



MEDIA RELEASE

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INDUSTRY PLAYERS COME TOGETHER

Skelton Tomkinson and Sherborne Announce Formal Working Alliance

Global freight forwarder, Skelton Tomkinson today announced its intention to acquire Sherborne ACA. A working alliance between the two companies has been developed while Skelton Tomkinson conduct due diligence on the merger or acquisition.

The working alliance will see both entities combining their operations nationally, providing clients greater service coverage through offices in every Australian state. Skelton Tomkinson and Sherborne have significant operations in both Queensland and Western Australia, the hub of the country's most prominent mining and infrastructure ventures.

Brad Skelton said the agreement will fuel yet another growth period for Skelton Tomkinson.

"This alliance is about two of the industry's most reputable freight forwarders coming together," explained Skelton. "Combined, we have unsurpassed experience and resources when dealing with heavy and oversized equipment, and I believe that our clients will reap the benefits of such a partnership."

Sherborne's managing director, Barry Ralston, is equally pleased with the direction of the alliance.

"The synergies and value alignment between our two businesses are obvious, so I'm confident that our operations will come together smoothly," said Ralston.

A Heads of Agreement has been executed between the two entities to document the way in which they have agreed to work together while Skelton Tomkinson completes due diligence on the merger or acquisition of Sherborne.

"Skelton Tomkinson has made many significant operational changes this year, all with the view to strengthening our service offering and global coverage," said Skelton. "This agreement is a sound decision to further our business strategy in a market that is constantly evolving."

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For more information, please contact Jillian Kingsford Smith, Director of Sales & Marketing, **Skelton Tomkinson** on 07 3348 7810 or 0424 191 392 or jillian@shipST.com



Notes to Editors: About Skelton Tomkinson

Skelton Tomkinson provides a total solution for movement of heavy equipment to anywhere.

Our point-to-point global transport and processing services include:

- Freight Forwarding
- Customs Consultancy
- Marine Insurance
- Quarantine pre-shipment inspections
- AQIS inspections
- Steam Cleaning
- Heavy Haulage (trucking)
- Heavy Lifting (Mobile cranes)
- Heavy equipment processing & assembly

Skelton Tomkinson is one of Australia's largest privately owned businesses, with annual growth rates averaging over 40% for the past five years. Turnover for 2006/ 2007 was in excess of \$100 million. Skelton Tomkinson employs 60 staff across its worldwide operations, located in every Australian state, as well as Houston, Yokohama, Amsterdam, Auckland and soon Dubai.

The company is recognised as a leader in its field, winning the 2005, 2006 and 2007 Australian Lloyds Shipping Award for Innovation in Intermodal Transport and the coveted National Logistics and Supply Chain Award in 2003, and 2004 – beating multinational corporations such as Toll, Patricks and QANTAS. The back-to-back wins were the first time the same company has won the award over consecutive years running.