

# J media release

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*Monday September 22, 2014*

### **Jupiters redevelopment fuels jobs growth**

In a boost to local industry, over 1,500 contracting jobs will be needed to complete Jupiters Hotel & Casino's \$345 million redevelopment.

With construction already underway on a new pool area, exterior painting, and two new restaurants, Managing Director Queensland Geoff Hogg said more than 100 jobs in construction and operations were already on site.

"This is a significant project which will benefit local industry as we are not only completely transforming the existing facilities, but also adding a new six-star luxury hotel tower, new restaurants and bars over time, creating even more job opportunities," said Geoff.

Current work is being filled by local, family-owned companies such as Gold Coast painters Usher & Son, who are working on the external painting, and Stokes Wheeler, a construction company managing the pool renovations with origins in Queensland dating back to 1928.

Stokes Wheeler Managing Director John Wheeler says the majority of his tradespeople are from the Gold Coast.

"I moved to the Gold Coast in 1966 and have been building here since 1993 when I started my own business, before forming Stokes Wheeler in 1998," said John.

"We're proud to be working on such an iconic Gold Coast property but even prouder that the work we're undertaking is staying with Gold Coast families.

Stokes Wheeler's Project Manager Mark Warren is also a local, having lived on the Gold Coast since 1987.

Jupiters Hotel & Casino is one of the biggest employers on the Gold Coast, with 1,600 current staff members and Geoff Hogg said the company was committed to upholding its place as a Gold Coast icon.

"Working with Queensland and Gold Coast locals to evolve the property into a world-class contemporary resort ensures it continues to shine with community spirit. It's an exciting time for Broadbeach and the Gold Coast with investment taking place across the city and 2018 Commonwealth Games preparations in full swing," said Geoff.

While the redevelopment is underway, the hotel and casino will continue to operate as normal, with the works being staged over a three year period to minimise disruption to guests.

"Our five existing restaurants, gaming floors, hotel and theatre are still open for business. However, as with all developments, there comes some short term disruption but we promise the end result will be well worth it," said Geoff.

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