



## Media release

12 December 2017

### MI Automation project - A huge boost to Irrigation Efficiency

Gogeldrie Irrigators are delighted with how the newly automated Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) outlets are performing, complementing their on-farm automation systems.

Irrigator, Dallas Stott, said he is excited to have an automated outlet, as his on-farm irrigation structures have been automated for a number of years.

“Having the MI outlets now automated is allowing me to take full advantage of my own on-farm automation- it’s just brilliant,” he said.

Trials at outlet sites were established to assess two independent suppliers in early 2017. They concluded at the end of the 2016/2017 irrigation season, with Rubicon being selected as the preferred supplier of the automated SlipGate. The beauty of the SlipGate is that it can be retro fitted to existing structures so installation is very quick for those wanting to keep the existing outlet capacity.

Whitton irrigator Tim Commins said that top marks must go to MI for the way the whole automation project has been handled- from communication to installation.

“MI were really proactive in fitting in with our irrigation cycles,” he said.

“They were super informative during the whole process including giving us information on the sizing of the outlets. This allowed us to make the decision to change our outlets size and configuration to better suit our farming business.”

IREC Chairman, Rob Houghton, agreed stating that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for farmers to modernise their irrigation supply system, or indeed cancel their outlets altogether.

“Installation of the channel structures had its challenges due to summer crop irrigation requirements and rainfall interruptions,” he said.

“But the progress made has been outstanding, with a continued high level of cooperation between farmers, contractors and MI, making sure the outlet installation was a smooth process.”

“The automation of our water supply system will deliver the best outcomes for our irrigation businesses” he added.

The automated gates will be linked to an Aquamonix electromagnetic meter, with installation of outlets on Division 3 commencing early 2018.

## ENDS

**Caption: Dallas Stott taking meter reading on automated MI outlet.**

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