



9 April 2008

Slater & Gordon to Acquire Secombs Solicitors

National law firm Slater & Gordon Limited announced today that it has executed an agreement to acquire the practice of Secombs Solicitors, an icon in Melbourne's western suburbs with over 100 years of history in the area.

The acquisition will enhance Slater & Gordon's already strong presence in Melbourne's west and support the company's strategic objective of broadening the range of legal services it offers.

Based in Footscray with around 30 staff, Secombs is a full service law firm with practices in the areas of business advisory and litigation, personal injuries, conveyancing, wills and estates, local government and planning and family law.

The agreement to acquire the Secombs practice is subject to the satisfactory completion of due diligence.

As an adjunct to the Secombs transaction, Slater & Gordon will also be opening a new office in Sunshine, approximately five kilometres further west of Footscray. Some time after completion of the deal, Slater & Gordon's existing office in Footscray will close and the majority of its staff will move into the Secombs' office and into the new Sunshine office.

"We are delighted to be able to attract such a prominent and well regarded firm as Secombs into the Slater & Gordon fold," Slater & Gordon managing director Andrew Grech said. "The acquisition ticks a lot of boxes for us."

"It strengthens our expertise in Melbourne in personal injuries, wills and estates, commercial litigation and family law and opens up new opportunities for us in business advisory, commercial transactions and planning law."

"It's something of a bonus that the transaction will also enable us to consummate a long held aim of opening up an office to service the people of Sunshine and those in the rapidly growing suburbs further west."

ENDS

For more information on Secombs Solicitors, visit their web site:

www.secombs.com.au

NOTE: this announcement is an extract from the original. To view the full announcement please visit the Australian Stock Exchange's announcements page available at **Home > Investors > ASX Announcements**.