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MEDIA RELEASE

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR GOULBURN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

The former railway workshops facility at Goulburn in regional New South Wales will get a new lease of life following the signing of a long-term agreement between CFCL Australia (CFCLA) and the Country Rail Infrastructure Authority (CRIA).

CFCLA has acquired a 10-year lease (with an option for a further 10 years) from CRIA for the use of the Goulburn Railway Workshops, demonstrating a serious long-term commitment to Goulburn and the workshops site.

The company through its subsidiary CFCL Australian HorsePower Service Centre (AHSC) will revitalize the workshops, deemed surplus to requirements earlier this year by the previous tenants, as part of its vision for a planned national network of rail maintenance centres.

Mr Gibbs says CFCLA operates the largest independently owned lease fleet of locomotives and wagons in Australia, valued at over \$350 million, and is focused on expanding its business and providing employment in the Australian rail industry.

"By entering into a long-term lease over the workshop facility we are demonstrating our commitment to Goulburn and the local community.

"We have already appointed a workshop manager who lives in the region, and he will be relocating his family to Goulburn. We will commence advertising for specialist jobs for the workshops in the near future.

"CFCLA plans to source employees mainly from the local and regional workforce, and as the business becomes more established we would be looking to offer apprenticeships as we have done at our sites elsewhere in Australia."

Ian Gibbs says that CFCLA intends to capitalise on predicted growth in the rail freight market on the busy Sydney to Melbourne rail corridor and in regional New South Wales.

"There has been almost \$2.5 billion invested in the Melbourne - Sydney - Brisbane rail corridor to ensure the infrastructure can cope with the increase in the national freight task.

"The strategic location of Goulburn on this corridor makes it an ideal location for a regional centre that can provide the specialist maintenance services required for the CFCLA fleet and for other rail operators on the interstate and regional NSW rail networks."

CFCLA has agreed to invest in track upgrades in the vicinity of the workshops and is negotiating the purchase of the non fixed assets from the previous tenant of the workshops -UG Rail.

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Ian Gibbs said, "CFCLA has identified the potential for expansion of the rail industry in Australia and we are firmly behind establishing the Goulburn facility as part of a long-term vision for expansion of our rail activities in Australia.

"We are looking forward to revitalising the Goulburn workshops and providing local employment with the add-on benefits the business will have for local service providers and the community."

For further information please contact:

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