



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

27 July 2005

### **ASX RESULTS FOR THE FULL-YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005**

**ASX ANNOUNCES STRONG PROFIT GROWTH ON HIGHER REVENUE,  
MAINTAINS HIGHER DIVIDEND PAYOUT**

#### **SUMMARY vs PREVIOUS CORRESPONDING PERIOD**

- Record normal net profit after tax of \$108.5 million, an increase of 31.2%
- Record normal revenue of \$279.7 million, an increase of 16.0%
- Normal earnings per share of 108.5 cents (pre-goodwill), compared with 83.8 cents per share for the p.c.p.
- Final dividend of 50.9 cents per share fully franked, compared to 27.4 cents per share for the final dividend for the p.c.p.
- Total dividends of 95.1 cents per share fully franked, reflecting the Board's policy of paying 90% of normal net profit after tax
- Average daily SEATS trading volumes increase 28.0%
- Average daily Options contract volumes increase 23.0%
- Listings revenue increases 32.4% reflecting strong market conditions
- Capital expenditure within guidance at \$10.2 million

## **ASX ANNOUNCES STRONG PROFIT GROWTH ON HIGHER REVENUE, MAINTAINS HIGHER DIVIDEND PAYOUT**

ASX today announced a record normal net profit after tax of \$108.5 million for the full-year ended 30 June 2005. The result represents a 31.2% increase on the \$82.7 million achieved for the previous corresponding period to 30 June 2004.

Profit was achieved on normal operating revenue of \$279.7 million, which excludes interest and dividend revenue. This revenue was 16.0% higher than the \$241.2 million achieved during the previous corresponding period.

The ASX Board has also declared a final dividend of 50.9 cents per share, maintaining the payout policy of 90% of normal net profit after tax that was adopted with the interim result. This brought the year's total dividend to 95.1 cents per share fully franked, a 17.8% increase on the previous year's total dividend of 80.7 cents per share.

Commenting on the results, ASX Managing Director and CEO Tony D'Aloisio said: "This is an outstanding result made possible by the support of our market, by the participants, the institutions and retail investors and the listed companies. We thank them all for their support and their confidence in our market. I would also like to thank our people for maintaining the highest levels of market efficiency and market integrity – especially in a year of record volumes and internal changes at ASX."

Financial and operating performance (compared to previous corresponding period):

- Revenue from equities trading, clearing and settlement increased by 11.7% to \$118.4 million. Daily average equities trades for the period were 89,178, an increase of 28% on the daily average of 69,665 for the previous corresponding period.
- Revenue from listings increased by 32.4% to \$71.5 million, and now accounts for a quarter of total operating revenue. There were 222 new listings compared with 180 for the previous corresponding period.
- Revenue from derivatives increased by 13.7% to \$44.0 million. Daily average options contracts traded was 89,195, a 23.0% increase on this period last year.
- 3,595 new warrants listed compared to 2,251 during the previous corresponding period. Of these new warrants, just under 2,500 were short-dated trading warrants compared to 1,500 during the previous corresponding period.
- Revenue from market data increased 9.9% to \$32.1 million.
- Normal operating expenses increased 3.3% to \$137.5 million.
- Normal EBIT increased to \$142.2 million, a 31.5% increase on the \$108.1 million recorded for the previous corresponding period.
- ASX Perpetual Registrars (APRL) contributed \$2.6 million on a pre-goodwill basis compared with \$2.2 million for the previous corresponding period.

ASX also announced further decisions arising from the review of profit and loss drivers, which is now largely completed. Full details of these are outlined in the Consolidated Financial Statements, released to the market today.

## Summary financial information

	Year-ended 30 June 2005	Year-ended 30 June 2004	Year ended 30 June 2003
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Normal operating revenue	279.7	241.2	206.8
Normal EBITDA	158.1	124.5	96.6
Depreciation & amortisation	15.9	16.4	17.2
Normal EBIT	142.2	108.1	79.5
Normal net profit after tax	108.5	82.7	61.3
	cents	cents	cents
Normal Earnings per share (EPS)			
- pre goodwill amortisation	108.5	83.8	62.8
- post goodwill amortisation	105.7	81.1	60.1
Dividend per share (DPS)			
- interim	44.2	29.2	21.5
- final	50.9	27.4	18.1
- special		24.1	27.5

## Dividend information

- Ex date	8 August 2005
- Record Date	12 August 2005
- Payment date	26 August 2005

## For further information:

### Media:

Gervase Greene  
Corporate Relations  
(BH) +61 2 9227 0464  
(Mobile) 0419 496 703

### Investors and analysts:

John Hayes  
Chief Financial Officer  
(BH) +61 2 9227 0709