

# News Release

29 September 2017

## **Arc Infrastructure and Bis partner to promote careers in operations to young women**

Arc Infrastructure and Bis have partnered to deliver *Young Women Future Workforce*, an open day event, showcasing the roles available to women in transport infrastructure and the resources industry.

The two companies discussed the types of roles they offer in operational businesses as they opened their doors to young women and their families yesterday.

The career style event aims to expose the future workforce to career opportunities in operational business while addressing both an industry, and state-wide gender equity issue.

Together, Arc Infrastructure and Bis employ more than 780 people across a wide range of roles and professions in Western Australia, with Bis employing a total work force of 1450 across Australia and Indonesia.

Arc Infrastructure's General Manager Safety, People and Corporate Affairs Megan McCracken said the company has made bold and deliberate changes over the last five years, increasing the proportion of women in its workforce from 9% in 2008 to 24% this year.

"We have only just begun our journey, and know we have a lot of work ahead of us to represent men and women equally in our workforce. The transport industry is modern and innovative, and *Young Women Future Workforce* provides a platform for us to build long term relationships with future job seekers and showcase everything our industry has to offer," Ms McCracken said.

Bis Chief Executive Officer Brad Rogers said the company shared the commitment to diversity in the workplace.

"It is a reality that people are still pigeon holed, or make career decisions, based on what are perceived to be gender appropriate jobs," Mr Rogers said.

"We need to change that thinking. Introducing young women to the opportunities on offer in sectors such as resource logistics is a positive step in that direction."

Gender equality is a real issue in WA and Australia. In the rail industry alone, women make up only 17% of the workforce. In 2016, the mining industry saw only 13.7% of its workforce made up of women.

Ms McCracken said as a leading transport infrastructure company in WA, Arc Infrastructure recognises the benefits of a diverse and inclusive workplace.

"Having a diverse workforce makes sense- we want our workforce to be made up of the best people, and we will be vigilant to ensure we continue to foster and develop a workforce that is fair and safe for everyone."

During the day, almost 30 young women participated in practical exercises, met with employees across a variety of operational roles and participated in a panel discussion to inspire the next generation of women entering the workforce.

"It was great to see the enthusiasm and interest from the young girls and women who came along to the event and I hope it helped broaden their thinking on potential careers," Mr Rogers said.

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**Photo opportunity**

High resolution photos of Arc Infrastructure and Bis mentors with Young Women Future Workforce participants can be provided.

Please contact Rebecca Keating, Corporate Affairs Advisor on 0439 277 980 or alternatively at [Rebecca.keating@arcinfra.com](mailto:Rebecca.keating@arcinfra.com)

**About Arc Infrastructure**

*Arc is pronounced as a word and not an acronym.*

Arc Infrastructure is a leading transport infrastructure manager in Western Australia. We currently operate the State's 5,500km freight rail network, connecting people, commodities and ports across the State with the rest of Australia and the world.

Spread across regional Western Australia, our team of 430 employees keeps the rail network operating 24/7. We live local, buy local and are committed to contributing to regional communities.

Previously called Brookfield Rail, we changed our name to Arc Infrastructure in July 2017 to reflect the aspirations for our future to expand our involvement in transport infrastructure assets. We're committed to working with industry, our customers, partners and communities to find new opportunities that will support and strengthen our rail network for the benefit of WA.

For more information about Arc Infrastructure, please visit [www.arcinfra.com](http://www.arcinfra.com).

### **About Bis**

Bis is a mining services company with an industry leading safety record that has been providing a range of services and specialised equipment to resources companies across Australia and Indonesia since 1915.

As the leading provider of resources logistics in the countries in which Bis operates, they are able to manage customers' bulk logistics and materials handling processes. Bis has a culture of being innovative and strives to help its customers identify bottlenecks in their supply chain systems, designing innovative solutions and new technologies to help them deliver larger volumes faster, and more safely than ever before.