Market Announcement

# NATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE OF AUSTRALIA

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**Melbourne, VIC** – NSX Limited (ASX: NSX) has formally been advised today that the Stock Exchange of Newcastle Ltd is to be renamed the National Stock Exchange of Australia (National).

The notification of Ministerial approval was received by NSX today, following its application for name change.
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The change to “National” reflects the diverse nature of the listed companies traded on the Stock Exchange and is seen as critical to NSX’s strategy of encouraging communities to invest in local and regional enterprises.

The formation of the Wollongong Exchange for listing Illawarra based enterprises such as cooperatives, business and community assets, would have resulted in the Wollongong Exchange companies trading on the Stock Exchange of Newcastle.

Richard Symon, recently appointed CEO, said “NSX has been approached by many Councils about setting up their own exchange for listing companies that service their communities. The exchanges will operate under the National Stock Exchange as a sub-market, allowing investors to readily identify companies they know.” Mr Symon believes regional investors would prefer to see some of their savings and superannuation invested to support local business and employment rather than funnelled to Australia’s biggest corporations.

NSX Ltd is listed on the ASX (code NSX) and operates both the National and Bendigo Stock Exchanges (BSX) with $1 billion of companies shares listed. Companies include Brumby’s Bakeries, which floated late 2003 at market capitalisation on listing of $6.7 million and is now subject to a $38 mil takeover. A Cap Resources, Pioneer Permanent Building Society and Pacific Turbine are examples of companies who first listed on NSX exchanges before graduating to other markets.

“The NSX Stock Exchanges offer real stepping stones for companies seeking to be listed on ASX or on major offshore exchanges. For investors, the National Stock Exchange trades shares identically and as easily as ASX and BSX through the cheaper share certificate process,” Mr Symon said.

BSX, in an initiative with the Victorian Government, also runs the Victorian Taxi Market where Taxi licences are bought, sold and leased. Mr Symon said that the platform would be perfect to run an exchange for water and other licences. NSX and Com-Agex, which trades as the Financial Energy Exchange (FEX) have agreed to terminate the joint venture of February 2006 to concentrate on a water exchange initiative and have signed an agreement to develop unique commodities and energy securities for listing on the National Stock Exchange.

## About NSX Limited

NSX Exchanges (NSXA and BSX) have 110 listed securities trading with a combined capitalisation of $1 Bil and market turnover last financial year of $15 mil. The Exchanges offer a lower cost and less onerous alternative allowing SME's, family businesses facing succession challenges, franchises, community based organisations and co-operatives with special trading requirements access to capital and share trading liquidity in an environment that promotes confidence for investors.

BSX Services Pty Ltd operates a mechanism for trading Victorian taxi plate licenses and leases; a world first exchange operated on behalf of the Victorian government. Taxi Licence trading is not a financial market and therefore is not regulated by section 791A of the Corporations Act.

## NSX Forward Looking Statements

This Market Release may contain forward looking statements that reflect the Company's current expectations regarding future events. Forward looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual events could differ materially from those that may be projected herein and depend on a factors foremost of which is the success of NSX in attracting listings to its markets.

## Further information

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