



FAIRFAX MEDIA WELCOMES RURAL PRESS SHAREHOLDER VOTE TO APPROVE PROPOSED MERGER

SYDNEY, 19 April, 2007 – Mr Ronald Walker, Chairman of Fairfax Media Limited [ASX: FXJ], today welcomed the vote by the ordinary shareholders of Rural Press Limited to approve the proposed scheme of arrangement for a merger of the two companies.

"All of Rural Press' shareholders have now voted, by overwhelming margins, to approve the proposed merger of our two companies. This is a decisive step forward in our bid to create Australasia's largest integrated metropolitan, regional and rural print, online and digital media business. We look forward to the final court proceedings and the successful conclusion of this historic transaction."

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