



ABN 78 858 182 400

c/- **ANTARTIC TASMANIA**

Suite 25-26 Salamanca Square, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

p: +61 3 6233 5493 f: +61 3 6233 5497 e: antarctic@development.tas.gov.au

PRESS RELEASE

TASMANIAN COMPANY SECURES DESIGN FOR NEW RUSSIAN ANTARCTIC BASE

22/01/2001

Tasmanian skills and expertise of Hobart based consultants has been widely recognised in the awarding of a contract for a new Russian research station in Antarctica.

Sayers Buck Pty Ltd, a Kingston based company specialising in Antarctic Logistics and Projects has been contracted by the Russian Antarctic Program of St Petersburg to design buildings and support facilities for the new base in the Larsemann Hills region of East Antarctica.

Company Director, Jack Sayers has announced that Sayers Buck Pty Ltd will be working with the Tasmanian office of National Technology Consultants, Sinclair Knight Merz, to develop the station design in conjunction with the Russian Antarctic Expedition. The new research station will incorporate best environmental practices and state of the art waste treatment facilities. The new buildings will replace facilities that were established by the Russian Antarctic Program some years ago, and are no longer serviceable.

Both Sayers Buck and Sinclair Knight Merz are members of the Tasmanian Polar Network that was established by the State government to help promote opportunities for the supply of Tasmanian goods and services to Antarctic programs for Australia and other countries with an interest in Antarctica.

Once design work for the new Russian station is complete, it is planned that contracts for the manufacture and supply of the station buildings and support services will be awarded to Tasmanian companies. The station will be largely prefabricated in Tasmania prior to despatch to Antarctica for erection on site.

Mr Bill Lawson, Chairman of the Tasmanian Polar Network and Tasmanian Principal of Sinclair Knight Merz says the awarding of the Russian contract is recognition of the expertise and skills that Tasmania can offer for the supply of goods and services in Antarctica. He said the contract is significant for both Tasmania and Sinclair Knight Merz.

For further information contact:

Mr Bill Lawson- TPN Chairman, ph 0418 123 293