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