



**Corporate Express
Australia Limited**

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CORPORATE EXPRESS AUSTRALIA LIMITED: (ASX: CXP)

STAPLES ACHIEVES A RELEVANT INTEREST IN 92% OF CORPORATE EXPRESS

Staples Australia Pty Limited (Staples Australia) today announced that it has acquired a relevant interest of more than 92%¹ of Corporate Express Australia Limited (Corporate Express).

Staples Australia's takeover offer for Corporate Express (Offer) is unconditional and closes at 7:00pm (Sydney time) on 26 July 2010. Staples Australia has stated that it intends to issue compulsory acquisition notices after the close of its Offer.

Payment of Offer consideration

Staples Australia has undertaken to pay the Offer consideration within five business days of the Offer being declared unconditional.² Corporate Express shareholders who have already accepted the Offer should receive payment for their Corporate Express shares on or before 16 July 2010. Those shareholders who accept the Offer after 9 July will be paid within five business days of receipt by Staples Australia of a valid acceptance.

Special Dividend

Corporate Express shareholders on the register at the record date of 7 July 2010 will be paid the 74 cent special dividend on 16 July 2010. Together, the special dividend and the Offer consideration total \$5.60 per Corporate Express share.

Chairman's comment

The Chairman of Corporate Express, Ian Pollard, said: "Today's announcement moves this takeover offer into the final stages. The total Offer consideration of \$5.60 per Corporate Express share including a 74 cent fully franked dividend, has delivered good value to shareholders and the Independent Directors are pleased with the outcome.

We would like to thank Corporate Express' shareholders for their support and wish Staples Australia every success in the future."

¹ 92% voting power, based on acceptances under the Offer, shares in the institutional acceptance facility plus the initial shareholding held by Staples International BV.

² Staples Australia declared its Offer for Corporate Express unconditional on 9 July 2010.

For further information, please contact:

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- Ends -

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