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# NEWS

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Tuesday, 6 February 2007

## **WORLD-LEADING WATER CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY**

### **CUTS EVAPORATION RATES BY UP TO 50 PER CENT**

Billion of litres of water normally lost each year through evaporation from the nation's waterways – including reservoirs, lakes and dams – can now be saved with the help of an Australian company.

ASX-listed (ASX code: PHK) Phoslock Water Solutions has announced an exclusive deal to distribute world-leading technology in Australia to council and municipal water authorities that reduces evaporation rates from water bodies by up to 50 per cent.

Called *WaterSavr*, the breakthrough “surface water” evaporation technology is applied in powder form and develops an invisible film (or mono layer) on the water surface, creating a barrier that limits the escape of water vapour.

Recent trials in Australian conditions by several council/municipal water managers and commercial cotton farms confirmed evaporation savings of between 30-50 per cent.

Strong interest has already being shown in the technology by a range of water organisations, with three contracts already signed since the agreement started last month.

To meet anticipated demand, manufacturing of the WaterSavr technology is about to commence in Australia.

Major benefits of the technology include it:

- ❑ “self spreads” across a water body surface and is easily applied to vast areas of water in powder form.
- ❑ has NSF/ANSI Standard 60 drinking water approval (US and Australian drinking water regulatory approvals)
- ❑ is environmentally safe, produced from bio-degradable ingredients including hydrated lime and cetyl/stearly hydroxy alkanes.

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- ❑ Degrades without harmful effects in 2-3 days into the water and air, and can be re-applied every day or two.
- ❑ re-forms after wind/wave action (unless excessive).
- ❑ is designated by the United Nations Environmental Program as an Environmentally Sound Technology
- ❑ very low usage cost when compared with potential water savings.

“This breakthrough water conservation technology has the potential to save billions of litres of water a year that would normally be lost in Australia through evaporation,” Phoslock Managing Director, Mr Robert Schuitema, said.

“The impact of the drought has brought home why the volume of water lost through evaporation in our reservoirs, lakes, dams and other water bodies every day is a matter of national importance,” he said.

“For the first time in history, many States have introduced extreme water rationing for households, many of our major reservoirs are at all-time lows, and the health of one of our major river systems – the Murray River– is one of the most important political challenges of the day.

“Water conservation through evaporation control is the single biggest management to managing water resources.

“Australia is in the midst of one of the worst droughts in its history. Any way in which evaporation rates from water systems can be significantly reduced has enormous benefits to the Australian community.”

Developed by international scientists, *WaterSavr* is already being used in 10 countries throughout the world.

Mr Schuitema said evaporation from Australian water bodies ranged from 1.3m to 1.9m per annum, with an average evaporation rate of 1/2 litre per day per square metre, or 5,000 litres per day for every one hectare of open water.

For a water body covering about 100 hectares of open water – a medium sized reservoir, approx 190 million litres of water (or 75 Olympic-sized swimming pools) is lost every year through evaporation – this is equivalent to the annual consumption of 380 typical Australian households.

Mr Schuitema said the *WaterSavr* agreement complemented its own “Phoslock” technology - an environmental water remediation product which removes phosphorus from water bodies.

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