

Thursday, 5 October 2000

### **Price Increase for PaperlinX Products – Including REFLEX™**

PaperlinX has announced price increases for a wide range of communication papers, including office papers. This price increase will be from 5%, depending on grade, and will be effective from 1 December, 2000.

At the announcement of our last price rise, Mr Ian Wightwick, Managing Director of PaperlinX, highlighted the risks of further price rises if imported pulp costs continued to increase.

PaperlinX's manufacturing division, Australian Paper, use substantial quantities of imported pulp, the cost of which has continued to rise worldwide. These increases, exacerbated by the weaker Australian dollar, have necessitated this increase in selling price for PaperlinX's paper products.

Furthermore, for the over 60% of Australia's communications papers which are imported, both pulp prices and currency impacts are resulting in continual increases of Australian selling prices.

Mr Wightwick commented, "We have again held back our price increases as long as possible, including REFLEX™, but the relentless and substantial increases in costs leave us no option but to increase our selling prices".

#### **ENDS**

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