

## Emerald Accredited for Bulk Wheat Exports by Wheat Exports Australia

**Melbourne 23 October, 2008:** Emerald Group Australia Pty Ltd has today been granted accreditation as a bulk wheat exporter by Wheat Exports Australia (WEA). Only exporters accredited by WEA are authorised to export wheat in bulk from Australia.

Emerald Chairman Alan Winney welcomed the accreditation and noted that this was an important milestone for Emerald and the Australian growers who partner with Emerald for their grain marketing.

"Emerald is an independent, Australian owned grains manager. We work with, for and on behalf of growers through a variety of alliances and joint ventures. Australian grain growers are our customers and business partners and we are pleased to have been able to obtain accreditation as a bulk wheat exporter.

We have found the process of accreditation by the WEA robust, rigorous and fair. Our accreditation as a bulk wheat exporter compliments our existing status as an accredited bulk barley exporter through ESCOSA in South Australia and as a holder of an Australian Financial Services License.

Emerald has built a reputation for innovation and responsiveness in developing marketing products suited to the needs of our farmer customers. As an example it has been Emerald's early declaration of the maintenance of full quality rewards payments for wheat that has forced the hand of industry on this issue and driven our competition to reverse their previous declarations of moving to flat pricing structures." Mr Winney said.

Emerald operates alliances and joint ventures with a range of grower based organisations nationally. In Western Australia Emerald manages a long term alliance with Ravensdown United Farmers Cooperative and also manages the WAFarmers Wheat Pool on behalf of the WAFarmers Federation.

In South Australia Emerald has established the EP Grain joint venture with grower owned unlisted public company FREE Eyre Ltd, and in Victoria Emerald operates a grain marketing joint venture with the Southern Quality Produce Cooperative Ltd, SQP Pty Ltd. Emerald also manages the Northern Quality Wheat Pool on behalf of selected growers in northern NSW and Queensland.

***For further information please contact:***

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