

NEWS

APPOINTMENT OF COMPANY SECRETARY

1 March 2005

Sydney, Australia – Benitec Ltd. (ASX: BLT) announced today that following the resignation of Mr Gary Taylor as Company Secretary, the Board has appointed Sarah (Sally) Brashears as Company Secretary.

Sally Brashears joined Benitec in June 2004 as Vice President, Intellectual Property. Before joining Benitec, Ms. Brashears was OF Counsel to Moser, Patterson & Sheridan LLP, a patent law firm in Palo Alto, California, where her practice encompassed all areas of intellectual property law, with an emphasis in the biotechnological and semiconductor arts, licensing, due diligence assessments, freedom-to-operate, patentability and infringement opinions, and other IP-related transactional work. At Moser, Patterson & Sheridan, she served as outside counsel to the National Stem Cell Centre in Melbourne Australia. Prior to her working at Moser, Ms. Brashears served as Director of Intellectual Property at Perlegen Sciences, Inc., and previously was Senior Division Counsel at Applied Materials, Inc. and Director of Intellectual Property at Clontech Laboratories, Inc. Her in-house experience included managing a docket of over 1000 patents and patent applications and negotiating licensing and joint venture agreements with global and Fortune 500 companies. Ms. Brashears is a member of the Texas bar as well as registered to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office.

Mr Raymond Whitten has been appointed as alternate Company Secretary. The Board wishes to thank Mr Taylor for his long-standing contribution to Benitec and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Dr Ken Reed retires on 15th March 2005 from the Company but remains as a non-executive director.

Raymond L Whitten
Chairman

About Benitec

Benitec is an international biotechnology company focused on developing therapeutics to treat serious diseases using its proprietary RNAi technology. Benitec (ASX: BLT) is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and has its clinical operations centered in the heart of Silicon Valley in Mountain View, California, USA. Its lead therapeutic programs are designed to create novel RNAi-based therapies for the 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 LIMITED ABN 64 068 943 662

CORRESPONDENCE PO BOX 4193 ST LUCIA QLD 4067 AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONE +61 7 3217 8540 FACSIMILE +61 7 3217 7540

REGISTERED OFFICE SUITE 4 242 HAWKEN DRIVE ST LUCIA QLD 4067 AUSTRALIA



Benitec Forward-looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements that reflect the Company's 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 Company's 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.

CONTACTS:

BENITEC, LTD.

Australia:

Sandra Moore
+61 7 3217 8540
smoore@benitec.com

United States:

Laurie Reisinger
+650 564 9850 ext.1101
lreisinger@benitec.com

THE RUTH GROUP

United States:

Gregory Tiberend
+646 536 7005
gtiberend@theruthgroup.com