

2 March 2004

PASMINCO

## Not for release or distribution in the United States

## **ASX RELEASE**

## PASMINCO GROUP RESTRUCTURE PROPOSAL

On 1 March 2004 a prospectus was lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission to facilitate the decision of the Deed Administrators of Pasminco Limited (subject to deed of company arrangement) (**Pasminco**) to proceed with an equity and float restructure proposal for the Pasminco group.

Under the restructure proposal, a new company, Zinifex Limited (**Zinifex**), will acquire all the shares and other interests in certain Pasminco group companies to form a new Zinifex group, subject to:

- a successful initial public offering (IPO) of shares in Zinifex to the Australian public and other retail investors and to domestic and international institutions; and
- Zinifex listing on Australian Stock Exchange Limited (ASX).

The IPO and ASX listing of Zinifex is currently expected to be completed before 30 April 2004.

The proceeds of the IPO will be used to repay the administration working capital facilities and distribute dividends to pre-administration creditors admitted to proof. As pre-administration creditors are expected to receive distributions of substantially less than 100 cents for every dollar of their claims, shareholders of Pasminco will not receive any return of capital on its winding up. The shares in Pasminco Limited do not have, and are not ever expected to have, any value.

Ultimately the various companies and other entities not forming part of the new Zinifex group will be deregistered or wound up or both after a process of realising their assets and finalising the claims of pre-administration creditors is completed. This process is expected to take a number of years after the completion of the IPO and the listing of Zinifex.

Zinifex shares will be offered for sale under a Prospectus and an Institutional Offering Memorandum. Any person who wishes to acquire shares under the prospectus offer will be required to complete the application form that will be in or accompany the prospectus. Copies of the prospectus will be available from the Zinifex website www.zinifex.com.

This document does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, securities in any jurisdiction.

The shares of Zinifex offered will not be or have not been registered under the US Securities Act of 1933 and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from registration requirements.

A copy of this announcement can be obtained (free of charge) by contacting:

Kelly Quirke +61 (03) 9654 6555