



**ASX CODE: ETW**

**ASX LIMITED  
COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FRIDAY, 22 JANUARY 2010**

## **ALEXIUM RECEIVES UK PATENT GRANT FOR SMART SURFACES**

Alexium Limited (“Alexium”) is pleased to announce that the UK Intellectual Property Office (UK IPO) has approved its application and issued Patent No. GB 2431173 for the company's “method of attachment of silicon-containing compounds to a surface”.

“This is another important step in our strategy of building a strong global intellectual property portfolio around our award winning technology” commented Steve Ribich, CEO Alexium Limited. “Given the strong and growing interest in our technology and the fact that the technology is currently being prepared for commercial scale applications in the United States, the granting of this patent is particularly timely”.

### **About Alexium**

Alexium Limited holds proprietary patent applications for a process developed initially in a US Department of Defence Laboratory, which allows for the surface modification and attachment of nano particles or multiple functional groups to surfaces or substrates. Applications include textiles, paints, packaging, glass and building materials.

### **ETW Proposed Acquisition of Alexium**

ETW Corporation Limited (“ETW”) has entered into a conditional Term Sheet to acquire 100% of the issued shares of Alexium. A General Meeting will be held on 29 January 2010 seeking shareholder approval of the transaction.

### **Prospectus and Priority Offer**

ETW proposes to issue a prospectus for a priority offer to shareholders following the General Meeting.

**-ENDS-**

### **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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OR VISIT: [www.alexiumgroup.com](http://www.alexiumgroup.com)  
[www.etwcorp.com.au](http://www.etwcorp.com.au)

## APPENDIX 1

### BACKGROUND TO ALEXIUM LIMITED

- ETW Corporation Limited (“**ETW**” or “**the Company**”) has entered into a conditional Term Sheet to acquire 100% of Alexium Limited (“**Alexium**”), a Cyprus-registered company that owns a patented process called Reactive Surface Technology (“**RST**”), on a 100% scrip basis (“**the Transaction**”).
- Alexium was awarded “World’s Best Technology 2009”, ahead of 90 other short-listed finalists from 27 US States and 11 countries from a wide range of industries at the “World’s Best Technologies” showcase. This annual event, which is the largest of its type, partners with the US venture capital industry and invites new technology submissions from around the world. It is the premier annual global investment and licencing forum for emerging technologies.
- The RST technology was originally developed by Dr Jeff Owens at the United States Air Force (“**USAF**”) for the Department of Defence (“**DoD**”) and Defence Threat Reduction Agency (“**DTRA**”) for the purpose of treating standard textiles to provide protection to soldiers in the event of a chemical and biological threats, whilst also providing additional benefits such as water proofing and flame retardance.
- RST utilises a one pass microwave technology treatment in linking smart polymers with nano-particles to securely graft functions (such as water and oil repellence, flame proofing or antimicrobial) to structures such as textiles, glass, and paint to produce materials with unique new properties and multiple functions.
- In comparison with conventional treatments, RST uses significantly less energy and minimises waste water. It is simple to integrate into most existing manufacturing processes requiring relatively low levels of capital investment.
- RST is being further refined and developed by Dr Owens and his technical team of 16 scientists at the USAF Research Labs (Tyndall), with a dual focus on new applications and preparing the RST technology for industrial scale production.
- To date, the US government has invested approximately USD\$30 million in the RST technology. Alexium is now positioned to reap the potential commercial benefit of this investment, plus any additional future spending.
- The USAF has assigned all rights in the technology to Alexium exclusively, and the parties are effectively operating subject to a Collaborative Research and Development Agreement (“**CRADA**”), which is yet to be executed. The services of Dr Owens and his team, together with DoD research and development facilities, will be available to Alexium under the CRADA.
- Alexium currently has a US and UK presence and is negotiating terms with a US state in which to base its US business development activities. The CEO of Alexium, Mr Stephen Ribich is expected to relocate to the US, where Mr Stefan Susta is already based. Mr John Almond will remain in the UK to spearhead European business development.