



Appointment of Independent Directors & Chairman

The Board of West Australian Newspapers Holdings Limited (WAN) today announced the appointment of two new independent directors, Mr Don Voelte and Mr Sam Walsh.

Mr Voelte is Managing Director and CEO of Woodside Petroleum Limited, a position he has held since 2004. Educated in the United States, he holds a degree in Civil Engineering and has more than 34 years global business experience.

Mr Walsh was appointed Chief Executive of the Rio Tinto's Iron Ore group in 2004. He joined Rio Tinto in 1991, following 20 years in the automotive industry at General Motors and Nissan Australia.

The new directors join Mr Graeme John, AO who was appointed to the Board last week. Mr John, the Managing Director of Australia Post since 1993, brings an industry-leading knowledge of distribution processes and systems, as well as general business skills and acumen, to the Board.

The three new Directors, with Mr Kerry Stokes, AC, Mr Peter Gammell and Mr Doug Flynn, constitute a Board with wide-ranging skills and business experience across a variety of industries, both globally and in Western Australia.

Following today's appointment the WAN Board comprises six non-executive directors, of which four are independent.

The full Board today also voted unanimously to appoint Mr Kerry Stokes AC as Chairman of the Board.

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