

18 June 2003

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **PAPERLINX MANAGING DIRECTOR**

The Board of PaperlinX Limited announced today that the CEO and Managing Director, Mr Ian Wightwick, has agreed to continue in his role until acquisition of Buhrmann's Paper Merchating Division has been completed and the business is integrated into PaperlinX.

"Ian had previously indicated to the Board that he was planning to retire, at a mutually convenient time, to pursue a non-executive director career," the Chairman of PaperlinX, Mr David Meiklejohn said, "We are very pleased that he has agreed to continue to lead the Company until the Buhrmann Paper Merchating Division acquisition is completed and the business is bedded down within PaperlinX."

"The Board had commenced the process to identify a replacement, but this was put on hold when the Buhrmann Paper Merchating Division opportunity arose. The Board will now resume the search and Ian will continue as CEO until his successor is in place. We are looking for an executive who has the experience and skill to manage this very large global group and who will continue the sound and successful strategy that Ian and his management team have implemented over the past three years."

"The search process will consider both internal and external candidates and is being undertaken both in Australia and overseas. We would expect that the appointee will be in place by no later than the first quarter of calendar year 2004."

For further information, please contact:

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