

#### **4 NOVEMBER 2011**

## JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT BETWEEN FUNDS ADVISED BY PACIFIC EQUITY PARTNERS AND SCA

Funds advised by Pacific Equity Partners ("PEP Funds") today announced a joint venture arrangement with Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget ("SCA"), a global hygiene and paper company, to invest and develop SCA's Australasian operations, SCA Hygiene Australasia ("SCAHA").

SCAHA is a market leader in the provision of high quality personal care and tissue products. SCAHA produces several highly recognisable brands, including Sorbent, Purex, Handee Ultra and Libra.

Under the terms of the agreement, a new joint venture holding company will be formed. SCA and PEP Funds will each hold a 50% interest in the joint venture.

Commenting on the transaction, Jan Johansson, President and CEO of SCA, said: "This deal strengthens our operations in Australia and New Zealand, and it secures our access to local competence and the local capital market. It also facilitates a faster development of the operations."

Rickard Gardell, Managing Director of PEP, added: "We are delighted to partner with SCA in investing in this market leading company. The combination of SCA's global expertise, along with PEP's track record of investing to support the growth of Australasian businesses will assist in providing a strong foundation for SCAHA's next phase of growth."

Closing is conditional upon foreign investment government approvals in Australia and New Zealand.

Macquarie Capital Advisors acted as financial adviser to PEP.

For more information please refer to www.sca.com for the OMX release lodged by SCA today.

- ENDS -

## For further information, please contact:

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# **About Pacific Equity Partners:**

Pacific Equity Partners ("PEP") is the most active private equity firm in Australia and New Zealand. The firm has some A\$6bn of equity funds under management, with PEP Fund IV being the largest private equity fund in Australia. The team provide strategic management experience and capital resources to generate sustainable value within the PEP Funds' operating companies through a focus on supporting management to drive operational improvement and realise additional growth opportunities.



Established in 1998, PEP Funds have made 22 operating company investments, and over 30 add-on acquisitions at the company level. The 8 current PEP group operating companies span several industries including energy, consumer products, entertainment and basic financial services industries, with a total combined enterprise value over A\$6bn. Together, these businesses employ over 10,000 people across Australia and New Zealand.

PEP has been the recipient of a number of awards in recent years, including Firm of the Year, Best LBO Deal of the Year and Private Equity Firm of the Year.

Recent PEP Funds transactions include:

- PEP Funds and Unitas sale of Independent Liquor to Asahi for NZ\$1.53bn in August 2011
- Collins Foods A\$233m IPO on the ASX in August 2011
- PEP Funds sale of Tegel Foods to Affinity Equity Partners for NZ\$605m in May 2011
- Acquisition of Energy Developments for A\$844m in January 2010

Further information on PEP and its operating companies can be found at www.pep.com.au.

#### **About SCA:**

SCA is a global hygiene and paper company that develops and produces personal care products, tissue, packaging solutions, publication papers and solid-wood products. Sales are conducted in some 100 countries. SCA has many well-known brands, including the global brands TENA and Tork. Sales in 2010 amounted to SEK 107bn (EUR 11.3bn). SCA has approximately 45,000 employees. More information can be found at www.sca.com