

## AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST TOMATO GLASSHOUSE TO CONTINUE GROWING

*The Costa Group announces the second stage of development for Guyra glasshouse*

Melbourne, 3 March 2006 - The Costa Group today announced that it has commissioned the second stage of its glasshouse tomato project in Guyra, doubling the current production area from five hectares to ten hectares and increasing the estimated yield of quality blusht<sup>™</sup> truss tomatoes from 2.6 million kilograms to six million kilograms per annum. The expansion will make the Costa Group the largest glasshouse tomato producer in Australia.

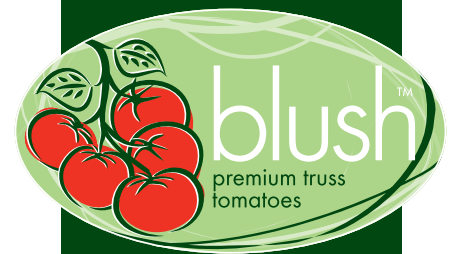
The foundations of the new development will begin in May 2006, and will be completed in February 2007, with harvesting to commence in May. Located at the top of the Northern Tablelands in the New England region of New South Wales, the second glasshouse will further guarantee production of high quality truss tomatoes for 12 months of the year, ensuring consumers can buy blush<sup>®</sup> tomatoes during any season.

The decision to expand the existing glasshouse so soon after its launch was based on the success of the current glasshouse, and the amount of positive feedback Costa's have received from the general public regarding their tomatoes. The new development gives momentum to the company's initial plans to expand the site to 20 hectares of glasshouses within 5 years of commencing the project in 2005.

The glasshouse will continue producing great tasting tomatoes using the latest technology to harness the sunlight and moderate temperatures. The glasshouse relies on fresh mountain spring water to feed the tomatoes and Costa's is focused on sustainable and environmentally responsible farming practices such as efficient water management and the use of natural predators to control pests.

The people of Guyra and its government representatives have thrown their support behind the project, where the company has had a major impact on the town's economic revival.

Unemployment has plummeted and investment in new buildings has doubled since the company started operations in May 2005. The new development will provide employment for between 50 and 60 employees. Most of these positions will be full time and filled by Guyra locals, while the number of employees who work the "mother shift" - parents working from 8.30am to 3.00pm - will also be expanded.



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