



Wesfarmers Insurance Division

Wesfarmers Insurance Investments Pty Ltd

ABN 63 105 168 876

NEWS

Subject: – Lumley to maintain a strong A- credit rating

Tuesday, 2 October 2007

Lumley General Australia and Lumley General New Zealand have confirmed plans to maintain a strong credit rating in light of the proposed acquisition by their parent company, Wesfarmers Limited, of the Coles Group.

"I would like to confirm that Wesfarmers Insurance Division is aware of the importance to many of our customers of a strong credit rating for our insurance companies. Should Wesfarmers' acquisition of the Coles Group be successful, we will ring-fence the credit rating of all our insurance underwriting operations, including Lumley General Australia and Lumley General New Zealand, to retain an A- Standard & Poor's credit rating." said Rob Scott, Managing Director of Wesfarmers Insurance Division.

This will allow these companies to be rated independently from Wesfarmers Limited and maintain their current A- credit rating.

Wesfarmers Insurance Division maintains a strong capital base and has been growing its operations in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Wesfarmers Limited remains committed to supporting the development and growth of the insurance business.

Ends

For more information contact

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