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media release

Deal announcement – Anstat Group 25 August 2005

Arnold Bloch Leibler has advised the Victorian-based Anstat Group in its acquisition by SAI Global Limited.

SAI Global is one of the world's leading business publishing, compliance, training and assurance organisations with offices in Australasia, Europe and North America.

Anstat is one of Australia's leading providers of information and risk management solutions to the legal, property and corporate compliance markets. It is the official publisher of hard copy legislation on behalf of the Victorian and Federal governments and holds exclusive publishing rights for the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

In a press release announcing the acquisition, SAI Global Chief Executive Officer, Ross Wraight, said that the Anstat acquisition enhanced SAI Global's business in four important aspects – increasing the business base of the publishing division, providing a powerful entry point to the rapidly growing market for compliance risk management software and services, and bringing in-house a well-respected brand with an established customer base and positive income streams as well as a proven managerial and entrepreneurial team.

Anstat's management team and staff, including its Executive Chairman Alan Schwartz, and Managing Director, Jacob Weinmann, will remain with the organisation. According to SAI's Ross Wraight, "The Anstat Group team have years of experience and a proven track record in servicing their client base."

Jacob Weinmann of Anstat said, "Going forward the SAI group will allow us to expand our company offering and geographical presence as well as helping drive new modes of distribution and development for current SAI solutions. SAI will also help accelerate the global distribution of our successful compliance and risk management software solutions."

Wraight added, "While the main strategic impact of the acquisition is on the publishing business, one of Anstat's operating divisions, Lawlex, contains a significant and growing compliance business which complements the solutions and toolsets acquired through *Easy i*. This will add to the business base of the Compliance division, accelerate penetration by *Easy i* of the Australian market and add capability to *Easy i*'s existing products, solutions and technologies."

Key People

Arnold Bloch Leibler technology partner Michael Dodge led the team, which included Steven Humphries. Acting for SAI Global was John Williamson-Noble of Gilbert and Tobin.

Michael Dodge said, “This acquisition provides an example of how a willing vendor and a willing purchaser can achieve a smooth and speedy transaction. Anstat and SAI Global demonstrated their ability to work together on the acquisition and this bodes well for a successful future.”

For additional information, please contact Stephanie Green of Arnold Bloch Leibler on (03) 9229 9715 or sgreen@abl.com.au.