



20<sup>th</sup> August 2009

## CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

I am delighted to report that RR Australia achieved outstanding results in the year ended 31 March 2009, despite the deteriorating economic conditions in Australia and more specifically the crisis in the financial sector. This is testament to the power of the business model which continues to provide a solid platform for future growth.

At the end of May the Company announced its results for the year ended 31 March 2009, and these have comfortably exceeded the market forecast with a net profit after tax of \$12.3 M which was 13% above last year's results.

Overall the rental business performed well on all accounts during the year and new strategies were put in place to bolster the Company's future growth. CEO John Hughes will shortly expand on the operations performance last year.

On 27 May the Board declared a fully franked final dividend of 2.91 cents which was paid on 23 July 2009. This brings the full year dividend to 4.79 cents this year compared to 4.26 cents last year.

In a climate of tight liquidity and high interest rates, the Company has a strong balance sheet with no net debt at year end, and capacity for the development of new growth strategies or acquisitions.

Your Board acknowledges that it has an important role to play in fostering and upholding high standards of Corporate Governance. Pages 16 to 18 of the annual report set out details of the Company policies and practises with regards to Corporate Governance issues.

The Company also sets its remuneration policy for directors and senior executives in the Remuneration Report on pages 19 to 26 of the annual report.

The new financial year has started well and the Company is on track to deliver continuous earnings growth to its shareholders.

With the Company developing a number of strategic initiatives such as Big Brown Box and Cashfirst, the Board believes that a change of name to Thorn Group Limited is desirable and that it will also provide for improved market recognition and positioning. Given that shareholders approve the proposed resolution at today's meeting then the new name is intended to become effective on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

I would like to thank the CEO John Hughes and his staff for their efforts during the year in delivering excellent results for our shareholders.

I also thank shareholders for their support since listing and my fellow directors for their support during the year.

**Bernard Carrasco**  
**Chairman of the Board**