

**ATTACHMENT: Background Information – Consortium profiles**

**Macquarie Capital Alliance Group**

Macquarie Capital Alliance Group (MCAG) is a listed investment fund, which was established in March 2005 to raise A\$1 billion to co-invest alongside the Macquarie Bank Group and its clients globally. MCAG has a broad investment mandate, with the ability to invest in any industry sector other than property. MCAG is managed by a member of the Macquarie Bank Group.

**Macquarie Bank Limited**

Macquarie Bank Limited (Macquarie Bank) is a diversified international provider of specialist financial and investment banking services, and has a market capitalisation of approximately A\$10.5 billion. Macquarie Bank Group members manage approximately A\$89 billion of assets throughout the world, invested in a variety of sectors. Macquarie Bank has 6,500 employees, is present in every major financial centre around the world, and derives more than 30% of its income from activities outside Australia. Macquarie's European base is London where it has over 320 people, with additional offices in Dublin, Frankfurt, Geneva, Munich, Milan, Paris and Vienna.



**Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec**

The Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (Caisse) is a financial institution that manages funds primarily for public and private pension and insurance plans. As at December 31, 2004, it held C\$102.4 billion of net assets. The Caisse invests in the main financial markets as well as in private equity and real estate. Its private equity unit focuses mainly on companies that offer predictable current income for its infrastructure portfolio. The Caisse partners with dynamic companies in various sectors, offering them a wide range of financing products, mainly equity investments and loans. As at December 31, 2004, the private equity portfolios held more than 600 investments in funds and companies, for C\$10.2 billion of net assets.

**Nikko Principal Investments Limited**

Nikko Principal Investments Limited (NPIL) was established in the United Kingdom in 1997 as the principal finance arm of Nikko Cordial Corporation, one of Japan's largest securities companies. NPIL conducts principal investment business (medium to long-term investment utilising its own capital) in the European market. It employs 30 London-based professionals working on opportunities primarily in the United Kingdom and Western Europe and works closely with its sister company Nikko Principal Investments Japan Limited in Tokyo. The Group focuses on corporate acquisitions, asset warehousing and portfolio acquisitions and targets assets ranging from £30 million to £500 million in aggregate enterprise value and on business offering growth potential and which are supported by stable cash flows and property or financial assets. Nikko Cordial Corporation offers a wide range of services including investment banking, asset management, merchant banking, online brokerage and retail banking.

It employs 6,300 people worldwide and has a market capitalisation of approximately US\$3.7billion.