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## Aspermont AGM 2019 - Chairman' Address

Dear shareholders, fellow directors, executives, trusted auditor, company solicitor and friends.

Thank you for attending today's Annual General Meeting for the 2018 financial year.

Following a great amount of planning, capital, hard work, and great persistence, Aspermont has established a secure place in the global Technology/Media/Telecommunications market.

I do not want to take the spotlight away from Alex, who will report next on the achievements of his Executive team, but I would like to share an image with you.

I have described the Aspermont business as a revenue tree. Our roots are in the fertile ground provided by a loyal, global subscriber base and our branches represent the new businesses developed for subscribers, but which now serve global industries. These branches are Events, Content Marketing, Research and Intelligence and the green shoots now appearing are training, education and data distribution. Our tree is healthy and growing nicely in an evolving culture. It's growth benefits from the creativity and innovation within Aspermont which is developing substantial intellectual property to support future growth.

Our healthy growth comes from the selection, nurturing and added value pathways generated by Aspermont staff. In the past 6 months, we have appointed two additional key executives – Matt Smith (Chief Commercial Officer) and Leah Thorne (Group People Director).

The board whole heartedly endorses these critical appointments.

I now turn to Corporate Governance

The Group takes corporate governance seriously and I would encourage those interested to review the Annual Report and Aspermont's website for information on our policy and practices. The alignment of director and executive interests with those of shareholders is an Aspermont core principle. Non- executive directors in the main take fees in equity and key executives (with board approval) have also elected to receive bonus payments in equity. The Group's Performance Rights Plan also aligns shareholder returns and executive/staff long term rewards.

The structure and performance of the board is reviewed on an annual basis. Aspermont's board is balanced and effective and is proving a valuable resource for management and shareholders.

Two questions often addressed to Directors are; would Aspermont consolidate its shares and what is your dividend policy?

On the consolidation question, the answer is yes, when directors are confident that shareholder value would be enhanced or not diminished as a result. The board accepts that consolidation may better align Aspermont's capital structure and corporate profile with global investment expectations and regulatory requirements.

Aspermont intends to pay dividends out of Net Profit After Tax ("NPAT") as soon as is deemed prudent. While all high growth companies have increased working capital requirements to fund growth, your directors believe that maintainable and acceptable NPAT's will be delivered in future years as a result of capital reinvested in the business. We will find the balance near term.

The board and key management also review domicile options for taxation and appropriate stock exchange listing(s) on an ongoing basis. Following Aspermont's transformation over the past four years, profits have returned and should only continue to grow.

The very nature of our transformation and the level of knowledge the board has absorbed through this process, necessitates that tax and listing domiciles be regularly considered.

In closing I thank shareholders for their patience and loyalty. It gives me great personal pleasure to work with this board, I sincerely praise our hardworking

executives and I expect to witness further workplace break throughs as we further enhance the quality of culture that Aspermont has developed.

## **Andrew Kent**

Chairman