ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
24 OCTOBER 2013

CHAIR'S ADDRESS

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I am advised that we have a quorum and I therefore declare the meeting open. There will be an opportunity to ask questions post the Managing Director's presentation and I request that you wait until this time to ask questions.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce the members of our board.

Firstly, my fellow independent non-executive directors - Ian Court, Erica Lane and Rhonda O'Donnell. Ian Court is chair of the Audit, Compliance and Risk Management committee and Erica Lane is the chair of the Nomination and Remuneration committee. Rhonda O'Donnell was a welcome addition to the board in March bringing with her extensive Information Technology and international business experience.

Our managing director Andrew Grech is no doubt well known to all of you.

Executive director Ken Fowlie may also be known to you. Ken has 17 years' experience at Slater & Gordon and from July assumed overall responsibility for the Group's Australian operations.

I'd also like to introduce our chief financial officer and Company Secretary Wayne Brown.

Matthew Pringle, the lead engagement partner from our auditors, Pitcher Partners, also joins us today.

I am pleased to report that in the 2013 financial year Slater & Gordon continued to deliver a strong financial performance with solid increases in revenue and earnings.

The results highlight the quality of Slater & Gordon as an investment choice, particularly in a challenging global economic environment, where unlike many others we have been able to deliver solid earnings growth and maintain a strong earnings growth outlook.

Our Australian PI practice continued to perform strongly, despite increased regulation and competition in this area. We are confident that our brand strength and scale in Australia will facilitate continued growth in both our PI practice and our growing non-PI legal services.

A highlight of the year was the acceleration of our expansion into the UK market and the successful $65 million equity raising undertaken to support this activity. The raising was very strongly supported by existing and new institutional investors and positioned us to take advantage of the opportunities in the UK legal services landscape. Andrew will update you on our progress in the UK shortly.

The growth in the firm led to some key changes in our senior management structure during the year, allowing the Managing Director to step back from the operational side of things and focus on the expanding geographic world Slater & Gordon now operates in. We are very fortunate to have someone of Ken Fowlie's caliber and operational experience heading up our Australian operations along with Neil Kinsella heading up the UK business.

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