

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED: FOR RELEASE MONDAY 18th OCTOBER 9:00AM AEST

mIoT partner with charity Books in Homes to celebrate First Nations people's water knowledge for National Water Week

Each October, the Australian Water Association organises National Water Week, making a splash across Australia by inspiring communities and organisations to build awareness around the value of water.

As an active member of the Australian water sector and to celebrate National Water Week, Brisbane-based IoT technology company mIoT has partnered with the charitable foundation for Books in Homes Australia to distribute book packs through their school network.

This year's National Water Week theme is *Caring for water and Country*, which recognises First Nations people's longstanding knowledge of protecting and sustaining Australia's water and lands for over 65,000 years.

mIoT operate heavily within the Australian water sector, providing IoT data loggers to some of Australia's largest water utilities, which allow for comprehensive and reliable monitoring of their water networks, detecting and preventing leaks and overflows, and subsequently saving water.

"One of our key values is sustainability, and we have a genuine commitment to *long-term* sustainability. We believe early education on where water comes from is directly related to life-long water-saving habits" explains mIoT Chief Technology Officer Freddie Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen.

"And what better organisation to partner with than Books in Homes whose mission is to provide reading resources to socio-educationally disadvantaged children living in urban, rural or remote communities.

"All of the children's books included in our National Water Week donated packs were chosen for their water theme and embed a First Nation's perspective—either having been written or illustrated by Indigenous authors and artists".

Some of the titles included in the National Water Week book packs donated by mIoT are *River, Coming Home to Country*, and *Wilam, A Birrarung Story*. Five book packs have been distributed through Books in Homes' network, reaching children in remote communities that have little or no access to books and learning resources.

The five schools that received the pack include Dajarra State School, which is situated in outback Queensland. Water is so scarce in Dajarra that non potable water has to be brought into town by tanker once a week. The Council also supplies eight litres of drinking water per household per day. Another school is Bulla Camp Primary in remote Northern Territory, situated in the Big Rivers Region of which local rivers act as a life source for the community and school. The three other schools are East Kalgoorlie Primary School in the outback goldfields region of Western Australia, Brungle Public School in regional New South Wales, and Kaurna Plains School in Adelaide, SA. Indigenous student enrolment is between 92% to 100% in these five schools.

Founded in 2001, Books in Homes has provided more than 2.7 million books to Australian children. Books in Homes raises funds and seeks sponsors to support primary schools, preschools and childcare centres that could be described as having an Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) under the national average of 1000; and includes those that are located in socio-

disadvantaged areas, are regionally remote or Indigenous communities; or having a student demographic represented by language backgrounds other than English.

“The Books in Homes team is delighted to partner with mIoT in this innovative National Water Week initiative,” says Peter Large, CEO. “Many of the schools on our Programs are located in areas where books can be as scarce as water can be. The schools in these regions recognise the value of books both on site in libraries and in the home, especially those titles included in the mIoT book packs that honour Indigenous culture and connection to land, water and Country.”

Moreover, this isn't mIoT's first venture in helping to provide educational resources to Australian kids, with their range of Captis data loggers being used in schools across Victoria for an interactive water monitoring program.

“We've been fortunate enough to be able to provide our data loggers to school water efficiency programs in Victoria which allow teachers and kids to monitor their own school's water usage in a fun and interactive way,” Freddie Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen said.

“It's definitely something we'd love to see other water utilities take up and implement around the country.”

This year, National Water Week is celebrated from the 18th-24th of October. To learn more and to see how National Water Week is being celebrated across the country, search the hashtag #NWW2021 on social media.

-END-

Supporting photography:

Image 1: Children at Kurna Plains School in South Australia receiving their National Water Week book pack.

Image 2: Children at Kurna Plains School in South Australia reading some of the NWW book pack titles including Wilam, A Birrarung Story.



About mIoT

Based in Brisbane, founded in 2017, and integrated into the Madison Group to support key product development requirements and market sector focus, mIoT began the design, development, and manufacture of the Captis range. As an emerging technology, our team identified the need for a complete end-to-end IoT solution for industrial applications, and thus mIoT's mission has been to provide cutting edge, cellular based IoT monitoring and measurement solutions. In addition to

innovation, mIoT also strive to create long-term sustainability solutions, not only for the businesses we service, but for the greater community.

About Books in Homes

Founded in 2001, Books in Homes is a charitable foundation that provides books-of-choice to children living in remote, disadvantaged and low-socio economic circumstances, ensuring crucial early literacy engagement and the development of reading skills needed for lifelong achievement. Their programs aim to overcome the inequality of educational opportunities in communities where access to books for families is limited or non-existent and resources are often scarce. In doing so, their work helps to overcome generational poverty by enhancing the chances of success in early education thereby opening up options, choices, and potential later in life. Since 2001, Books in Homes has distributed over 2.7 million new books to children through schools and communities around Australia. Books in Homes Australia's vision is to create an Australia where every child and family has access to books in the home.

About National Water Week

Every third week of October, the Australian Water Association organises National Water Week, inspiring individuals, communities and organisations to build awareness around the value of water. As the national coordinator of the week, the Australian Water Association encourages water industry organisation, schools, and communities to create, take part in, and promote National Water Week events, activities, and educational resources. The #NWW2021 theme is Caring for water and Country and celebrates the vital and cultural role that water plays in our lives. Recognising the importance of our waterways, "Caring for water and Country" aims to deepen our understanding of Australian First Nations people's knowledge of protecting and sustaining our water and lands for over 65,000 years.

For more information:

Contact: Leilani Johansen – Marketing Executive for mIoT

Phone: 0450 953 528

Email: leilani.johansen@miot.com.au