



11 April 2003

The Company Announcements Office  
Australian Stock Exchange Limited  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, 20 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

## 1. GRANT OF OPTIONS

I refer to Listing Rule 3.10.3 in relation to the obligation to advise of an intention to issue securities. Sonic Healthcare Limited ("Sonic Healthcare") advises that options will be granted by it over its ordinary shares as follows:

### 1.1 Granting of 695,000 Options Pursuant to its Employee Option Plan

The Board of Sonic Healthcare has agreed with its subsidiary companies in The Doctors Laboratory (TDL) group to grant options to existing TDL staff pursuant to the terms of the United Kingdom sub-scheme (established under UK tax law) to Sonic's approved Employee Share Option Plan as follows:

- **Class of security to be issued** – options over ordinary shares;
- **Number of ordinary shares to be issued on exercise** – up to 695,000;
- **Principle terms of the securities to be issued**–

Proportion of Options Exercisable	Vesting Period
up to 50%	From 30 months up to 42 months after the date of grant
up to 75%	From 42 months up to 54 months after the grant date
up to 100%	From 54 months after the date of grant until the expiry date
Expiry date	58 months after the date of grant

The shares issued on exercise will rank equally with ordinary shares;

- **Exercise Price** – The exercise price will be the average market price for Sonic shares in the five trading days prior to the grant date;
- **Purpose of issue** – to satisfy grants of option under Sonic Healthcare's Employee Option Plan;
- **Whether shareholder approval is required** – No
- **Whether the issue will be to a class of security holder** – No

## 1.2 Options to QXR Staff

As described in Sonic's announcements dated 24 August 2001 and 19 August 2002, pursuant to the terms of its agreement with the vendors of the Queensland X-Ray business, Sonic agreed with Queensland X-Ray to issue a total of 1,000,000 options over time to staff of that business. 80,000 of the 1,000,000 are now being granted, leaving 430,000 still to be granted into the future. The details of the options and the shares to be issued on their exercise are as follows:

- **Class of security to be issued** – options over ordinary shares;
- **Number of securities to be issued** – 80,000;
- **Principle terms of the securities to be issued**–

<b>Proportion of Options Exercisable</b>	<b>Vesting Period</b>
up to 50%	From 30 months up to 42 months after the date of grant
up to 75%	From 42 months up to 54 months after the grant date
up to 100%	From 54 months after the date of grant until the expiry date
Expiry date	58 months after the date of grant

The shares issued on exercise will rank equally with ordinary shares;

- **Exercise Price** – the amount required to be paid on exercise pursuant to the terms of each option is \$6.01;
- **The purpose of the issue** – to satisfy obligations incurred by Sonic Healthcare on the acquisition of the QXR business pursuant to agreements with the vendors of that business;
- **Whether shareholder approval is required** – No
- **Whether the issue will be to a class of security holder** – No

An application for listing of all shares allotted on exercise of these options will be made to the ASX at the relevant time after their exercise.

## 2. RELEASE OF SECURITIES SUBJECT TO VOLUNTARY ESCROW

I refer to Listing Rule 3.10A in relation to the obligation to advise on the release of securities subject to voluntary escrow. Sonic advises that 1,195,718 of its ordinary shares will be released from escrow on 1 May 2003. This release from escrow relates to Sonic's announcement on 1 November 2001 concerning its merger with the SKG Radiology Group.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Alexander**  
Company Secretary