

# WATER MANAGEMENT MODEL CREATES MORE RESILIENT AND SELF SUFFICIENT URBAN DEVELOPMENTS

Brisbane engineering firm, Bligh Tanner, is leading the way in helping to create more resilient and self-sufficient urban developments, with an innovative water management model that allows a city's water supply to grow as its population increases.

Bligh Tanner worked closely with Japanese engineers, JFE, Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) and the Queensland Water Commission (QWC) to develop an environmentally-friendly and cost-effective integrated water management solution for a 114ha housing development at

Fitzgibbon Chase, 12km north of Brisbane.

The project features a non-potable stormwater harvesting system (the FiSH) and potable roof water harvesting system (PotaRoo) that together demonstrate sustainable alternative water supply and are estimated to achieve a 60 per cent saving on normal mains water use.

The PotaRoo project harvests roof water from approximately 600 homes within the estate, which is stored in a number of communal tanks and then pumped to a central storage and water treatment plant to produce water of potable quality.

In tandem with the PotaRoo project, EDQ has developed the Fitzgibbon Stormwater Harvesting (FiSH) scheme that will divert, filter and disinfect urban stormwater runoff to supply non-potable water for irrigation, toilet flushing, laundry and outdoor uses. The FiSH and PotaRoo together present a model of water supply augmentation that has potential for application in new urban developments in Australia.

Contact Bligh Tanner for more information. ■

