



Press Release 11 March, 2008

CHARITY REGATTA TO RAISE \$430,000

More than 2,000 property industry players will take to the sea this Friday as part of the Property Industry Foundation (PIF) Annual Charity Yachting Regatta.

The Regatta, sponsored by Investec Specialist Bank and hosted by Middle Harbour Yacht Club at Mosman, is celebrating its 10th anniversary and is this year expected to raise more than \$430,000 for children's charities.

The funds will be distributed to PIF's various building projects, which assist children's charities in the building and refurbishment of emergency accommodation, education centres and counselling facilities.

Current projects include the refurbishment of the Salvation Army's Macquarie Fields youth centre and the refurbishment of rooms at the Surry Hills Oasis College which provides training programs to disadvantaged young people, including the Get Skilled for Work (GSFW) prevocational course.

Six young people currently undertaking the GSFW course, who are hoping to enter the property industry themselves through PIF's work placement program, will be sailing in this year's Regatta which features 130 yachts competing for line honours.

Accompanying them on Uptown Girl, hosted by Winton Associates, will be three children from the Salvation Army's Macquarie Fields youth centre who will use the day as a rare treat to experience some of the great sights of Sydney.

PIF's Annual Charity Yachting Regatta is staffed by some 50 volunteers from the property and construction industry who donate their time to manage a range of tasks from event planning to selling raffle tickets and cleaning up after the event. Many of these volunteers also work on PIF's building projects.

PIF Chief Executive Officer Rosemary Smithson said the support from the industry continued to amaze her.

"The property industry is so overwhelming in its support and everyone really loves getting into the spirit of the day, making the Regatta one of our most important fundraisers for the year," Ms Smithson said.

Since PIF's inception in 1996 more than \$12 million has been raised for a range of PIF's approved charities through its core fundraising activities including annual events such as the Yachting Regatta, National Hard Hat Day, Charity Car Rally Challenge and Charity Ball.

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