

**CLOSE OF REDEEMABLE PREFERENCE SHARE ISSUE IN
FAIRFAX NEW ZEALAND FINANCE LIMITED**

SYDNEY, 26 May, 2005:– John Fairfax Holdings Limited (Fairfax) [ASX:FXJ] closed its offer on Friday 20 May for its issue of RPS (Redeemable Preference Shares) in Fairfax New Zealand Finance Limited to New Zealand investors. A total of \$186,462,000 RPS have been allotted out of an offer of \$150 million RPS with oversubscriptions of up to a further \$50 million RPS. The RPS will be listed on the NZX and are expected to commence trading on the NZDX on Friday 27 May under the code FXFFA.

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