



Housewares International Limited

ABN 90 086 933 431

ASX Release

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HWI RE-AFFIRMS ITS GROWTH STRATEGY WITH NEW BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Board of Housewares International Limited (“HWI”) is pleased to announce the appointment of three Non-Executive Directors. The following appointments are effective immediately:

Bill Wavish, former Director of Woolworths Limited, has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director and as Chairman Elect of the Company. Mr Wavish has worked in Asia and Australia in the food, finance, property and general merchandise sectors.

John Schmoll, a former Chief Financial Officer of Coles Myer Limited, has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director. Mr Schmoll has an extensive career in retail and distribution services including that of Finance Director with the Edgars Group, South Africa’s largest apparel and household goods retailer. Mr Schmoll is also experienced in international debt and equity markets as well as strategic planning, capital management, and IT services.

Steven Fisher has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director. Mr Fisher has more than 20 years experience in General Management positions in the wholesale consumer goods industry and is currently General Manager of the Voyager Group. Mr Fisher replaces Mr Jones on the Board as the representative of Premier Investments.

The Board reminds shareholders that the current Chairman, Mr Frank Jones, will be retiring at the end of the Annual General Meeting which will be held at 10.00am on Tuesday, 23 November 2004. Mr Bill Wavish will assume the position of Chairman at that point. The Board recognises the very significant contribution that Mr Jones has made to the HWI Board throughout his tenure and wishes him well in his retirement.

Mr Peter Morgan has advised the Board that he will now retire for personal reasons at the end of the Annual General Meeting. Accordingly, the resolution proposing the re-election of Mr Morgan will be withdrawn from the meeting. Mr Morgan supports the appointment of each of the Non-Executive Directors. The Board would like to express its appreciation for Mr Morgan’s efforts and very valuable input over the past five years.

The Board will therefore comprise Mark Kirkby, Joe Hersch, Bill Wavish, John McConnell, Steven Klein, John Schmoll and Steven Fisher. The new Board members will be introduced to shareholders at next week’s Annual General Meeting.

“With our innovative portfolio of leading brands, Directors re-iterate that our primary focus is to grow the business and to deliver increased shareholder value” said Bill Wavish.

Housewares International Limited is a leading brand-owner and distributor of electrical appliances and homewares products. Brands include Breville, Kambrook, Baccarat, Arcosteel, Mayfair & Jackson and alex liddy and distribution arrangements with leading international brands including Philips.

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