

16 September 2002

ANNOUNCEMENT

STATEMENT TO THE STOCK EXCHANGE

SYDNEY, September 16, 2002 – John Fairfax Holdings Limited [ASX:FXJ] issued the following statement today:

“This morning’s article in *The Australian* regarding Fairfax and Rural Press is in error. As we have noted a number of times, all Australian media companies keep a range of strategic options under continual review. There are no developments to report with respect to this or any other deal, nor are there ongoing discussions between the two companies.”

The company said it will announce to the market any significant developments, and that it is in compliance with Listing Rule 3.1.

-- ENDS --

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