

ASX Announcement

Tuesday 18 January 2005

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN, CEO

Benitec Limited (ASX BLT) is pleased to announce that Mr Raymond Whitten has been appointed Chairman of the Board of the Company. Mr John McKinley has resigned as CEO and continues as a non-executive director of the Company.

Benitec thanks Mr McKinley for his assistance in growing the business of Benitec during its recent period of consolidation.

Appointment of acting CEO

Benitec is pleased to announce the appointment of Sara Cunningham as acting CEO of Benitec. Sara was the Co-Founder of Avocel, Inc which was acquired by Benitec in May 2004.

The Board has full confidence in Sara to meet the challenges of the future.

Ray Whitten
Chairman

About Benitec

Benitec is an international biotechnology company focused on developing therapeutics to treat serious diseases using its proprietary RNAi technology. It is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and has its clinical operations located in Mountain View, California. Its lead therapeutic programs are Hepatitis C, HIV and cancers.

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

Contact for additional information

Raymond L Whitten Principal Whittens Solicitors Suite 2, Level 30 133 Castlereagh Street Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: 02 9264 2216 Fax: 02 9283 1970 rwhitten@whittens.com.au	Sandra Moore Office Manager Benitec Australia Ltd P O Box 4193 St Lucia QLD 4067 Tel: +61 7 3217 8540 Fax: +61 7 3217 7540 smoore@benitec.com
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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