

17 April 2006

NEWS

ALEX CAPPELLO RESIGNS AS A DIRECTOR OF BENITEC

Benitec Ltd. (ASX: BLT) announced today that Mr. Alexander Cappello has resigned as a director of the Company. Mr. Cappello has been a very supportive director in the development of the Company's strategic plans and remains committed to the long-term prospects of Benitec. Mr. Cappello stated, "I have been proud to be associated with such fine professionals and remain very optimistic about the future prospects for the exceptional technology and the current programs in place."

About Benitec

Benitec is an international biotechnology company focused on developing therapeutics to treat serious diseases using its proprietary RNAi technology. Benitec is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and has its operations in Mountain View, California, USA. Its lead therapeutic programs are for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Benitec's RNA-based HIV therapeutic, co-developed with the Center for Biomedicine & Genetics at the City of Hope in Los Angeles, California, will enter Phase I clinical trials in 2006. Benitec's RNAi therapeutic for HCV will enter clinical trials in 2007. For additional information, please visit www.benitec.com.

Forward-looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements that reflect the Companies' current expectations regarding future events. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual events could differ materially from those projected herein and depend on a number of factors including the success of the Companies' research strategy, the applicability of the discoveries made therein, the successful and timely completion of clinical studies and the uncertainties related to the regulatory process.

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