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MEDIA RELEASE

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CIAA invests in new sheep saleyard at Crystal Brook

A new 10,000-head capacity sheep and lamb saleyard will be built at Crystal Brook by Combined Independent Agents Association (CIAA), bolstering the State's livestock industry.

Support from a \$115,000 Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program grant has enabled the go-ahead for the project, with work on the site to begin in April, completed by August and the first sale expected in September 2017.

Combined Independent Agents Association (CIAA) is the State's biggest livestock agency, and director Wayne Hall said the saleyard investment was an indication of the confidence it has in the sheep industry.

"The South Australian livestock industry is the real winner – there's nothing better than selling options", Mr Hall said.

"What we saw was a need for our clients to have access to the market place in a store selling complex, which had been previously unavailable.

"The demand was there for our clients to have the opportunity to buy and sell in a complex that's easily accessible, modern and simple.

"The strength of the CIAA, which is now the biggest livestock agency in SA, requested that we got in control of our own destiny by having our own selling centre.

"We have very good indications from our clients and sources across SA and overseas that the sheep, lamb and wool industry is going to be solid well into the future."

The CIAA group has more than 50 agents linked to the business throughout SA and Broken Hill, and expects to hold six to eight lamb and sheep sales each year –possibly more on demand - at the Crystal Brook sale yard.

The new sale yards are expected to draw in livestock from CIAA clients from far and wide including Eyre Peninsula, the Northern Agricultural and Pastoral areas of the state, as well as Broken Hill, New South Wales.

“We have a very good prime selling complex at Dublin where finished livestock can be sold and now we will be able to complement that with an up to date store selling complex – it is great news for our clients and for the future of the livestock sale industry,” Mr Hall said.

Mr Hall said the new saleyard complex had been made possible through the collaborative efforts of CIAA, Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock, PIRSA and local council representatives.

“The \$115,000 grant through the Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program and the extensive support in design and approvals from local authorities has been tremendous in getting this project off the ground,” he said.

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