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COMPUTERSHARE ACQUIRES CITYWATCH, THE UK'S LEADING INSTITUTIONAL SHARE OWNERSHIP ANALYSIS BUSINESS

Computershare Ltd (ASX: CPU), the global provider of share registration services and trading and settlement system solutions announces the acquisition of Citywatch Ltd, the United Kingdom's leading provider of ownership analysis data for UK equities.

Citywatch has been purchased from Reuters for 4.35 million and the acquisition has been funded out of existing cash resources. All Citywatch employees will be retained by Computershare.

Citywatch was founded in 1992. It is the clear market leader in the on-line provision of share ownership information covering 99% of UK equities. Citywatch sets the industry standard for accurate and timely market information.

Computershare's global registry services 7000 corporate clients and maintains 54 million shareholder accounts.

The acquisition will further develop Computershare Analytics' current investor relations, consulting and share ownership analysis business that operates in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Ian Matheson, Managing Director of Computershare Analytics said "This is an exciting opportunity as it positions Computershare to meet the demands of clients and institutions in their desire for greater transparency of share ownership around the world".

Chris Holleyoak, Head of UK Strategic Business Development, said "The acquisition of Citywatch is part of Computershare's strategy to provide a range of investor relations services to our global client base. Computershare will continue to leverage off the global footprint of our share registry business to build new services to equity markets".

He added, "We believe there are many opportunities to enhance the existing Citywatch products as well as providing an excellent platform to extend our global shareholder data services into Europe and North America."

Computershare

Computershare is incorporated in Australia and listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (symbol: CPU) with a market capitalisation of approximately 1.8 billion (A\$5 billion). In the UK, Ireland and the Channel Islands, Computershare has 750 corporate clients, including 25 of the FTSE 100, accounting for 36% of the FTSE 100 by market cap. Registry operations are run from Bristol, Edinburgh, Dublin, St Helier and London. Computershare maintains over 54 million shareholder accounts worldwide and also supplies financial markets software to exchanges and market participants in Europe, North America and Asia. Computershare's origin was as a technology company servicing the share registration market, and it has seen rapid expansion in recent years into the provision of professional share registration services in Australia, New Zealand, UK,

Ireland, Channel Islands, South Africa, Hong Kong, United States and Canada. For more information visit the company web site: www.computershare.com

Citywatch

Citywatch was founded in 1992. In March 1998 it became a non-integrated subsidiary of Reuters. Citywatch is the leading provider of UK institutional share ownership information. It specialises in monitoring and measuring all aspects of equity ownership. Citywatch clients include:

- › Equity trading & market makers
- › Corporate finance / syndication / M&A
- › Corporate broking / Investor Relations
- › Corporates
- › A direct provider of shareownership data and analysis to UK Companies IR
- › Departments
- › Fund Managers

For more information visit the Citywatch web site: www.citywatch.co.uk

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