



**CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF SLATER & GORDON LIMITED
26 OCTOBER 2010**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. My name is Anna Booth and I am the Chair of your company. It is my pleasure to welcome you to our fourth Annual General Meeting.

I have been advised that we have a quorum and I therefore declare the meeting open.

Firstly let me introduce my fellow directors.

Independent non-executive director Ian Court. Ian has a wealth of senior executive and board experience in a number of industry sectors including funds management and financial services. He is the chair of our Audit & Risk Management Committee.

Independent, non-executive director Erica Lane. Erica has over 20 years experience at board and senior executive levels across a range of business sectors, particularly in financial services and professional services.

I am also delighted to introduce our newest board member - independent, non-executive director John Skippen. John will be known to at least some of you I'm sure as the long serving Finance Director of Harvey Norman. He brings considerable public company, retail and financial experience to our board.

Our managing director Andrew Grech. Andrew has been in his current role since 2000 and has overseen the massive growth our company has undergone in that time. Andrew continues to drive the organisation with the same passion he no doubt did when he was first appointed but with the benefit of an extra 10 years experience.

Executive director Ken Fowlie. Since joining Slater & Gordon in 1995, Ken has been involved in several prominent legal cases. He was also responsible for building the New

South Wales practice from virtually scratch. He now leads the Company's Commercial & Project Litigation practice nationally from his base in the Sydney office.

Whilst he is not able to be with us today, it would be remiss of me at this stage not to make mention of our former deputy chairman Peter Gordon who resigned during the year. While he is greatly missed from the board, Slater & Gordon is still benefitting from Peter's expertise through his ongoing consultancy agreement with our company.

I would also like to introduce our Chief Financial Officer and joint Company Secretary Wayne Brown. Wayne joined Slater & Gordon in 2004 from the listed Grand Hotel Group where he was financial controller. Prior to that he spent 10 years at Arthur Andersen where he specialised in corporate restructuring.

Joint Company Secretary and General Counsel Kirsten Morrison is also with us today. Kirsten joined Slater & Gordon's commercial litigation team in 2006 after completing an associateship with the Hon Justice Hargrave in the Victorian Supreme Court. She took up her current role in 2008.

The Company's auditor, the Lead Engagement Partner of Pitcher Partners, Matthew Pringle, is also present at today's meeting.

Ladies and gentlemen, with those formalities behind us, let us now talk about the business of your company.

Financial year 2009-2010 was quite a year and a lot has happened since the end of June.

The financial year 2010 financial metrics were strong with substantial increases in profit, earnings per share and cash flow. 2010 is also a special year in the life of our company – we celebrated our 75th anniversary in March. We commissioned a special documentary for the occasion and we would like to share a clip from that documentary with you now.

At the end of the financial year, we announced our biggest acquisition by far – the very prominent, and I must say very impressive, Queensland personal injury litigation firm, Trilby Misso. The acquisition was completed in August this year.

And this morning, we have announced to the ASX the acquisition subject to executed documentation and final due diligence of another large firm, the Sydney based personal injury firm Keddies.

When we listed we said it was our intention to lead the consolidation of the national personal injuries litigation market and to extend the geographical reach of the business. We've followed that course ever since. When the board met early this year for its annual strategy review we determined that Queensland and New South Wales were where the opportunities for us were greatest. The successful acquisition of Trilby Misso and today's announcement of the acquisition of Keddies delivers on this strategy. The Board particularly identified western Sydney as the fastest growing area in NSW and Keddies gives us a strong growth platform in this region.

Our managing director Andrew Grech will provide more details of the Keddies acquisition in his presentation.

While much has been said about our aspirations and activities in the personal injuries market, it is clearly not our only area of attention. The Board has confirmed its support for the continued growth of our non personal injuries practices. Areas of particular focus include Family Law, online wills and other online legal services, where the strength of the Slater & Gordon brand can be leveraged to substantially increase market share.

Furthermore, on the Commercial and Project Litigation front, securing a favourable judgment in the Vioxx class action was a major win as was the innovative Storm resolution scheme with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The Commercial and Project Litigation team has built an impressive portfolio of cases, some funded by ourselves, some funded by clients and others funded by litigation funders. The board has confirmed its ongoing support for investment in this area.

Now turning to the important subject of corporate governance, which we regard as a key enabler of our success.

With the appointment of John Skippen we now have a board of six, with the majority (four) being independent non-executive directors. You will recall, that this has been our stated objective since listing. We take our corporate governance responsibilities very seriously and have invested in continuous improvement through our board evaluation and professional development activities. We conduct a thorough evaluation of the board as a whole and the contribution of individual directors annually and in December of this year we will conduct our first annual internal education program for directors.

Ladies and gentleman, it was another busy and productive year for our company and the next financial year is shaping up as an even more productive one.

I would like express my thanks to my fellow Board members and to all Slater & Gordon staff for their contribution to the continued success of our company and to all shareholders for their support.

Thank you for your attendance here today ladies and gentlemen and for your attention. I am now pleased to introduce our managing director Andrew Grech.