

## Media Release

4 October 2012

### **PARKLEA CORRECTIONAL CENTRE IS QUALITY ASSURED**

The GEO operated Parklea Correctional Centre in Sydney has had the quality of its management and services officially recognised with three ISO certifications.

Parklea — which became the world's first fully operational correctional facility to move from public to private management in 2009 following a competitive tender — can now demonstrate quality in delivery across three key areas:

- Quality Management Systems (ISO AS/NZS 9001:2008)
- Environmental Management Systems (ISO AS/NZS 14001:2004)
- Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO AS/NZS 4801:2001)

The ISO certifications comes less than three years after GEO assumed management of Parklea and embarked on a major program of management and quality enhancement.

Parklea joins the three other Australian correctional centres operated by GEO in holding these ISO certifications.

The GEO-operated Junee Correctional Centre and Parklea are the only correctional facilities in New South Wales to hold these three accreditations simultaneously.

“Taking over Parklea was a major undertaking as it was the first time such a transfer had been attempted anywhere in the world,” said Keith Ketheeswaran, The GEO Group Australia's executive general manager risk and compliance.

“Apart from recruiting and training more than 100 new staff, delivering a safe and secure transfer of operations and meeting demanding performance measures, Parklea has aspired to seek ISO accreditation and that is a testament to the correctional centre team's ambition and energy.”

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Parklea Correctional Centre general manager Peter M'aa commended his team for gaining ISO accreditation so quickly.

"I am pleased Parklea has joined the rest of the GEO-operated centres in securing these three important ISO certifications," he said.

"We continually look for independent evidence of the quality of our services and the outcomes we seek to deliver, in particular in the key areas of quality management, environmental management and OH&S."

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**About The GEO Group Australia**

The GEO Group Australia is Australia's largest provider of outsourced correctional services. With 1,500 employees, The GEO Group Australia provides safe and secure services to the Victorian, New South Wales and Queensland Governments through the management of correctional centres and the provision of primary health care services. GEO delivers critical public services that are cost effective and represent value for money for the taxpayer. With security and public safety as a priority, The GEO Group Australia intervenes with the 3,500 offenders in our care to reduce reoffending and prevent the community becoming victims of crime. The GEO Group Australia is part of The GEO Group, Inc. the world's largest international provider of outsourced correctional services, with over 80,000 offenders and 116 facilities under management across four continents. For further information please visit [www.thegeogroupinc.com.au](http://www.thegeogroupinc.com.au)

**About Parklea Correctional Centre**

Parklea Correctional Centre is one of the largest prisons in New South Wales. Holding up to 823 prisoners, Parklea is primarily a remand facility, holding those committed by the courts before and during their trial. Parklea includes a minimum security works release unit for low-risk prisoners to support their resettlement back into the community. Parklea also operates extensive industrial workshops with allied vocational training. Parklea has been managed by The GEO Group Australia since 2009 when it was transferred, while fully operational, from public to private management following a competitive tender. For further information please visit: [www.correctiveservices.nsw.gov.au](http://www.correctiveservices.nsw.gov.au)

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