

MEDIA STATEMENT
Monday 13 August 2007



EVANS RESIGNS AS FCA CEO

- Board to appoint new Executive Director

Franchise Council of Australia (FCA) Chairman John O'Brien today announced that the FCA Board has accepted the resignation of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Richard Evans.

O'Brien today thanked Evans for his tireless work with the FCA on operational, strategic, political and personal levels.

"Leading the Franchise Council of Australia since 2002, Richard Evans has overseen the redevelopment of the FCA from an event management organisation to be a truly representative body of the Australian franchise sector and spokesperson for small business issues. Growing 17 percent over the past four years, franchising is currently Australia's fastest-growing business sector," O'Brien said.

"With the FCA playing a vital role in representation, education and membership services for the sector, Richard Evans has closely managed the implementation of the following initiatives in the past 12 months:

- New insurance company – *FCA Insurance Services* – 100 percent owned by FCA members
- *Whirlwind Women in Franchising Network* – stronger representation for women
- New professional development program - *FCA Franchise Professional* – for supplier accreditation in the sector
- *Franchise Advantage* – group buying and free advice member offer for franchisees

"In addition, Evans has worked hard within the political arena to ensure the franchise sector is represented and recognised and in particular with the Australian Government's Matthews Inquiry into the Franchising Code of Conduct," O'Brien said.

The search to find a suitable candidate to fill the newly-created role of Executive Director of the FCA will begin immediately. An external agency will be appointed to manage the recruitment process.

Evans will remain as CEO until Friday 19 October 2007.

Australian franchising employs over 600,000 in 70,000 workplaces and has strong growth contributing \$128 Billion or the equivalent of 14% to Australia's GDP. The Franchise Council of Australia represents this large part of the economy. With a vision to developing excellence at every level of the sector, the FCA is committed to ensuring professional development, business growth and strong networking opportunities for all franchisors, franchisees and suppliers. For more information please visit www.franchise.org.au or call 1300 669 030.

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