



## FACT SHEET

29 March 2012

### ASX's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary

The 1 April 2012 marks the 25th anniversary of the creation of ASX, when Australia's six state-based exchanges put aside decades of rivalry to form a single liquid, transparent and globally competitive national stock market.

Made possible by federal legislation, the momentous event paved the way for many other significant ASX milestones, including the adoption of electronic trading (1987), demutualisation and self-listing (1998), and the merger with the Sydney Futures Exchange (2006).

Today the Australian market operated by ASX is the fifth-largest equity free float market in the world with a history that stretches back more than 150 years to the Victorian gold fields.

#### Then and now facts and figures

- Approximately 220 companies have been continuously listed on ASX and under the same name since 1 April 1987.
- BHP Billiton (formerly Broken Hill Proprietary Company) continues to be the largest ASX-listed company with a domestic market capitalisation of more than \$110 billion. It was valued at \$11.4 billion at the end of 1987.
- The cut-off to make the top-10 largest companies by domestic market capitalisation in 1987 was \$2.5 billion (and included companies like Western Mining, