

## **PETER YOUNG APPOINTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SYDNEY, September 16, 2005 – Mr Ronald Walker, Chairman of the Board of Directors of John Fairfax Holdings Limited [ASX:FXJ], announced the appointment, effective today, of Mr Peter Young, as a Director of the Company.

“Peter is an outstanding business executive and leader, whose financial skills and expertise, his wide-ranging industry, telecommunications and media sector experience, as well as his strengths in audit and finance will be of great value to the Board. We are delighted he has accepted this position,” Mr Walker said.

Mr Young said, “I am honoured to join the Board of a company I deeply respect, and which plays such an important role in our society. I look forward to working with Ron and my colleagues on the Board and contributing to Fairfax’s continuing growth and success.”

Mr Young has been appointed to the Board to fill a casual vacancy on the Board. He will retire at the company’s Annual General Meeting in Sydney on November 18, 2005, and stand for re-election to the Board by shareholders.

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**Biographical note**  
**PETER YOUNG**

Peter Young has served as Chairman of Investment Banking for ABN AMRO in Australia and New Zealand since 2003. From 1998 to 2002, Peter was Executive Vice Chairman, ABN AMRO Group (Australia and New Zealand) / Head of Telecommunications, Media & Technology Client Management for Asia Pacific.

Since 1975, Peter has been continuously involved in the financial markets in various parts of the world, initially with Citibank and currently with ABN AMRO.

Peter was the Chairman of the National Rail Corporation Limited, a company previously owned by the Australian Federal Government and the State Governments of New South Wales and Victoria up to the point where ABN AMRO wished to become a member of a bidding syndicate. He has also acted as Chairman of the Audit & Finance Committee. In addition, he has served on the Board of a number of Government entities including the Maritime Services Board of New South Wales and the State Transit Authority of New South Wales. In 2002, he has accepted the Chair of EFIC, The Federal Governments Export Agency. In 2004, he was appointed the Chairman of Delta Electricity. He is also currently a Trustee of the Art Gallery of NSW, a Director of AbaF, a Director of the Great Barrier Reef Research Foundation and a Director of the Sydney Theatre Company. In 1998, Peter acted as Project Leader in relation to ABN AMRO Rothschild's appointment as one of three Global co-ordinators for the Federal Government's sell-down of one-third of Telstra, an offer which raised A\$14.3 billion.

Subsequently, Peter acted as Team Leader and Chairman of Global Co-ordinators in relation to ABN AMRO Rothchild's role as Global Co-ordinator for Telstra 2 which raised A\$16.1 billion.

In March 1998 upon the acquisition of the BZW business in Australia and New Zealand, Peter was appointed Executive Vice Chairman of the ABN AMRO Group in Australia and New Zealand. Peter previously had responsibility for the telecommunications, media and technology business of ABN AMRO in the Asia Pacific region. As such he is well versed in all banking products including a wide range of trade finance requirements.

Peter is a recipient of the Centenary Medal.