

10 November 2008

Manager, Company Announcements,
Australian Securities Exchange Limited,
Level 4, 20 Bridge Street,
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Please find the following documents attached for the 2008 Annual General Meeting to be held today:

1. Chairman's Address to Shareholders.
2. CEO's Address to Shareholders.

Yours faithfully



Shiraz Khan
Company Secretary

Housewares International Limited

Annual General Meeting

10 November 2008

Sydney

Chairman's Address

Mr. John Schmoll

The Journey to a Refocused and Strengthened Company

- FY07: Execution of important strategic decisions
 - Focus on core Electrical and International business post Australian Homewares exit
- FY08: Emergence of benefits from these decisions
 - Sales (continuing): ↑ 14.1%
 - Underlying Profit after Tax: ↑ 80.2% to \$20.9m
 - Borrowings: ↓ \$28.6m (gearing 24.8%, interest cover 6.9 times, improved global facilities)
 - Dividends resumed: 10.5 cps
- FY09: Well placed to deal with demanding environment
 - Clear strategy
 - Strong financial foundations
 - Re-energised and focused management

Financial Results Summary

	GROUP			CONTINUING OPERATIONS		
A\$ Million	FY08	FY07	% Chng	FY08	FY07	% Chng
Group Sales Revenue	425.8	438.4	(2.9%)	425.3	372.8	14.1%
Underlying EBITDA	37.1	25.4	46.1%	37.4	34.7	7.9%
Underlying EBIT	31.9	20.8	53.4%	32.2	30.7	4.7%
Underlying PAT	20.9	11.6	80.2%	21.0	19.9	5.4%
Significant Items	-	(45.6)		-	(3.1)	
PAT	20.9	(34.0)	n/a	21.0	16.8	24.6%
Basic EPS (cents)	16.5	(27.4)	n/a	16.6	13.6	22.4%
Dividend per share (cents)	10.5	0.0				
Gearing ratio	24.8%	38.0%				
Interest cover (times)	6.9	3.9				
Return on Equity	15.9%	9.9%				

Geographic / Currency Diversity

GEOGRAPHY	FY08 SALES*		FY08 EBITDA*		CURRENCY IMPACT	
	A\$ Million	%	A\$ Million	%	FY08	FY09
Australia	194.7	46%	18.4	49%	+/- ↑	↓
International	230.6	54%	19.0	51%	↓	↑
Total	425.3	100%	37.4	100%	+/- ↓	+/-

* Continuing business only

Impacts

- Australia
 - Gross margin
- International
 - Translation effect
 - Gross margin
- Overall
 - FY08: overall marginal negative effect
 - FY09: overall neutral impact to date

Our Market / Positioning

- Australasia – Large share in mature market
 - Very competitive
 - Retail market slow-down since 2H08
 - Financial credit crunch has accelerated pace
 - Interest rate increases....recent decreases
 - Significant product cost increases
 - Commodity prices / labour / Renminbi
 - For FY08, offset by strong AUD
 - In FY09, weak AUD has aggravated impact: however hedging and price policies have mitigated this
- International – Small share of large markets
 - Consumer confidence more fragile than in Australasia
 - A natural currency and business diversity hedge
 - Breville-led innovation and design remains the company's growth engine....targeted at higher market segments

FY09: The Strategy Continues....

- Product / customer focus is fundamental
- Conservative planning / financial stability overlay during unprecedented uncertainty / volatility
- Australasia: Further grow share in a mature market
- International: Reinforce sustainability of rapid growth in recent years
- Underwrite an increasingly Global Business
 - Management, IT, supply chain
 - Leveraging technology, knowledge, supplier partnerships
 - Significant product development investment

Outlook FY09

- Consistent view with year end report announcement in August 2008
 - We had strengthened business / financial foundations
 - We expected uncertain conditions – have become more so!
 - We planned accordingly:
 - Conservative FY09 Plan (Sales, Inventories, Costs)
 - Currency hedging and pricing policies
- First 4 Months – “Solid Start”
 - Sales slightly above Budget and Last Year
 - Peak Christmas period still to occur!
- No specific guidance possible at this stage

Thanks and Appreciation

- Management / Staff
 - Confident / motivated team
 - New CEO firmly in place
- Investors
 - Important support during critical restructure
- Business Partners
 - Key customers / suppliers
- Board colleagues
 - Valued support and expertise



Housewares International Limited

10 November 2008

CEO's Address to Shareholders

Ladies and Gentlemen, Good morning and welcome. Thank you for your comments Mr Chairman.

My name is Stephen Audsley and I was appointed CEO of HWI on the 22nd September, 2008. I have spent over 25 years working in the consumer goods sector for companies such as Pacific Brands, SouthCorp and Nissan. Over this time my responsibilities and experience has covered General Management, Sales and Marketing, and Finance and Operations.

