

Friday, 13 July 2007

## **MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT**

## Net Tangible Asset Backing - 30 June 2007

M. d.F. I	%	30 June 2007	31 May 2007
Month Ending:	Change	Consolidated	Consolidated
Net tangible assets (before tax)		\$39.704	\$41.629m
Pre-Tax NTA Backing per share	<b>-4.62</b> %	\$2.2287	\$2.3368
Net tangible assets (after tax)		\$33.832	\$35.597m
Post-Tax NTA Backing per share	<b>-4.96</b> %	\$1.8991	\$1.9982
Based on total issued share capital		17,814,389	17,814,389

The NTA position comprises the following items:

	<b>Current Month</b>	Previous Month
Net Assets	\$'millions	\$'millions
Investments in listed Associated Entities:		_
(a) Shares in Bentley International Limited (BEL)	4.634	4.794
(b) Shares in Scarborough Equities Limited (SCB)	6.763	6.719
Investments in other listed securities	14.524	15.097
Investments in unlisted options	6.412	6.724
Investment in property	3.821	3.821
Investment in Koorian Olive Grove	2.689	2.689
Provision for dividend	(0.028)	(0.028)
Net cash / other assets / provisions	0.890	1.813
Pre-Tax NTA	39.704	41.629
Tax Provisions:		
(a) Prior year tax	-	-
(b) Current year tax	(1.409)	(1.166)
(c) Net deferred tax asset / (liability)	(4.463)	(4.866)
Post-Tax NTA	33.832	35.597

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ORION EQUITIES LIMITED

ASX Code: OEQ

## **Notes for Current Month NTA Position:**

(1) The Company's investments in Associated Entities (i.e. in which the Company has a greater than 20% interest) are accounted for under the equity method in the consolidated financial statements.

Under the equity method, the carrying amount of each such investment is cost plus a share of the Associate Entity's net profit or loss (after tax) for the financial year to month end as provided to the Company by each such Associated Entity.

Accordingly, as at 30 June 2007 the Company's:

- (i) 28.38% interest in BEL has a carrying value of \$0.4109 per share (\$4.634m); this compares with BEL's last bid price on ASX of \$0.39 per share (\$4.398m) and BEL's after tax NTA backing of \$0.5066 cents per share (\$5.712m) at month end;
- (ii) 28.22% interest in SCB has a carrying value of \$1.2351 per share (\$6.763m); this compares with SCB's last bid price on ASX of \$1.055 per share (\$5.777m) and SCB's after tax NTA backing of \$1.2187 per share (\$6.673m) at month end.
- (2) The fair value of the Consolidated Entity's investments in other listed securities are based on each securities' last bid price on market at month end.
- (3) The fair value of the Consolidated Entity's investments in unlisted options, being the following unlisted options in ASX listed Strike Resources Limited (SRK), is based on a Black-Scholes options pricing valuation model:
  - (a) 1,833,333 options, each to acquire one SRK share at an exercise price of 20 cents, on or before 9 February 2011; and
  - (b) 1,666,667 options, each to acquire one SRK share at an exercise price of 30 cents, on or before 9 February 2011.

This valuation has been calculated using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model applying the following assumptions:

- (i) SRK's share price being \$2.020 (the last bid price as at 30 June 2007). The Company notes that SRK's last bid price was \$2.350 as at 13 July 2007;
- (ii) A risk free rate of return of 6.41% (based on the 5 year bond yield as at 30 June 2007).
- (iii) An estimated future volatility of SRK's share price of 65%.
- (4) The Consolidated Entity's investment in real property is carried at cost.
- (5) The Consolidated Entity's investment in the Koorian Olive Grove comprise a 143 hectare property, approximately 64,500 (7 year old) olive trees, an appoximately one gigalitre per annum water licence (carried at cost) and depreciable plant and equipment and other grove related infrastructure.
- (6) Tax Provision Item (c) includes a provision for income tax on net unrealised gains on the Company's investments in securities and its share of Associated Entities' after tax net profit for the month (deferred tax liability) and the recognition of future income tax benefits on net unrealised losses on the Company's investments in securities and its share of Associated Entities' after tax net loss for the month (deferred tax asset).

## **Further information:**

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