



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Link Investor Services joins Strate's CSD

### Participant elite

Link Investor Services (Pty) Ltd has been approved as a South African Central Securities Depository (CSD) Participant for Equities as of 1 November 2011 by the Controlling Body of Strate and the Financial Services Board.

Link is the first new CSD Participant to enter the South African Equities Market in over ten years. The role of a CSD Participant is to administer Securities or an interest in Securities, for example shares, which are held in Custody on behalf of investors. Link joins an elite group of six other Participants, namely the big four local banks, Société Générale Johannesburg Branch and Computershare Ltd.

Monica Singer, Strate's CEO, explains that Link's induction as a CSD Participant is a highly significant financial market development, since there has been a great deal of interest from other international players to enter this space.

"It is a measure of Link's stature and its commitment to the South African market that its application has been approved as a CSD Participant. We at Strate are excited about having a new client and that we look forward to working with Link and fostering a good relationship"

Koos van Niekerk, Link Investor Services CEO, says that the company sees great potential in South Africa to grow the CSD Participant business rapidly over the next few years. As a subsidiary of the larger Australian domiciled global company, Link Group, which in addition to South Africa and Australia operates in New Zealand, India, Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong, United Kingdom, France, United States and Canada, he believes that Link Investor Services will be able to bring unique and competitive product offerings and services to the local market.

“Our intention is to take a partnership approach with clients to meet their unique requirements and build the business from a solid base and product offering. Our products range from custodial, corporate actions and securities lending and borrowing services for large institutional investors to own name shareholding for private clients.”

End.

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## **Notes to Editors:**

### **About Link Market Services:**

Link Market Services Limited (“Link”) is Australia’s leading share registry and financial services provider, managing over 10 million account records, over 1,000 ASX securities and over \$500 billion in investments. Link is dedicated to the provision of premium service, utilising innovative technology and industry expertise to deliver tailored best practice solutions and value to clients, employees and investors. Link’s suite of services are comprehensive, incorporating core registry and capital market services, as well as various specialist functions including the provision of employee plan solutions, company secretarial services, shareholder analytics and communication solutions. Link provides services to over 80% of the S&P/ASX 100.

The Link Group of companies provide services in Australia, the United Kingdom, France, New Zealand, India, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Canada and the United States.

[www.linkmarketservices.com.au](http://www.linkmarketservices.com.au)

### **About Strate**

Strate Ltd is the licensed Central Securities Depository (CSD) for the electronic settlement of financial instruments in South Africa. Strate handles the settlement of a number of securities including equities and bonds for the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) and off market trades, as well as a range of derivative products such as warrants, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), retail notes and tracker funds. It has now added the settlement of money market securities to its portfolio of services. It provides services to Issuers for their investors in terms of the Companies Act, 2008 and it acts as the Regulator of its custodian clients under the Securities Services Act (SSA), 2004. [www.strate.co.za](http://www.strate.co.za)