



Media Release

20 November 2007

## **Fibre Technology Hits Oyster Harbour**

Residents of Albany's master planned community and prime residential land development, Oyster Harbour, will be the first in the region to utilise leading edge telecommunications services delivered by fibre optic technology as a result of a Telstra Smart Community<sup>®</sup> agreement signed between Telstra and the Oyster Harbour partnership joint venture.

Oyster Harbour is a joint venture partnership between the Department of Housing and Works and private land developer, Heath Development Company. The Oyster Harbour estate comprises approximately 206 hectares of land and will provide some 2,500 residential lots and several serviced commercial sites, including shopping and mixed use lots. It is the largest single residential land construction in the Great Southern region.

The fibre optic technology, known as Telstra Velocity<sup>™</sup>, will give Oyster Harbour residents access to the full range of telecommunications and entertainment services such as BigPond<sup>®</sup> high-speed internet, digital free-to-air television and up to four fixed line telephone services via Telstra's fibre optic network. Customers will also be able to access Telstra's Next G<sup>™</sup> national mobile network.

In addition as part of the agreement every eligible household within the estate will receive a \$1500 rebate\* towards specified Telstra services.

Telstra Country Wide<sup>®</sup> Group Managing Director, Mr Geoff Booth said the technology would transform the way the residents moving into the development lived, worked and communicated.

"The Telstra Smart Community<sup>®</sup> is a program whereby Telstra partners with developers to establish the best telecommunications infrastructure for property developments that satisfy developer and customer needs, now and into the future," Mr Booth said.

"From the moment they move in, residents will have rapid and easy access to high-speed BigPond<sup>®</sup> Velocity<sup>™</sup> broadband services with download speeds of up to 20 Mbit/s#. This is great news as it means residents moving into the development can be up and running using the internet without service qualification check delays, and have access to services on a par with their city counterparts," Mr Booth said.

"Importantly, the advantage of Telstra Velocity<sup>™</sup> is its capability to provide the Oyster Harbour community with infrastructure that will move with the times and is designed to meet their future technology demands as they evolve. Telstra Velocity<sup>™</sup> is part of Telstra's commitment to

deliver better products and services for customers, as well as provide a strong platform to cater for future technology development and growth.”

Mr Brian Newman, Project Director from Heath Development Company said the location, price and aspect of the Oyster Harbour development had already attracted many potential and actual buyers since the first lots were released for sale in November 2006.

“We are delighted to work with Telstra on this exciting new initiative. As a branded Telstra Smart Community<sup>®</sup>, residents will have access to the latest telecommunication services. This is an important point of differentiation to other residential developments in the region, and most importantly offers a meaningful and highly beneficial advantage to our customers,” Mr Newman said.

Oyster Harbour residents will be able to arrange to have their entertainment and communications services connected before moving into their new homes by contacting Telstra’s dedicated Telstra Smart Community 1800 number.

For further information regarding Oyster Harbour please visit [www.oysterharbour.com.au](http://www.oysterharbour.com.au) or the Telstra Smart Community<sup>®</sup> and Telstra Velocity<sup>™</sup> program please visit: [www.telstrasmartcommunity.com](http://www.telstrasmartcommunity.com).

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\* To be eligible for the rebate, residents must take up a fully pre-selected telephone service on a Telstra HomeLine<sup>™</sup> pricing plan and a BigPond Velocity<sup>™</sup> broadband service for a minimum of 12 months. Details of these plans are available at [www.telstra.com.au](http://www.telstra.com.au).

# Download speeds are based on Telstra tests. Actual speeds may be slower due to a number of factors including network configuration, member premises interference, traffic and hardware and software.