

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### SITA's growing organically

SITA Environmental Solution (SITA) notched up another accreditation in September with its Windrow Composting Facility in Brooklyn, Victoria receiving the Australian Standard AS4419-2003 - Soils for landscaping and garden use.

The accreditation was issued after extensive analysis and rigorous monitoring of the site and its processes by SAI Global. The Brooklyn sites' continuous process improvements, sound composting practices and robust product development all contributed to the accreditation achievement.

The AS4419-2003 certified product can be used by councils, commercial customers, including landscapers and gardeners and the general public. The application of the product has significant environmental benefits including improvements to soil structure, improving soil carbon content and moisture retention.

The accreditation will benefit all customers of SITA's soil products as they can be guaranteed that the material has been manufactured to strict quality assured Australian Standards. The accreditation puts pressure on other Australian soil manufacturers that continue to produce below-quality compost and soils for market distribution. These companies will need to step-up and improve their processes and products so that all customers wanting manufactured soils can be certain they are receiving the same quality parameters as that being offered by SITA.

In addition to the receipt of the AS4419-2003 accreditation, SITA's Victorian organics division recently opened a new open windrow composting facility in Epping, Victoria, for the receipt and processing of garden organics (GO) and food organics (FO).

SITA has committed to undertake significant upgrades to the current infrastructure and amenities (including clean water storage, windrow watering systems and fire services); the Epping site is strategically well located for delivery of kerbside collected garden organics from Melbourne's northern municipalities, and as a sales hub for high quality organics products destined for the urban amenity and horticultural markets to the north. The site is likely to receive GO from six councils and process up to 50,000 tonnes in its first year.

The site complements SITA's Brooklyn composting operations and will enable SITA to process all the garden organics from Melbourne's metropolitan western and northern council areas. Other organic feedstocks to be accepted at the site include liquid grease trap and the co-mingled food and garden organics collected from one progressive northern council.

Product from the Epping site will double SITA's total organics product offering in and around Melbourne.

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**SITA Environmental Solutions, Frost & Sullivan's Asia-Pacific 2009 Waste Management Company of the Year**, is a SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT and Sembcorp Environment joint venture, provides weekly services to over 43,000 commercial and industrial clients and more than 3 million residents across Australia. SITA's services include domestic, commercial & industrial waste collection; waste assessments; resource recovery and recycling options; processing of organic materials into compost; renewable energy facilities; hygiene services; waste treatment; and product destruction. More information on SITA's services can be obtained by calling 13 13 35 or visit [www.sita.com.au](http://www.sita.com.au)

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