



**For Immediate Release**

24 October, 2011

Adelaide, Australia

Listed: TSX:VT: ASX:VTA

**Viterra actions Post Harvest Review recommendations**

Viterra continues to make improvements to its operations and service delivery as identified in the 2011 Post Harvest Review, actioning the majority of the recommendations in only three months since the release of the report.

Rob Kerin, who was the independent chair of the review and appointed to oversee the implementation of Viterra's responses to the recommendations, said he had seen a genuine resolve in the company's management to make significant improvements for the coming harvest.

"Since the review was released at the end of June, Viterra has initiated work against each of the 30 responses the company made to our recommendations. Most of these are finalised or well on the way to being completed," Mr Kerin said.

Strengthening the company's relationships with silo committees has been a major area of focus. The Strategic Site Committee Chairs met in Adelaide at the beginning of August to discuss their role, and new terms of reference were developed and approved. Since then, consultation has been ongoing and 38 pre-harvest meetings have been held.

Viterra will commence a Weekly Harvest Report in November, which will include grain receipt data and commentary on the progress of harvest. Warehoused grain data has been sent to registered grain marketers weekly since July 18.

Investment in infrastructure has continued, with almost \$3 million spent on road works; more than \$1.8 million spent on new drive over hoppers/stackers; approximately \$800,000 spent on new bunkers at Witera; a new second weighbridge at Loxton; as well as the installation of more than 25 temporary amenities buildings at sites across the State.

Following the introduction in August of Viterra's industry-leading safety induction program, more than 13,000 growers and carriers have registered for their Viterra Safety Card.

Further clarification on classification policies has been provided and the 78 new falling number machines have been delivered to sites. The classification training unit has been established and much of the classification training has been completed, with follow-up sessions scheduled.

Rob Gordon, Viterra's President South East Asia, said the company was committed to continuous improvement and would work hard to deliver on its promises.

"The Post Harvest Review provided us a unique opportunity to review our network and invest in it for future seasons; and the actions we have taken to date reflect our determination to improve," he said.

"We will continue to make announcements about the work we're doing as we enter what we hope will be a successful harvest."

Viterra has invested more than \$12 million in infrastructure, road works, new equipment and amenities facilities since the Post Harvest Review.

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**FURTHER DETAIL: Viterra's responses to Post Harvest Review recommendations**

- ✓ Communication
  - An internal process has been developed for all business centres to ensure accurate and timely information is sent via SMS and updated on ezigrain website.
  - More than 350 new registrations have been received for Viterra's SMS alert service since July
  - The preliminary segregation plan was included in the Viterra storage and handling plan, which was published online on 1 September - it will be regularly updated during harvest on [www.ezigrain.com.au](http://www.ezigrain.com.au).



- ✓ Strengthening relationships with silo committees
  - Silo Committee Chairs met in Adelaide at the beginning of August to discuss their role, and new terms of reference were developed and approved.
  - Consultation has been ongoing with the silo committees.
  - 38 pre-harvest meetings have been held throughout the State.
  
- ✓ Information provision
  - A Weekly Harvest Report is scheduled to commence in November, providing grain receival data and commentary on the progress of harvest.
  - Weekly reporting of warehoused grain reports sent to registered grain marketers started from July 18.
  
- ✓ Capital investment
  - Viterra is spending almost \$3 million on road works at 12 sites across South Australia as it prepares for another predicted above average harvest.
  - Constructing a second weighbridge at the Loxton receival site and investing more than \$400,000 in the new weighbridge and associated road works.
  - More than \$1.8 million spent on new drive over hoppers/stackers
  - Approximately \$800,000 spent on new bunkers at Witera
  - More than 25 temporary amenities buildings have been installed at sites
  - Recruitment of a maintenance team is underway.
  
- ✓ Safety
  - Viterra introduced its industry-leading safety induction program at the beginning of August.
  - From 1 October 2011, all growers, carriers, contractors and passengers accessing a Viterra site need to demonstrate they have successfully completed Viterra's safety induction by presenting a Viterra Safety Card.
  - More than 13,000 growers and carriers have registered for their safety card.
  
- ✓ Grain classification
  - 78 new falling number machines have been delivered to sites.
  - Personnel for the new grain classification training unit have been recruited and have begun working with regional employees to provide classification training. This training will be ongoing.
  - Further clarification on classification policies have been developed, communicated to employees and silo committees and published on the Viterra website, including:
    - Commodity Classification Transfer
    - Shot or Sprouted Grain Classification Procedure
    - Classification Dispute Resolution procedure
  
- ✓ Harvest forecasting
  - Viterra distributed a crop yield survey at the end of September to more than 5,000 growers.
  - Almost 1,000 growers have provided a response. This information will be shared with PIRSA.
  
- ✓ Site specific traffic management plans
  - Work is underway on developing and implementing these plans across Viterra's sites.

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#### **About Viterra**

Viterra provides premium quality ingredients to leading global food manufacturers. Headquartered in Canada, the global agribusiness has extensive operations in Western Canada, North America, Australia and New Zealand. Our growing international presence also extends to offices in Japan, Singapore, China, Vietnam, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Ukraine, Germany and India. Driven by an entrepreneurial spirit, we operate in three distinct businesses: grain handling and marketing, agri-products, and processing. Our expertise, close relationships with producers, and superior logistical assets allow the company to consistently meet the needs of the most discerning end-use customers, helping to fulfill the nutritional needs of people around the world. TSX: VT ASX: VTA

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