

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## **Holco increases stake in Australian meat market**

South Australia's largest domestic fresh meat supplier is looking to take its sales figures north with the opening of a new processing and distribution plant in Brisbane.

Each week Holco processes and delivers around 300 tonnes of fresh beef, chicken, lamb and pork products across Australia from its operations in Adelaide and Darwin.

The company expects the new Queensland site to be producing an additional 50 tonnes of meat products per week within six months, much of which will help feed the state's rapidly growing mining industry.

"We believe our income out of Queensland can grow to almost \$20 million within 18 months," said Holco's Managing Director Mike Rankin.

Located in Morningside and in operation since the end of August 2011, Holco's plant will have an initial workforce of 11 people, which will expand as the business grows.

"We are very excited to have a new plant in Brisbane, providing our company with a springboard for growth in a number of areas," said Mr Rankin.

"Holco is already a major supplier of meat to the mining industry, either through direct contracts or as a supplier to catering companies.

"With the rapid mining expansion in Queensland, we believe there is potential to significantly increase sales of high quality meat to mining camps.

"Aged care is also a growth industry across Australia, and one that values reliability and food safety.

"Holco's comprehensive quality assurance monitoring procedures, both in the production room and the delivery process, ensure clients receive goods produced to the highest standards of hygiene and temperature control.

"Having an operational base in Queensland will also open up new export opportunities for us, and this is an area we are actively pursuing."

In 2010/11 Holco achieved a turnover of \$118 million, which was an increase of 9% compared to the previous financial year.

The company is aiming for an annual turnover of \$140 million within two years.

Holco has begun the new financial year in a strong position, winning two new contracts in South Australia with a combined value of \$3 million.

The company currently delivers meat to over 250 hotels within South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Holco also supplies a wide range of fresh meat products to restaurants, cafes, supermarkets, commercial caterers, mining sites and healthcare organisations throughout South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

With over 30 years experience in the industry, Holco currently employs 280 full time and casual staff. This number is expected to increase to over 300 as production increases from the new Queensland plant.

Holco's ongoing commitment to quality systems, food safety and innovation has resulted in the company gaining the highest standards of meat industry accreditation and numerous awards for industry leadership.

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