

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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THE SILVERFERN GROUP EXPANDS ASIA-PACIFIC MERCHANT BANKING TEAM – RICHARD FACIONI JOINS AS MANAGING DIRECTOR

Sydney, NSW September 1, 2011 – The Silverfern Group announced today that it has continued the expansion of its proprietary merchant banking business in Asia-Pacific and that Richard Facioni has joined the Silverfern Australia team as Managing Director.

Richard brings over 20 years of Mergers & Acquisitions, restructuring, recapitalisation, financing and investment experience to the Silverfern team. He has a deep understanding of the Australasian financial markets, having led high-profile and complex transactions and advised S&P/ASX 100 companies and private businesses, working closely with their boards of directors and senior management. Richard has experience across a variety of industries, including healthcare, financial services, metals & mining, tourism & leisure, transportation, infrastructure and general industrials.

Prior to joining Silverfern, Richard was a Managing Director, Co-founder and Investment Committee member of Shearwater Capital Group, a privately-owned investment and advisory firm based in Sydney and founded in partnership with Reservoir Capital Group. Prior to Shearwater Richard previously spent 15 years with Macquarie Group, where as an Executive Director in investment banking he was Head of Acquisition Finance from 1997 to 2001, and Head of the Macquarie Principal Transactions Group from 2001 to 2005.

Based in Sydney, Richard is responsible for originating proprietary investment opportunities for Silverfern's investment partners, in addition to interfacing with senior CEOs and company founders and owners on the Silverfern Advisory Board in the Asia-Pacific region.

Silverfern Chairman & CEO Clive Holmes said “We are pleased to extend our proprietary investment generation capabilities in Asia-Pacific with the addition of Richard to the Silverfern Australia team. Silverfern's institutional capital together with Richard's strong relationships and deep industry experience in the region will greatly enhance wealth-creation for Silverfern partner CEOs and company founders alike”.

About The Silverfern Group

The Silverfern Group Pty Ltd (Silverfern) is an independently-owned Merchant Bank specializing in originating and structuring proprietary (non-auction) investment opportunities, and through its affiliate Silverfern Co-Investment Partners in making equity co-investments with relationship private equity firms and corporates worldwide. Silverfern's senior merchant bankers combine exclusive access to robust proprietary deal flow and the world's leading managers with the highest levels of structuring and negotiating deal experience. Silverfern is an affiliate of The Silverfern Group, Inc., a U.S. Broker-Dealer and Member FINRA.

Additional information is available at www.silfern.com

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