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**DATE:** 22 May 2012

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**Resource Centre, icing on the cake for Replas**

The Replas Resource Centre (RRC) in Carrum Downs was officially opened in November 2010 and became fully operational in July 2011. Almost one year on, the centre has established itself as one of the largest recycled-plastic distribution centres in the southern hemisphere.

Mark Jacobsen, Replas Director, said, 'The RRC has been in full operation now for 10 months. This facility has enabled Replas to ensure that we deliver products within a two week time frame in order to exceed our client's expectations'.

On Friday 18 May Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Federal Member for Isaacs and Parliamentary Secretary for Industry and Innovation, visited the Resource Centre and the Environmental Centre to view the latest technology employed by Replas.

Mr Dreyfus said, 'I am pleased to see a local manufacturer producing high quality end products from material sourced from our waste. I encourage Councils, businesses, schools and local residents to find out more about Replas' innovative products'.

Using world leading technology, Replas reprocesses a variety of waste plastic to produce environmentally-friendly and sustainable products, such as outdoor furniture, signs, bollards and decking. Mr Dreyfus said, 'Replas has taken the principles of the RRRs - reduce, reuse and recycle - to new heights ensuring less waste goes into landfills.'

The investment in the new centre as well as the range of robotic technology developed by the Research & Development department has placed the company at the forefront of the industry.

Since opening, the RRC has provided 12 new jobs in the Frankston region. Mr Jacobsen said, 'There is a demand for these innovative products from councils who want to see their plastic waste recycled within Australia rather than going offshore. As the demand grows we expect to be able to increase employment even further in the future'.

According to Mr Jacobsen, 'The modification area of the RRC has enabled us to offer value added products. Our clients love that we have this capability as well as the fact that we can complete complex tasks in a timely and cost efficient manner'.

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Replas has a lot to celebrate as the twelve month anniversary of the RRC coincides with the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday of the company. Mr Jacobsen, says, ‘we are very proud of our history and are excited about what the future holds’.

### **Company Profile**

Since 1991 Australian Recycling Technologies (ART) and Repeat Plastics shared a passion for the environment. Dismayed by the amount of household plastic waste going needlessly to landfill, both companies were simultaneously developing the technology to take this waste material and recycle it. In 2001, these two companies joined forces. Their shared vision resulted in the formation of Replas which combined the unique expertise, products and manufacturing capabilities of both companies.

For 21 years the company has developed world leading technologies to reprocess Australia’s waste into a range of over 200 robust recycled-plastic products for outdoor use. These products not only reduce the amount of plastic going to landfill, but also offer an ethical alternative to the unnecessary use of virgin materials.

Waste plastics are delivered to the manufacturing plants in Lilydale and Ballarat for processing. The resulting products are extremely hard wearing and low maintenance. Recycled plastic is resistant to termites, microorganisms and moisture, and it will never split, rot or need painting.

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