

## MEDIA RELEASE

### John Conde AO appointed Chairman of the Sydney Symphony



**Sydney, May 24 2007:** The Chairman of the Sydney Symphony, David Maloney, today announced that he will be standing down from the role on 30 May 2007 and will be succeeded by John Conde AO, the current Deputy Chairman.

"My term on the Board of the Sydney Symphony, including 3 years as Chairman, has been enormously rewarding and enjoyable. That period of nearly 12 years has seen more change than at any other time in the Orchestra's history, culminating with complete independence on divestment from the ABC at the end of last year.

"The Board is delighted John Conde has agreed to take on the role for the next 3 years. He has been a director since 2001 and will bring to the position a wealth of commercial and corporate governance experience, as well as a passion for the Orchestra and symphonic music.

"The Company is in a very sound financial position and has an excellent Board and Management Team. In 2006, the Orchestra performed 207 concerts to over 377,000 people, as it continues to grow and spread audience reach. With Maestro Gelmetti's term still having an exciting 18 months to run and the appointment of Maestro Vladimir Ashkenazy to succeed him as Principal Conductor on 1 January 2009, the artistic future of the Orchestra is in very safe hands.

"None of this would be possible without the support of the Commonwealth and State Governments, the ABC, our Principal Partner, Emirates, and our ticket buyers, supporters, sponsors and donors. On behalf of all those associated with the Orchestra, I thank them all.

"As it journeys through its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, the Sydney Symphony continues to bring enormous musical pleasure to all who hear its performances, and to confirm its status as an Australian cultural icon. I am entirely confident this will continue."

Mr Conde said "On behalf of the Sydney Symphony, I would like to thank David most warmly for his commitment and contribution to the company as Chairman. He has been a great ambassador for the Sydney Symphony during his time on the board, especially as Chairman. During this period, we've seen significant changes which David has lead most ably, including our gaining our independence as a company. I also thank David's wife, Erin, for her time and commitment to the Orchestra. I thank my colleagues on the Board for the honour of being the SSO's new chairman."



#### ABOUT John Conde

John C Conde, AO, is Chairman of EnergyAustralia, Chairman of MBF Australia Limited, President of the Commonwealth Remuneration Tribunal and Chairman of Whitehaven Coal Ltd. He is a director of The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust. He is also Chairman of the Australian Olympic Committee (NSW) Fundraising Committee, President of the Dermatology Research Foundation (University of Sydney), Member of the President's Council of the Art Gallery of NSW and of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children's Advisory Council.

John was formerly Chairman of PowerTel Ltd, a Director of BHP Billiton and of Lumley Corporation. He was Managing Director of the Broadcast Investments group of broadcasting interests which included Radio 2UE in Sydney, 4BC in Brisbane and NWS:9 in Adelaide. His formal qualifications are a Science

degree and an Electrical Engineering degree (with the University Medal) from the University of Sydney and a Master of Business Administration degree (with distinction) from Harvard University.

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