



ASX

AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE

MARKET RELEASE

20 March 2007

SONIC HEALTHCARE LIMITED

TRADING HALT

The securities of Sonic Healthcare Limited (the "Company") will be placed in pre-open at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in pre-open until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Thursday, 22 March 2007 or when the announcement is released to the market.

SHL

SHL

Stephanie Yong

Adviser, Issuers (Sydney)



**SONIC
HEALTHCARE
LIMITED**

20 March 2007

Ms Stephanie Yong
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
Level 6
20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000
FAX: 9241 7620

Dear Ms Yong,

Request for Trading Halt

I request an immediate trading halt in the ordinary securities of Sonic Healthcare Limited (ASX Code: SHL).

Sonic Healthcare requests that the trading halt remain in place pending the expiry of a court imposed embargo on the release of the court decision regarding the Auckland pathology contract. The embargo will expire at 1pm Sydney time today at which time the company proposes to make an announcement to the market and lift the trading halt.

The company is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Alexander
Company Secretary**