

Monday, 3 September 2007

MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

\$16.5 Million Profit and Final Dividend Declaration

The Company is pleased to advise that for the year ending 30 June 2007 it has achieved a net profit¹ of **\$16.5 million** (pre tax) and **\$9.4 million** (post tax) as a listed investment company (LIC), being increases of **182%** and **43%** respectively over the pre tax and post tax results for the previous 2006 year.

The year's profit was generated from total revenues of \$18.2 million and total expenses of \$1.7 million.

Pre tax NTA backing per share increased 44% to \$2.24 from \$1.56 for the previous 2006 balance date.

Post tax NTA backing per share increased 34% to \$1.91 from \$1.43 for the previous 2006 balance date.

Basic and diluted earnings per share increased 43% to \$0.53 per share from \$0.37 per share for the previous 2006 year.

The Company has determined to pay a final dividend of **2 cents per share fully franked** with the record date for entitlements being 17 September 2007 and the expected payment date being 21 September 2007.

Together with the interim dividend of 1.5 cents per share (100% franked) paid on 15 March 2007, this constitutes a total fully franked dividend for the year of 3.5 cents per share.

Details of the financial performance of the Company are contained in its unaudited Preliminary Final Report dated 31 August 2007 which may be viewed and downloaded from the Company's website: www.orionequities.com.au.

1 These results are in the process of being audited



Dividend Donation Programme

The Company has determined to implement a Dividend Donation Programme in partnership with a recognised Australian charity.

This will give shareholders the opportunity to direct all or part of their cash dividends to this charity and (subject to compliance with Australian Taxation Office rules) receive a tax deduction for monies donated. It is also of assistance to the Company in processing smaller dividend cheques where the amount of the dividend can be less than the transaction and processing costs incurred by the Company with respect to such dividend.

Further details will be contained in a mail out to shareholders.

Further information:

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