



Wesfarmers Limited
ABN 28 008 984 049

NEWS

24 March 2010

BOARD APPOINTMENT

Wesfarmers has announced the appointment of Mr Wayne Osborn as a new director of the company, effective from today.

Perth-based Mr Osborn (58) is the former Chairman and Managing Director of Alcoa of Australia Ltd.

He has been a director of Thiess Pty Ltd since 2005 and was appointed as Thiess Chairman in 2008. He was appointed to the board of Leighton Holdings Ltd in 2008.

He was appointed Chairman of the Australian Institute of Marine Science in 2010.

Mr Osborn replaces retiring Wesfarmers board member Mrs Patricia Cross, whose previously announced resignation from the board becomes effective as of today.

Wesfarmers chairman, Dr Bob Every, said he was delighted to welcome Mr Osborn to the board.

"I am sure he will make a great contribution," Dr Every said.

"Wayne brings a track record of outstanding operating experience and success at CEO level that has embraced all aspects of business - financial, processing efficiency, safety, environment, capital allocation and people related issues."

Mr Osborn said he looked forward to his involvement with such a great company.

"I have long been an admirer of Wesfarmers in terms of their value creation and tight financial discipline," he said.

"I am delighted to be invited onto the board."

For further information contact:

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Background information:
Mr Wayne Osborn

Wayne Osborn retired in February 2008 as Chairman and Managing Director of Alcoa of Australia Ltd. He was also a vice president of Alcoa Incorporated, elected by the company's board of directors in November 2006.



Wayne started his career in telecommunications and moved to the iron ore industry in the mid 1970's. He joined Alcoa in 1979 and worked in a variety of roles and locations across the Australian business including accountability for Alcoa's Asia Pacific operations prior to being appointed Managing Director in 2001.

Wayne has been a director of Thiess Pty Ltd since 2005 and was appointed as Chairman in 2008. He was appointed to the board of Leighton Holdings Ltd in 2008.

He was appointed Chairman of the Australian Institute of Marine Science in 2010.

Wayne has an interest in whale conservation and wildlife photography. He was elected an International Fellow of the New York based Explorers club in 2004.

His work in support of the arts through the Australian Business Arts Foundation was recognised with the 2007 Business Leader Award at the Western Australia Business and the Arts Partnership Award.

Wayne graduated as an Electrical Engineer from the Gordon Institution of Technology (Australia) in 1972 and is a Member of the Institution of Engineers, Australia. He received a Masters degree in Business Administration from Deakin University (Australia) in 1987.