



MEDIA RELEASE

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ASX AND SFE RESULTS FOR THE PERIODS ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

SUMMARY vs PREVIOUS CORRESPONDING PERIODS

ASX Full Year to 30 June 2006 - Audited

- Record ASX normal net profit after tax of \$137.1 million, an increase of 24.6% over the p.c.p.
- Record ASX normal revenue of \$305.6 million, an increase of 9.3% over the p.c.p.
- Normal earnings per share of 133.4 cents, compared with 107.1 cents per share for the p.c.p.
- Final dividend of 63.9 cents per share fully franked, compared to 50.9 cents per share for the final dividend for the p.c.p.
- Total dividends of 120.1 cents per share fully franked, reflecting the Board's policy of paying 90% of normal net profit after tax

SFE Half Year to 30 June 2006 - Unaudited

- Record SFE net profit after tax of \$42.3 million (excluding merger-related costs), an increase of 26.3% over the p.c.p.
- Record SFE revenue of \$76.4 million, an increase of 17.0% over the p.c.p.
- Earnings per share of 28.6 cents, compared with 25.0 cents per share for the p.c.p.
- Interim dividend of 32.6 cents per share fully franked, compared to 21.3 cents per share for the interim dividend for the p.c.p.

p.c.p. – previous corresponding period

ASX AND SFE ANNOUNCE STRONG PROFIT AND REVENUE GROWTH BASED ON HIGHER MARKET VOLUMES

ASX today confirmed a record normal net profit after tax of \$137.1 million for the full-year ended 30 June 2006. The result represents a 24.6% increase on the \$110.0 million achieved for the previous corresponding period to 30 June 2005.

Profit was achieved on normal operating revenue of \$305.6 million, which excludes interest and dividend revenue. This revenue was 9.3% higher than the \$279.5 million achieved during the previous corresponding period.

ASX also released SFE Corporation Ltd's unaudited results for the half-year to 30 June 2006. This included a record net half-year profit after tax of \$42.3 million, an increase of 26.3 on the previous corresponding period, and was based on a record revenue of \$76.4 million, an increase of 9.3% on the previous corresponding period.

The ASX Board has already declared a final dividend of 63.9 cents per share, maintaining the payout policy of 90% of normal net profit after tax. That brought the year's total dividend to 120.1 cents per share fully franked, a 26.3% increase on the previous year's total dividend of 95.1 cents per share.

Commenting on the results, ASX Managing Director and CEO Robert Elstone said: "These are both good results, clearly based on strong growth in market volumes.

"Equally importantly, they provide a sound basis for the delivery of merger benefits to shareholders and users over the medium term, which is my key objective, as well as more than adequately fulfilling the combined group's regulatory obligations."

Australian Stock Exchange Limited's and SFE Corporation Limited's financial and operating performance:

ASX Full Year to 30 June 2006

- Revenue from equities trading, clearing and settlement increased by 10.7% over the p.c.p. to \$130.9 million. Daily average equities trades for the period were 125,047, an increase of 40% on the daily average of 89,178 for the p.c.p.
- Revenue from listings increased by 7.7% over the p.c.p. to \$77.0 million, accounting for more than a quarter of total operating revenue. There were 227 new listings compared with 222 for the p.c.p., with a total of \$51.4 billion of new and secondary market capital raised during 2005/2006.
- Revenue from derivatives increased by 10.0% over the p.c.p. to \$48.4 million. Daily average option contracts traded were 91,314 a 2% increase over the p.c.p.
- Revenue from Information Services increased by 11.2% over the p.c.p. to \$35.7 million.
- Normal expenses decreased 6.2% over the p.c.p. to \$130.7 million.

SFE Half Year to 30 June 2006

- Exchange fee revenue increased by 20.2% over the p.c.p. to \$56.2 million. Total exchange volumes increased by 26.4% over the p.c.p. to 38.9 million contracts.
- Settlement and depository revenue up 3.5% over the p.c.p. to \$6.7 million.
- Total Austraclear transactions up 1.2% over the p.c.p. to 0.7 million.
- Total expenses including depreciation increased 1.0% over the p.c.p. to \$26.8 million.

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