



29 April 2008

ASX Announcement

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Introduction

Thank you for coming along today. It's great to see so many shareholders here.

It is now my pleasure to present the Chairman's address and in doing so, report that Ausenco is in excellent shape.

We achieved our operational objectives in all areas of the business and delivered record financial results.

Importantly, we also achieved real tangible results for our shareholders.

Based on a clear and focused strategy, highly-skilled and committed personnel and strong leadership under Zimi Meka and his management team, we have been able to capitalise on rapidly growing global demand for our services given the buoyant international commodities market.

Highlights included:

- The completion of three major projects in China, Australia and Africa
- The completion of three major acquisitions to provide a solid platform for longer term sustainable earnings, and
- Increasing project opportunities, with work in excess of US\$1 billion awarded during the year.

You would have to agree that from a shareholder return perspective Ausenco also performed extremely well.

The total shareholder return during 2007, including share price growth and dividend payments, was 343%.

Financial performance

Financially, 2007 was a very successful year.

We reported record operating revenue of A\$357 million, reflecting our strong performance in delivering project services, efficient utilisation of global engineering resources and an expanded international presence.

Our net profit after tax of A\$41.5 million, exceeded last year's performance by 209%.

Ausenco's after tax profit has increased impressively at a compound annual growth rate of 60% over the past four years.

At the same time EBIT margins improved from 11.3% to 13.4%.

Earnings per share grew by 191% to \$0.51 per share.

Dividend

Based on our solid operating and financial performance, the Board has been able to increase the annual dividend.

As you would be aware, a final dividend of 17.25 cents per share, franked to 60% was paid on 12th March.

Together with the first half dividend of 13 cents, the total dividend for the year was 30.25 cents, which represents an increase of more than 200% over the previous year.

Business strategy

Our long-term strategic focus remains on delivering sustainable earnings growth through continued geographic, commodity, market and client diversification.

The recent acquisitions of Pipeline Systems International (PSI), Sandwell and Vector Engineering in the first three months of 2008 will play an important role in achieving this strategy. Our Chief Executive Officer will refer to these in more detail.

These new businesses in the Ausenco Group also provide us with exciting growth opportunities.

They have helped to more than double the size of Ausenco within a short period of time and we are actively managing their integration into the group.

Our organic growth and recent acquisitions have taken us to more than 2,500 people working in 26 offices in 13 countries.

Given the new challenges we face due to our strong growth path, we are fortunate we can rely on our management's leadership strength; the cultural diversity, expertise and commitment of our people; and our sound systems and processes.

These strengths will smooth the integration process and ensure the sharing of our skills and knowledge around the world for the benefit of all our customers.

With a solid platform for global growth, the group is strategically positioned to accelerate our momentum in existing markets and expansion into new markets.

Our people are delivering a significant number of new and substantial projects across the minerals, process infrastructure and consulting sectors.

The continued diversification of the Ausenco business across geographic, commodity, market and client sectors ensures we are building a sustainable future for the group and fortifies our position against risks such as commodity prices, geo-political conditions and foreign currency exchange.

Our people and safety

Beyond protecting our business from future economic risks, the safety and security of our people is of paramount importance and our goal is zero harm for our personnel.

Our safety performance improved during the year and is above industry comparables, reflecting positively on our efforts to manage safety across our geographically-diverse business.

We are working in challenging environments and we are continuing to implement initiatives in our safety programs to instil a culture of "safety in all we do".

Ausenco's people are its strength and an essential resource for maintaining our reputation and delivering quality services to our clients.

Our people come from around the world and comprise many varied cultures and backgrounds. This unique combination of talent and diversity is what differentiates Ausenco and provides us with a real competitive advantage in the marketplace.

We work very hard to encourage, develop and protect our people.

We are also committed to improving the quality of life of the communities in which we work around the globe.

As part of this commitment, during the year we launched the Ausenco Foundation, dedicated to ensuring we maximise the impact and benefits of our contributions and programs for these local communities.

Conclusion

The Directors are proud of the performance and achievements of Ausenco during 2007. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our Chief Executive Officer, Zimi Meka, his management team and all our dedicated personnel for their significant contributions during the year. Our people make the difference.

It has been another excellent year for Ausenco and your Board is approaching the coming year with a great deal of confidence. I would like to thank the directors for their support and contribution.

Against a backdrop of ongoing strong mineral demand throughout the world, Ausenco is well positioned to continue broadening its services and expanding its geographic reach and commodity exposure.

We have built a solid platform for growth with world-class operations, people and multiple international growth opportunities which we are vigorously pursuing.

We also have a Board and management team with the capabilities to drive full value from the business for the benefit of all shareholders.

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