

MEDIA RELEASE



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CANDETTI GROUP IN VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION

One of South Australia's most successful home-grown construction companies, Candetti Constructions, has been placed in voluntary administration at the request of Chairman, Mr Alex Candetti.

Candetti has appointed KordaMentha partners, Mr Stephen Duncan and Mr Chris Powell, as Administrators over the Company's operations in South Australia and Queensland.

Mr Duncan said a meeting of Candetti creditors would be held before Christmas to provide an outline of the Company's position.

"Our initial observation is that this company is owed considerably more than it owes, and a priority of the joint Administrators is therefore to work with Candetti in securing these substantial unpaid amounts for work already completed," Mr Duncan said.

"Of some \$30 million due to the Company for completed work, a large component is apparently in respect of one project – the new State Aquatic Centre at Marion," he said.

"Candetti's creditors, mainly sub-contractors, are owed in the vicinity of \$7 million and a substantial part of that relates to the aquatic centre project.

"The focus of this Administration will therefore be on pursuing these claims to provide an opportunity for the Company to reclaim its position in the industry."

Mr Candetti said that while his decision to appoint the Administrators was very disappointing, it was the best option for the Company to move forward with its drawn-out efforts to recoup funds owed on completed work.

"We are a very proud and successful South Australian company which has been placed in an untenable position by delayed payments of money owed to us and prolonged and unfair disputes," he said.

"Significantly, the large percentage of our sub-contractors have been supportive of Candetti during this difficult period and we are most grateful for their continued support and understanding.

"My priority has been to work with these people towards having them paid and I will continue to do so in partnership with the Administrators."

Mr Candetti said he was disappointed that the SA Government had chosen to air some of its unwarranted grievances through the media, including quoting some figures and issues relating to the State Aquatic Centre project which had never been part of any discussions between the parties.

“Rather than join the trial-by-media path attempted by the state government, our choice is to pursue what we are owed through the proper channels,” he said.

About Candetti Constructions

Candetti Constructions, established in 1958, has progressed to the position as the largest wholly South Australian owned construction company.

The Company’s dedication to excellence in workplace safety has earned it accreditation under the Federal Government’s rigorous Building and Construction OHS Accreditation Scheme.

Candetti was recently presented with a prestigious industry award for its safety achievements during the Company’s successful construction of Adelaide’s new State Aquatic Centre.

As well as the aquatic centre, Candetti has also built the major GP-Plus and car park facilities at the Marion precinct, a unique sulphur storage facility for Flinders Ports at Port Adelaide and numerous state-of-the-art construction projects nationally.

As well as its delivery of projects with numerous local and state governments, Candetti’s achievements have resulted in the establishment of corporate relationships with major Australian and international groups.