

MEDIA RELEASE**WORSLEY TO AWARD ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS****October 2008**

Year 12 students in the South West who are planning to follow a career in engineering can apply for scholarships worth \$20,000 to help cover the cost of university studies.

The scholarships are being funded by Worsley Alumina as a way to encourage local students to take up an engineering career.

The second round of scholarships will be awarded at the end of this year, and will be open to students who take up full time study at Curtin University in Perth in chemical, mechanical or mining engineering in 2009.

The scholarships are available to students studying at senior high schools, both private and government, in the South West region and Narrogin.

Winners will receive \$5000 a year for four years of study.

Toni Oliva, Worsley Alumina's Manager of Human Resources said the company's mining and refinery operations required a high level of engineering skills.

"There is a lot of competition in the jobs market for professional skills, and particularly for engineering skills," Mr Oliva said.

"We believe that by supporting local students, we increase our chances of attracting graduates back to the region.

"Worsley is a very attractive option for graduate professionals because the South West offers a great lifestyle as well as the opportunity to pursue a professional career.

"We hope to especially encourage more female students to consider engineering careers and the scholarship is one way we can do this."

Community Relations Officer Toni Ciffolilli at Worsley has been contacting local high schools to provide more detail about the scholarships. A series of visits have been conducted with Worsley engineers talking to Year 12 students about their careers.

Applications opened on August 1 this year and will close on November 3rd.

The scholarships will be awarded based on academic results, an essay submission and a panel interview.

Scholarship winners will be offered paid vacation work and are encouraged to apply for graduate placement work at Worsley at the completion of their studies.

ENDS

Media inquiries to:**Andy van Dijk**

External Relations Manager

PH: 08 9734 9237 Mob: 0409 204 242