



## **Viracon Unit Nears Completion on Aurora Place in Sydney, Australia**

January 3, 2000

**This project in the heart of Sydney's central business district is one of the worlds most important construction projects this year and will enjoy high visibility during the 2000 Olympic Games.**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN, January 3, 2000 -- Apogee Enterprises, Inc. (Nasdaq: APOG) today announced that Viracon, the largest unit of Apogee's Glass Technologies business segment, is nearing completion on its work for Aurora Place, a mixed-use development on Macquarie Street in the core of Sydney's Central Business District. The project consists of a 41-story office tower, an 18-story residential building with 62 luxury apartments, and supporting retail facilities. All told, the site totals 4,262 square meters, with a net leasable area of 49,500 square meters in the office tower. Aurora Place was designed by world-renowned architect Renzo Piano and is being developed by Lend Lease and the East Asia Property Group.

Viracon, a leading global fabricator of coated, high-performance architectural glass, is providing all of the exterior glass for Aurora Place. The project's design reflects the city's prowess as a yachting center, with sweeping walls of white glass that extend like a sail. Faced with highly complex requirements for size, shape and aesthetics, Viracon created numerous one-of-a-kind insulated glass units, silk-screened on crystal clear glass and laminated with low-emissivity coatings to provide superior safety, sound control and energy performance.

"We are very pleased that Viracon is a part of Sydney's Aurora Place, which will be a signature piece for Sydney's business district and will enjoy high visibility during the 2000 Olympic Games," said Russell Huffer, Apogee's President and Chief Executive Officer. "Aurora Place is widely regarded as one of the most important construction projects in the world this year and utilizes many of Viracon's cutting-edge capabilities, such as glass coatings and silk-screening."

Huffer concluded, "This project certainly solidifies Viracon's position as a global leader in high-performance architectural glass. Not only is Viracon achieving the complex design and vision of Aurora Place with startling aesthetics, we believe the company is one of the few in the world capable of doing the entire job from a single site, a unique strength that fosters superior project coordination and efficiencies in project delivery."

Apogee Enterprises, Inc. is a world leader in technologies involving the design and development of value-added glass products, services and systems. Organized in two business segments, the Glass Technologies businesses are leaders primarily in architectural glass and high-end glass coatings for the electronics markets, while the Glass Services businesses are leaders in replacement auto glass and building glass services. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company's stock is traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol APOG