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## **Docklands Studios Melbourne - a 10th anniversary year 'with the lot'.**

Docklands Studios Melbourne announced today that 2014, the Studios' 10th anniversary year, has been its most successful year since the State Government assumed ownership in 2008.

Underpinning this year's success is the mix of projects that have come through its five sound stages, production offices and onsite workshop.

*"There's been such a diverse group of domestic and international projects through the Studio in the past 12 months – with sets representing the Warrnambool coastline to the Palace of Versailles,"* said Rod Allan, CEO of Docklands Studios Melbourne.

Three Australian feature films have shot at Docklands Studios Melbourne this year: *Sucker*, *Oddball* and *The Dressmaker*. The Studio also hosted two large international projects – feature film, *The Moon and the Sun* and US sci-fi TV mini-series, *Childhood's End*.

*The Moon and The Sun*, starring Pierce Brosnan, Fan Bing Bing and William Hurt, was set in the Seventeenth Century and involved the recreation of the opulent interiors of Versailles. This production was also the first to fully utilise the Studio's water pit, which was used as the mermaid's pool in the underground grotto, built in Stage 1.

By contrast, Australian feature film *Oddball* recreated a piece of Victoria's coastline in Stage 4 to avoid the logistical challenges of filming on a real beach with children and animals. For this production, the Studio played host to six fairy penguins and two Maremma sheepdogs.

*The Dressmaker*, starring Kate Winslet, Liam Hemsworth, Hugo Weaving and Judy Davis and directed by Jocelyn Moorhouse, has built three sets at the Studio.

*"The Studio is becoming a creative hub for production and costume designers; set builders and dressers and some of the country's best screen talent,"* Allan said of the current shoot.

This year there were also projects from each of the commercial television networks. The Studio continued its long relationship with the Nine Network producing *Millionaire Hot Seat* and *The Footy Show*. Meanwhile, Seven continued with its fourth series of *Winners and Losers* and Shine Australia used two sound stages in tandem for some segments of *Masterchef*.

Productions shot at the Studio over the last 10 years have made a direct project investment of well over seven hundred million dollars into the Victorian economy: international productions have spent more than \$370 million, while domestic productions have spent over \$330 million.

After such an exciting, diverse and busy year, Docklands Studios Melbourne looks forward to 2015 and will continue to build on its achievements of the last decade.

For more information please go to the new website for Docklands Studios Melbourne [www.dsmelbourne.com](http://www.dsmelbourne.com)

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