

Wolseley Private Equity Closes Fund II at \$235m

Wolseley has announced the final close of its second fund, Wolseley Partners Fund II (“Fund II”). The A\$235 million fund closed at more than two times the size of Wolseley Partners Fund I, with strong re-investment from existing investors and the introduction of several new local and international investors.

Wolseley Managing Director, James Todd, said that he was pleased that Wolseley had retained strong interest from the investors in its first fund as well as attracting support from a new group of local and international investors.

The investors in Fund II include a number of leading Australian and international fund of fund investors, large Australian superannuation funds and institutional investors.

“We are honoured that a number of very notable investors have placed their confidence in Wolseley’s ability to generate returns in the Australasian middle market,” he said.

Wolseley’s strategy is to continue to make value adding investments in Australian and New Zealand manufacturing, service and distribution companies with enterprise values between \$20 million and \$150 million. Wolseley specialises in buyouts, generational and shareholder change, industry consolidations and growth capital.

Mr Todd said that despite the current uncertainties in the global capital markets, Wolseley continues to see attractive opportunities in its target investment sector.

Wolseley has recently announced the fifth and final investment in Wolseley Partners Fund I. Wolseley partnered with two highly experienced magazine publishing executives to found **Wolseley Media** and acquire a portfolio of more than 30 special interest publications, each of which are widely recognised throughout Australia.

Wolseley Media joins **Cartridge World**, the global leader in inkjet and laser cartridge refilling and manufacturing; **EW Cox**, now the global leader in the design and manufacture of building maintenance units for the world’s tallest buildings; **Freshmax**, a leading fruit and vegetable distributor in Australasia; and **Pacific Services Group**, a national platform of “best-of-breed” electrical contracting businesses consolidated by Wolseley.

Wolseley was advised by Brookvine Pty Limited in raising Wolseley Partners Fund II.

About Wolseley Partners:

Wolseley was founded by Mark Richardson, James Todd and Peter Hasko. It raised Wolseley Partners Fund I in 2005, a \$107m private equity fund. Wolseley is based in Sydney, and employs 8 dedicated investment professionals with a team average of 20 years’ experience.

Further information about Wolseley and its portfolio companies can be found at www.wolseley.com.au.

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