

Austin Engineering Business Update Strong Order Book for the Remainder of 2004

Brisbane, 6 September 2004: Austin Engineering Limited (ASX Trading code: **ANG**) today announced a strong order book for its Brisbane and Perth business divisions for the remainder of the 2004 calendar year.

The Perth business, John's Engineering, was acquired on 1 September 2004 and it has recently been successful in securing new orders valued at \$5.6m for the supply of traditional product lines. These orders, from customers including Terex and Komatsu, will be completed over the next six months and are for dump truck bodies and excavator buckets that will be utilised on projects for Rio Tinto and Alcoa within Australia and Indonesia.

Forecast revenue for the Perth business for the four-month period from September to December 2004 is \$11.0m, a significant increase over the previous corresponding period. This compares with total unaudited revenue of \$17.1m for the Perth business for the full year ended 30 June 2004.

In response to the strong orders coming to the company, Austin is planning to apply the already proven automated manufacturing processes used in its Brisbane facility into the Perth operation as part of the integration development process. In addition, Austin expects to appoint a new General Manager in Perth in the near future.

In the Brisbane manufacturing facility, Austin has also lined-up strong orders, including an order valued at approximately \$3m from Caltex for the supply of structural steel for its Clean Fuels Project in Lytton, Queensland and Kurnell, New South Wales. In addition, Austin has continued to receive on-going orders from Ludowici Mineral Processing Equipment Pty Ltd for the supply of mineral processing screens and spares.

A further project, valued at approximately \$0.3m for the supply of piping, has also been secured by the Brisbane manufacturing facility. This project utilises Austin's new robotic processes and will provide a valuable reference point for future major tenders on piping projects.

Austin has also appointed Dr Nasir Ahmed as a consultant to the company with effect from 6th October 2004. Nasir is currently the Chief Research Scientist and Senior Officer for the CSIRO Division of Manufacturing and Infrastructure Technology's Adelaide facility, which specialises in advanced welding, surfacing and manufacturing technologies, including process automation for Australian and overseas companies. Nasir will add significant depth to Austin Engineering's credentials for the implementation of its advanced technologies to the marketplace.

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For further information, contact Michael Buckland on 08 9334 0666 or Colin Anderson on 07 3271 2622.

About Austin Engineering: Austin Engineering Limited is an engineering company with manufacturing facilities in Brisbane and Perth. The Brisbane facility provides fabrication facilities servicing the mining, oil, gas and industrial sectors. Key product lines include structural steel, piping, mineral processing equipment, potshells and superstructures. The Perth facility designs and manufactures products used in the resources industry including dump truck bodies, excavator buckets, materials handling equipment and large service vehicles. Austin own rights to innovative welding processes which are being introduced to improve welding productivity, coupled with robotic applications to suit product lines, general fabrications and any repetitive production processes.