



ASX/MEDIA RELEASE

WHSP Reports Full Year Profit Results, Increases Dividend

	2011	2010	Change
Revenue from continuing operations (\$000)	758,387	823,307	(7.9%)
Profit after tax before non-regular items (\$000)	161,197	181,555	(11.2%)
Profit after tax and non-regular items (\$000)	363,871	218,327	66.7%
Earnings per share before non-regular items (cents)	67.6	76.1	(11.2%)
Final dividend (cents)	25	20	25.0%
Total ordinary dividends (cents)	40	34	17.6%

Thursday 22 September 2011: Diversified investment company, Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company Limited (WHSP, ASX: SOL), today announced a Group profit **after tax before non-regular items** (attributable to shareholders) for the full year ended 31 July 2011 of \$161.2 million, down 11.2% on the previous corresponding period. The decrease was mainly attributable to a reduced contribution from New Hope Corporation Limited (New Hope) as a result of the stronger Australian dollar, increased transportation costs and reduced sales due to the unavailability of the Western Rail Line following flood damage.

The profit of the Group, **after tax and non-regular items**, was \$363.9 million, an increase of 66.7%. The net profit on non-regular items was \$202.7 million, compared to \$36.8 million in the previous corresponding period. The difference is principally attributable to the Group's share of the gain on the sale of Arrow Energy Limited shares by New Hope.

Mr Robert Millner, Chairman of WHSP said: "WHSP continues to deliver outstanding long-term returns to shareholders, regularly outperforming the ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index. This result has enabled us to reward shareholders with an increase in the final dividend to 25 cents, bringing total ordinary dividends for the year to 40 cents."

"We also have a robust balance sheet with cash reserves of \$276 million, without any borrowings from financial institutions. This means we are in a great position to move quickly on investment opportunities."

Final dividend

Directors have declared a fully franked final dividend of 25 cents per share in respect of the year ended 31 July 2011, an increase of 25% over last year's final dividend of 20 cents per share. The record date for this dividend will be 14 November 2011 with payment due on 5 December 2011.

Investments

The market value of WHSP's listed equities portfolio, including controlled entities and associates, was \$4.24 billion as at 31 July 2011, compared to \$4.07 billion as at 31 July 2010. Excluding controlled entities and associates, the market value of the listed equities portfolio as at 31 July 2011 increased 6.7% to \$499 million from \$468 million at the same time last year.

During the year Choiseul Investments Limited (Choiseul) merged with Milton Corporation Limited (Milton) resulting in the disposal of WHSP's Choiseul shares for a consideration of \$42.2 million and the acquisition of Milton shares for the same amount.

Other acquisitions, excluding controlled entities and associates, totalled \$46.7 million and included Exco Resources Limited, Industrea Limited, Snowball Group Limited and Lindsay Australia Limited. Investments in associates consisted of \$1.3 million in BKI Investment Company Limited and the reinvestment of dividends from TPG Telecom Limited totalling \$8.7 million.

Major controlled entities' contributions:

- New Hope (59.7% held*) - contributed a net profit of \$300.8 million to the Group for the year (2010: \$110.7 million profit, 59.9% holding).
- CopperChem Limited (52.4% held*) - contributed a net loss of \$2.7 million to the Group for the year.
- Pitt Capital Partners Limited (78.3% held*) - contributed a net profit of \$1.5 million to the Group (2010: \$0.3 million loss).

Major associated entities' contributions:

- Australian Pharmaceutical Industries Limited (24.6% held*) – contributed a net loss of \$5.6 million to the Group (2010: \$5.5 million profit).
- BKI Investment Company Limited (13.7% held) – contributed a net profit of \$1.1 million to the Group (3 month contribution).
- Brickworks Limited (44.5% held*) – contributed a net profit of \$5.8 million to the Group (2010: \$13.0 million profit, holding 44.6%).
- Clover Corporation Limited (28.6% held*) – contributed a net profit of \$1.3 million to the Group (2010: \$0.3 million loss).
- Ruralco Holdings Limited (23.5% held*) – contributed a net profit of \$4.1 million to the Group (2010: \$2.7 million profit).
- TPG Telecom Limited (26.8% held*) – contributed a net profit of \$20.6 million to the Group (2010: \$15.4 million profit, 26.6% holding).

* Percentage of the issued capital of the company held by the Consolidated Group as at 31 July 2011

Results briefing:

Robert Millner, Chairman of WHSP, will be presenting the results with a Q&A session afterwards today at the Hilton – Level 4, Room 1, 488 George Street, Sydney - 12.15pm, for 12.30pm start.

Please note that Brickworks (ASX: BKW) will be presenting at 12.30pm, prior to WHSP.

About Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company Limited

Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company Limited (WHSP) is Australia's second oldest listed company. Beginning as a chemist shop in Pitt Street, Sydney in 1872, the company listed on the Australian Securities Exchange 30 years later. Since listing, WHSP has paid a dividend every year, including throughout the depression of the 1930s. Today WHSP is a diversified investor in basic commodities such as building products, property, coal, equities, telecommunications, rural services, financial services and pharmaceuticals.

WASHINGTON H. SOUL PATTINSON AND COMPANY LIMITED (ASX CODE: SOL) www.whsp.com.au

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