

## ASX Release

ConnectEast.com.au

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### CONNECTEAST APPOINTS NEW INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

ConnectEast Group, the owner and operator of EastLink, is pleased to announce the appointment of Paul Douglas as an independent director, effective from today.

Mr Douglas has been Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of engineering, sciences and project delivery practice, Sinclair Knight Mertz (**SKM**), since 1996, and is responsible for leading the Group globally and managing the firm's strategic direction. He has completed the AICD Company Directors Course and is a Fellow of the AICD.

ConnectEast Chairman, Tony Shepherd, said ConnectEast was fortunate to have attracted to the Board someone with Mr Douglas' extensive experience and credentials.

"Paul has an impressive record as a business leader and innovator, and we look forward to him making a significant contribution in charting ConnectEast's future direction," Mr Shepherd said.

"The Group has achieved much in the past 12 months to significantly reduce its interest costs and become cashflow positive. At the same time, traffic on EastLink continues to grow steadily.

"Paul joins the ConnectEast Board at an ideal time as we continue to strengthen and grow the business."

Paul Douglas has completed a Degree in Chemical Engineering, Masters of Engineering Science and Harvard University's Owner/President Management Program at its Graduate School of Business Administration. He was the inaugural Chairman of the Centre for Engineering Leadership and Management, and takes a particular interest in workplace safety, youth training employment and the environment.

For further information please contact:

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Time better spent.

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Mr Douglas has worked in various roles with SKM since 1978 and in his time as Chief Executive since 1996 has grown the group's annual revenues from \$60 million to over \$1 billion globally.



Tony Hudson  
Company Secretary  
ConnectEast Group