ASX

AUSTRALIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

28 July 2004

Proposal to Issue Shares under ASX Employee Share Acquisition Plan

Australian Stock Exchange Limited ("ASX") proposes to offer shares to its employees under the Employee Share Acquisition Plan (the "Plan"). The Plan was approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held on 19 October 1998.

In accordance with listing rule 3.10.3 ASX provides the following information for release to the market.

- The securities to be issued under the Plan are fully paid ordinary shares.

- The number of shares to be issued under the Plan will not exceed in aggregate a Market Value of $600,000.

  The Market Value of shares subscribed for under the Plan is determined by the weighted average price at which shares are traded on ASX in the one-week period up to and including the date of issue or allotment of the shares. If there was no trading of the shares in the period, then market value will be calculated as the last price at which an offer was made on ASX in that period, or if no offer was made at all, the arms-length value assessed by an independent registered company auditor or otherwise calculated in a manner approved by the Commissioner of Taxation.

- The terms of the shares to be issued under the Plan are the same as other ordinary shares of ASX however participants in the Plan are subject to the Plan rules in respect of the shares issued under the Plan, including a three-year restriction on disposal.

- Shares offered under the Plan will be offered at an amount per share equal to:

  $$\frac{(\$1{,}000)}{M}$$

  where M= the Market Value of a share subscribed for under the Plan.

- The shares are being issued under the Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to more closely align ASX's staff interests with those of the Company.

- There is no need to seek shareholder approval to issue these shares.

- The offer under the Plan is being made to employees of ASX in accordance with the Plan rules.

An Appendix 3B will be lodged at the time of issue of the shares which is expected to be in mid-August 2004.