



MEDIA RELEASE

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ASX Equity and Index Options Set for Trading by US Investors

The Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) has received no-action relief from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in the United States for ASX-market equity and index options.

As a result of this relief, ASX Exchange Traded Options (ETOs) will be eligible for trading by US institutional investors.

This is the first time ASX has obtained this type of relief from the US regulator, enabling ASX participants to accept ETO orders from certain registered broker-dealers and large financial institutions in the US. Relief for the trading of SFE-market SPI 200® equity index futures and options contracts was obtained from the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) in 2000.

All ETOs, with the exception of FLEX options, LEPOs and those with foreign domiciled underlying stocks, will be eligible for trading by US institutions, amounting to 71 stock and three equity index products (please see attached list). The regulatory approval is expected to generate substantial liquidity from offshore which will further deepen the ETO market. There were 91,000 ETOs traded on average each day on ASX in financial year 2007, valued at A\$15 billion (US\$12 billion).

Peter Hiom, ASX Group Executive, Business Development said: "The granting of SEC, No-Action Relief is pivotal to the development of the Australian Exchange Traded Options market. The participation of large US institutions in domestic ETOs is expected to diversify the client base and drive volume growth.

"There is keen US interest in ASX ETOs because of the strength of our market and the quality of our leading companies. The move to offer products to US institutions demonstrates the internationalisation of ASX's markets."

A list of the ETOs to which the relief applies is attached.

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Exchange Traded Option Stocks

As at 14 September 2007

Of US SEC Approved Classes

AFG	Allco Finance Group Ltd	NAB	National Australia Bank Ltd
AGK	AGL Energy Ltd	NCM	Newcrest Mining Ltd
AIO	Asciano Group	ORG	Origin Energy Ltd
AMC	Amcor Ltd	ORI	Orica Ltd
AMP	AMP Ltd	OSH	Oil Search Ltd
ANN	Ansell Ltd	OST	OneSteel Ltd
ANZ	Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	OXR	Oxiana Ltd
ASX	ASX Ltd	PBG	Pacific Brands Ltd
AWC	Alumina Ltd	PBL	Publishing & Broadcasting Ltd
AXA	AXA Asia Pacific Holdings Ltd	PPX	Paperlinx Ltd
BBG	Billabong International Ltd	QAN	Qantas Airways Ltd
BHP	BHP Billiton Ltd	QBE	QBE Insurance Group Ltd
BLD	Boral Ltd	RIO	Rio Tinto Ltd
BLY	Boart Longyear Ltd	SEV	Seven Network Ltd
BNB	Babcock & Brown Ltd	SGB	St George Bank Ltd
BPC	Burns, Philp & Company Ltd	SGP	Stockland
BSL	Bluescope Steel Ltd	STO	Santos Ltd
BTA	Biota Holdings Ltd	SUN	Suncorp Metway Ltd
BXL	Brambles Industries Ltd	SYB	Symbion Health Limited
CBA	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	TAH	Tabcorp Holdings Ltd
CCL	Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd	TCL	Transurban Group
CGJ	Coles Group Ltd	TEN	Ten Network Holdings Ltd
CPU	Computershare Ltd	TLS	Telstra Corporation Ltd
CSL	CSL Ltd	TLSCA	Telstra Corporation Ltd Instalment Receipts
CSR	CSR Ltd	TOL	Toll Holdings Ltd
DJS	David Jones Ltd	TO2	Toll Holdings Ltd - Basket Options
FGL	Foster's Group Ltd	TTS	Tattersall's Ltd
FXJ	John Fairfax Holdings Ltd	VBA	Virgin Blue Holdings Ltd
GPT	General Property Trust	WBC	Westpac Banking Corp Ltd
HVN	Harvey Norman Ltd	WDC	Westfield Group
IAG	Insurance Australia Group	WES	Wesfarmers Ltd
JBM	Jubilee Mines Ltd	WOW	Woolworths Ltd
LGL	Lihir Gold Ltd	WPL	Woodside Petroleum Ltd
LLC	Lend Lease Corp Ltd	XFL	S&P™/ASX 50 Index
MAP	Macquarie Airports	XJO	S&P™/ASX 200™
MBL	Macquarie Bank Ltd	XPJ	S&P™/ASX 200™ Property Trusts Sector Index
MIG	Macquarie Infrastructure Group	ZFX	Zinifex Ltd

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