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ABT ACHIEVES "PROOF OF CONCEPT" SIGN OFF FOR GARBAGE TRUCK BRAKE

DEVELOPMENT PHASE OF MAJOR NEW GROWTH PROJECT NOW COMPLETE

Advanced Braking Technology "ABT" (ASX: ABV) has taken a further major step towards commercialisation of its braking technology in the waste collection industry after today announcing that it has successfully completed the development phase and achieved a "proof of concept" sign off of its next generation garbage truck braking system.

The project is designed to expand ABT's patented Sealed Integrated Braking System (SIBS™) into a highly attractive new market sector. This represents a major growth opportunity for the Osborne Park, WA-based company. ABT's patented technology is already widely used in the mining industry in Australia and overseas delivering cost, safety and environmental benefits.

ABT was commissioned to develop a new generation brake for garbage trucks. The ABT truck brake has been designed to significantly reduce the maintenance cost of garbage truck brakes and also completely eliminate brake squeal and airborne particles from the brakes.

The application of the advanced enclosed wet braking system to garbage trucks has been in the design and development phase for the past 2 years with over $2 million devoted to the project.

Following design sign off 12 months ago, the prototype SIBS™ brake sets have been subjected to a wide range of performance and validation tests to arrive at this "proof of concept" milestone. The sign off was given by the independent expert, Dr Lindsay Dawson, who is retained by the project investors to monitor progress. Achievement of this milestone will lead to a pilot production run ahead of the full commercial release of the brake.

Testing over the last 12 months has verified that the key program functional objectives for the new SIBS™ brake design have been met. These are: comparable stopping performance and achievement of regulated international brake performance standards, acceptable pedal feel characteristics and vastly superior pad/disc wear characteristics. As a result, the core design of the SIBS™ brake assembly is now ready for production release and validation testing in a small fleet of trucks.

An important part of the development program was the putting into service of a SIBS™ equipped garbage truck with a local government authority. This truck accumulated over 250 hours of rubbish collection duties and its performance was monitored. Over this test period the SIBS™ brake pads exhibited an average wear rate of just 1% of their maximum design wear limit (0.06mm of a 6mm wear limit). Conventional brakes would be approximately 30% to 40% worn with this amount of service. Other performance and durability testing confirmed a wide variety of functional aspects of the design with vehicle and bench tests.

An interesting and exciting side benefit revealed in the field trial is that the test truck tyre wear was also significantly reduced compared to that of a standard truck. This comes about from the smoother and more controlled braking reducing the propensity for the rear wheels to lock up and skid.

The next step ahead of a commercial release of the product is to embark on fleet trial of the production design to validate that it retains all the concept design characteristics and that "real world" testing on a wider sample confirms the robustness of the SIBS™ brake system. Discussions have commenced with various garbage truck fleet operators with the view of gaining their involvement in the fleet trial.

Under the contract with Brake Developments Ltd, the investors in the project, they now have the option to fund the next stage of the project and gain the entitlement to receive a royalty on the commercial sale. Brake Developments have advised ABT of their intention to proceed with the next stage and discussions are underway with the view to finalising in the near future a pre-production contract which will set out the scope and deliverables under the next stage.

ABT's Managing Director, Mr Ken Johnsen, added: "This is a significant milestone in the development of the garbage truck brake and a credit to the development team. It places the company one step closer to penetrating a mainstream market with global potential. Brake systems for the mining industry will remain an important part of ABT's business however the garbage truck market is a significantly larger opportunity with large fleets of trucks in major cities across the world."

Sealed Integrated Braking System (SIBS™) – Commercial Application

The Sealed Integrated Braking System (SIBS™) is a patented single disc enclosed wet brake used by the world's major mining companies in the harshest environments, ranging from diamond mines in the arctic, gold mines in tropical jungles to uranium mines in the deserts.

ABT has recognised that there is a massive market for the braking system in the mainstream market and in particular garbage trucks, which operate in similar harsh conditions as mining vehicles.

One of the costliest factors in operating a typical garbage truck is brake maintenance, as these vehicles apply their brakes over half a million times per annum during normal service. As a consequence, they suffer from very high brake wear rates which also generate increased levels of particle emissions. As with most fine particles, such emissions are of growing concern to health professionals and governments worldwide and may be subject to new regulations being considered by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

A common complaint with garbage trucks in service is the brake noise or squeal associated with the frequent stopping.

The SIBS™ garbage truck brake has been designed to offer:

- a much reduced operating cost providing a projected 2 to 2.5 year payback period in a 6 to 9 year garbage truck service life - based on projected selling price of $20,000 to $25,000
- eliminate both noise and particle emission pollution; and
- provide operators a tangible economic benefit for adopting the product.

Published data indicates there are over 200,000 garbage trucks in service in North America and Europe alone. Annual sales of garbage trucks in North America and Europe amount to 20,000 units per annum. Large cities such as New York and Bangkok each have over 6000 garbage trucks in service. Annual sales in Australia are approximately 800 trucks per annum with a total fleet of 6,500 to 8,000 units.

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Background Information – Advanced Braking Technology Ltd (ASX: ABV)

Perth-based Advanced Braking Technology Ltd (ASX: ABV) is dedicated to innovative braking systems. The Company's key asset is the Sealed Integrated Braking System (SIBS™), a comprehensively patented Australian invention.

SIBS™ is a fully enclosed, single rotor, high speed wet brake. The brake rotor runs in a bath of oil that serves to cool the brake and minimize wear at the braking interface. An innovative fail safe feature is incorporated into the rear axle brake. As a result, the brakes are virtually wear and maintenance-free and may outlast the vehicles they are fitted to, unlike conventional drum and disc brakes. SIBS™ brakes deliver unparalleled safety, improved productivity and lower operating costs, and are engineered to survive the world's harshest conditions.

The proven technology is also environmentally friendly, eliminating brake dust emissions and noise and squealing, and provides a wide-range of benefits for on-road, off-road and industrial applications in terms of safety, reliability, performance and adaptability.