

## Statement to Australian Securities Exchange - 27 August 2014

## **CHANGES TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Helloworld Limited (ASX:HLO) today announced that Tom Dery will retire as Non-Executive Chairman of the Helloworld Limited Board, with effect from 30 September 2014. Mr Dery's other commitments will increasingly require extended periods overseas.

HLO is pleased to announce that Brett Johnson will be appointed Chairman of the Helloworld Limited Board following the planned retirement of Tom Dery. The Company is also well advanced in its search for an additional independent non-executive director.

Mr Dery joined the Board on 17 September 2008 and was appointed as Chairman of the Board on 27 February 2009. This period has been one of significant change for the Company including the merger of Jetset Travelworld with Stella Travel Services in September 2010, the launch of the new *helloworld* brand in July 2013 and completion of the strategic transformation of the Group in July 2014.

The Board of Helloworld Limited thanked Mr Dery for his outstanding contribution to HLO over the last six years and paid tribute to his critical role in overseeing the key strategic, operational and structural changes to the HLO Group during that time.

Mr Dery said: "It has been a privilege to be the Chairman of Helloworld Limited and to guide the Company successfully through its transformational change. The Company is well placed for growth in the dynamic Australian and New Zealand travel market and I have thoroughly enjoyed the part that I have played in this exciting Company.

I am pleased to see my Board colleague, Brett Johnson, take up the Chairman's role. Brett has been on the Helloworld Board since February 2009, he has extensive experience in both domestic and international travel and will be a strong and capable Chairman."

Mr Johnson said: "I look forward to working with the CEO, Elizabeth Gaines, her management team and the Board in delivering for all Helloworld Limited stakeholders the growth and returns that we are confident are achievable over the next few years."

These changes, including the planned additional independent non-executive director, will leave the HLO Board comprised of seven directors of which six will be Non-Executive and one is an Executive Director. Three of the Non-Executive Directors will satisfy the requirements of independence under the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). HLO advised that, in accordance with Recommendation 2.3, the Board of Directors are of the opinion that Mr Johnson's former relationship with Qantas Airways does not compromise his independence and that, throughout his tenure, Mr Johnson has consistently demonstrated independent judgement and an objective viewpoint.

## **ENDS**

Media enquiries to Linsey Brown, S2i Communications, +61 (0) 2 9231 2927, Linsey@s2i.com.au

## **About HLO:**

- Helloworld Limited (ASX: HLO) is a leading Australia-based travel distribution company, comprising retail travel businesses, air ticket consolidation, wholesale, corporate and online operations. This includes *helloworld*, Australia's largest network of franchised travel agents, and *helloworld.com.au*.
- helloworld is a nationwide network of independently owned and operated stores, offering Australian travellers unparalleled convenience, industry-leading service and the best value, tailor-made holidays.
- In July 2014, *helloworld* was awarded "Best Travel Agency Group" at the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) National Travel Industry Awards.
- helloworld has been creating lasting travel memories for more than 40 years through the Harvey World Travel, Jetset Travel, Travelworld and Travelscene American Express brands.

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