



Independent News & Media PLC

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INDEPENDENT NEWS & MEDIA PLC COMPLETION OF iTOUCH SALE AND AGM STATEMENT

Dublin/London -- 8th June 2005: At the Annual General Meeting of Independent News & Media PLC [ticker: INWS.L; INWS.I] [**Independent**], the Company said it was pleased to announce that the For-side.com Co. Limited offer for the entire issued and to be issued share capital in iTouch plc [‘ITU.L’] had today been declared wholly unconditional. Accordingly, Independent expects to receive its full cash consideration of STG£67.3m (approx. €100m) by June 24th 2005, at the latest.

In addition, Independent reaffirmed its results’ guidance for 2005. Sir Anthony O’Reilly, chief executive, told shareholders that:

“Underlying trading continues in a positive fashion with both circulation and advertising revenues comfortably ahead of last year. Your Group is unique in that it operates leading newspaper brands in six of the world’s fastest growing economies, and our recent expansion into India, provides for yet further economic balance and diversity. As ever, active cost management will remain a central focus of the Group as we strive to be the industry low cost operator.

"Strong revenue conditions have carried on through the second quarter, and assuming a continuation of these favourable conditions, your Board remains confident of a meaningful improvement in underlying profit for 2005."

In line with prior years, Independent will issue a more detailed pre-close trading statement at the end of June, designed to provide further guidance on the Group’s trading conditions and the prospects for the remainder of 2005.

-- ENDS --

8th June 2005

For further information:

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