

## Orthocell Appoints John Van Der Wielen as Independent Non-Executive Chairman

- Orthocell has appointed experienced executive, John Van Der Wielen, as independent Non-Executive Chairman
- Mr Van Der Wielen has more than 35 years of global experience in wealth management, private banking, investments, and health insurance and is a highly regarded healthcare executive who is ideally suited to support the next phase of Orthocell's development
- Dr Stewart Washer, who has served as Chairman since April 2014, will continue his valued association with Orthocell as Executive Director
- Mr Van Der Wielen brings a wealth of experience in corporate strategy, implementing international growth initiatives, M&A transactions and engagement of strategic investors in diverse industries including healthcare, financial services and large superannuation, pension and investment portfolios
- With an experienced senior, multinational advisory team and an advanced regenerative medicine portfolio, Orthocell is ideally positioned to drive its products into the global markets

**Perth, Australia; 29 May 2023:** Regenerative medicine company Orthocell Limited (ASX: OCC, "Orthocell" or the "Company") is pleased to announce the appointment of John Van Der Wielen as independent Non-Executive Chairman, effective 1 June 2023. Dr Stewart Washer, who has served as Executive Chairman since April 2014, will transition to Executive Director.

The appointment of Mr Van Der Wielen follows the recent addition of globally recognised healthcare executive Dr Ravi Thadhani to the Orthocell Board and will further strengthen the leadership team as the Company prepares for the next phase of development and commercialisation of its unique medical devices and cellular therapies.

**Orthocell Managing Director, Paul Anderson, said:** "We are delighted to welcome John to the Orthocell Board. He is a globally recognised executive with a passion for supporting innovative life science companies growing into significant international success stories, and for enhancing Australia's capacity to translate local innovations into products that make a difference to clinical practice and patients' lives.

John is a dynamic and collaborative leader bringing significant expertise in corporate strategy, international growth, institutional and strategic investor engagement and M&A transactions. John's broad experience will play an important role in the next growth phase at Orthocell and I am thrilled to be working alongside him, to advance the commercialisation of our promising products and pipeline."

As a senior financial services professional, Mr Van Der Wielen has over 35 years' international experience in wealth management, private banking, investments, and insurance, in the UK, Luxembourg, Malaysia and Australia. He has held senior executive positions with several national and global financial services groups. Most recently Mr Van Der Wielen was the CEO and MD of HBF Health Ltd for over five years. HBF has revenue of over 1.6 billion dollars and in a recent independent

consumer survey was named Australia's most trusted brand in private health insurance. Mr Van Der Wielen's other previous executive positions include CEO (UK & International) of Friends Life UK, Managing Director (Wealth) of ANZ, CEO of Clerical Medical, Halifax Life & Heidelberger Leben and CEO of Lloyds Banking Group/HBOS Plc.

Mr Van Der Wielen has held numerous directorships and advisory positions, including roles as Senior Adviser to Blackstone - the world's largest alternative asset manager, with \$991B in assets under management. He has served as Chairperson of Kyckr, Non-Executive Director of Partners Life, Non-Executive Director of Friends Provident International and Non-Executive Director of Lombard International Assurance. Mr Van Der Wielen has significant expertise overseeing and chairing large funds management and investment committees, as well as leading on acquisitions, integration and restructuring programs.

Mr Van Der Wielen is currently Non-Executive Director, of the Blackstone owned Crown Resorts and Chair of Crown Perth, and Non-Executive Director of the Royal Flying Doctor Service WA. He is a Senior Adviser to Appian Capital Advisory LLP and was recently appointed by the Western Australian Government to Chair its Future Health Research and Innovation Fund (FHRI). The FHRI is a sovereign wealth fund, with a purpose is to improve, through research and innovation, the health and prosperity of Western Australians, the sustainability of the health system and to advance the State's standing as a leader in research and innovation.

Mr Van Der Wielen holds an MBA from the University of Western Australia, has studied at London Business School and Oxford University, and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

**Mr Van Der Wielen said:** *"I am very excited to be joining the senior leadership team at Orthocell at this pivotal stage in the Company's development. I have been monitoring the Company's significant progress including its recent landmark licensing deal with BioHorizons. I believe Orthocell is now extremely well placed to drive shareholder value by actively supporting distribution partners to ramp up sales in existing and additional international markets and to advance the commercialisation of its truly unique regenerative medicine portfolio."*

Orthocell has agreed that in addition to Director's fees, the Company will issue Mr Van Der Wielen 4,000,000 options, with an exercise price of AU\$0.40, expiring five years after the date of issue. The Company will also, subject to shareholder approval at the upcoming 2023 Annual General Meeting, place 250,000 ordinary shares to Mr Van Der Wielen or his nominee at \$0.365 per share, which is the higher of the closing price of the shares traded on the ASX on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and the five day VWAP during the period between Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Shareholder approval will not be sought for the issue of options (or their exercise), as Mr Van Der Wielen was not a director of Orthocell at the time of the negotiations and had no influence over the decision to issue the options.

**Orthocell Managing Director, Paul Anderson, commented:** "We are also very grateful for the leadership provided by Dr Washer in helping to transform Orthocell from a development stage company to the commercial company it is today. We look forward to continuing to work with Dr Washer as we enter this new phase of growth for the Company."

**Release authorised by:**

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**About Orthocell Limited**

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Orthocell is a regenerative medicine company focused on regenerating mobility for patients by developing products for the repair of a variety of bone and soft tissue injuries. Orthocell's portfolio of products include CelGro™ platform of collagen medical devices which facilitate tissue reconstruction and healing in a variety of dental and orthopaedic reconstructive applications. Striate+™ was the first product approved for dental GBR applications, is cleared for use in US FDA (510k), Australia (ARTG) and Europe (CE Mark) and is distributed globally by BioHorizons Implant Systems Inc. Remplir™, for peripheral nerve reconstruction, recently received approval and reimbursement in Australia and is distributed exclusively by Device Technologies in the Australian market. SmrtGraft™, for tendon repair, is available in Australia under Special Access Scheme or participation in a clinical trial. The Company's other major products are autologous cell therapies which aim to regenerate damaged tendon and cartilage tissue. Orthocell is accelerating the development of its tendon cell therapy in the US with technology transfer, manufacturing scale up and FDA engagement in advance of a randomised controlled study under FDA supervision.

For more information on Orthocell, please visit [www.orthocell.com](http://www.orthocell.com) or follow us on Twitter [@OrthocellLtd](https://twitter.com/OrthocellLtd) and LinkedIn [www.linkedin.com/company/orthocell-ltd](http://www.linkedin.com/company/orthocell-ltd)

**Forward Looking Statement**

Any statements in this press release about future expectations, plans and prospects for the Company, the Company's strategy, future operations, and other statements containing the words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "predict," "project," "target," "potential," "will," "would," "could," "should," "continue," and similar expressions, constitute forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors, including: the Company's ability to successfully develop its product candidates and timely complete its planned clinical programs and the Company's ability to obtain marketing approvals for its product candidates. In addition, the forward-looking statements included in this press release represent the Company's views as of the date hereof. The Company anticipates that subsequent events and developments will cause the Company's views to change. However, while the Company may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, the Company specifically disclaims any obligation to do so. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing the Company's views as of any date subsequent to the date hereof.