Since joining the Company, I have met extensively with HWI staff, a substantial number of our key retail partners and our major overseas suppliers. I have also had the opportunity to visit our operations in Hong Kong, the US and Canada. Based on the feedback from these meetings my initial impressions of HWI are that we have:

- A world class product development capability.
- Strong relationships with our key customers and suppliers globally.
- Talented and knowledgeable staff.
- A genuine opportunity to grow internationally.
- A solid and well established base in Australia and New Zealand.

Strategic Focus

Over recent years, HWI has invested heavily in growing its global position in the electrical small appliance business. In FY07 the decision was taken to exit the Australian Homewares business to concentrate on the core Electrical and International business. We are now clearly focused on growing our core Electrical and International business. Leveraging off our strong base and competencies in Australia, the priority has been to firstly establish and then grow our electrical position internationally.

This has been achieved by establishing our own Breville operations in North America and by selling Breville designed and manufactured product internationally.

The following charts illustrate our journey over the 5 year period from FY04 to FY08.

Growth of International Business

Sales Revenue*



* continuing business basis

In FY04, HWI generated 69% of sales revenue from Australian operations whilst International operations generated 31% of total sales revenue. As our International business has grown, international sales moved to 35% of sales in FY05, 44% of sales in FY06, 48% of sales in FY07 and today at the end of FY08, International sales now represent 54% of total Company revenues.

This refocusing of the business has required substantial investment in recent years to expand our product development resources together with building local infrastructures in both the US and Canada. Today, HWI is well placed to capitalise on the investment and expertise that we have developed both domestically and internationally.

Breville branded or designed product is now sold in over 15 countries including Australia, New Zealand, the US, Canada, China, France, Germany, Russia, the Czech Republic, Switzerland and a number of other European countries together with South America, South Africa and the Middle East.

We now have the platform from which we can consolidate and then continue to grow our share of international markets.

Importantly, we have maintained our strong market share in Australia whilst growing our International presence. In recent times we have also begun to see an upturn in our market share of several key categories.

Our New Zealand business has also performed strongly over recent years. HWI established operations in New Zealand 10 years ago and today, from a standing start, is the clear market leader.

In the US, the homewares category in general is facing several challenges. These include retailers developing and sourcing their own products directly, a commoditisation of product offerings and consumers reluctance to pay a premium on basic items.

As a result, we have taken steps to review the current width of product ranges and distribution channels with a view to concentrating on a smaller and more profitable range of branded products.

Innovation and Brand Development

HWI has a long and proud history of product innovation leadership.

We have in excess of 40 engineers and designers who are exclusively focused on developing new product for the Global electrical market. Our product development pipeline extends all the way out to 2010/11.

We are regularly recognised for our innovation and have been the recipient of a number of design and innovation awards both locally and internationally. We have recently been awarded for design excellence for our Professional Series Blender, both in Australia and the US, for our Professional Series Toaster in Australia and Germany, and for our Ikon and Professional Series Espresso Machines in Germany.

Much of what we are working on today in design and development will not be launched until future years. It is vitally important that we continue to invest strongly in this area as product innovation and brand development remain our long term sustainable competitive advantage.

Additionally, our marketing team researches the various markets in which we operate to ensure that we understand the requirements of consumers globally. Whilst there are many similarities in consumer tastes globally, there are also important regional requirements that require input into the product development process.

A good example of how our approach to product development is changing was with the recent release of a new toaster oven. The toaster oven market in Australia is relatively small. Likewise, European consumers prefer convection microwaves. As such, this would not normally be a category that we would invest heavily in. In North America however, the toaster oven market is worth approximately US\$500m annually. It is a crowded market with little product differentiation amongst the various participants.

We have developed a product with a number of technologies with international patent protection. In this instance we have purposely designed and developed a product with North America being our global launch.

Christmas '08

We are well planned for the crucial Christmas retail period and are launching a number of marketing campaigns between now and Christmas in support of recent product launches. Whilst the current economic climate is uncertain and consumers are cautious, Christmas will still represent the key retail period in the year.

In Australia we are currently launching two campaigns involving TV, magazine and PR in support of our new toaster and juicer. These are core categories for HWI where we have market leadership in both categories.

In the US and Canada we have established a good foothold in the Coffee machine category. We have recently launched a coordinated TV, magazine, on line and PR campaign for our coffee offering.

I would like to take the opportunity to play the TV commercials to give you a flavour of these campaigns.

Way Forward

Sales for the first four months of the year have been solid.

Whilst we do not expect to be immune from the current global economic climate, we are well planned to face these uncertainties.

You heard earlier from the Chairman that we have approached this year conservatively. Financial stability is our primary objective and we are aggressively attending to and reducing costs where possible.

We are working collaboratively with key suppliers to reduce product costs without compromising quality or disrupting the availability of supply. A tight control of our inventories remains a key priority.

We are also working closely with our key retail partners to maximise our joint outcomes.

We believe that we understand and are focused on the core opportunities and challenges.

This is an exciting and challenging point in the Company's evolution and I look forward to reporting our progress to you over the coming years.

Thank you for your time today.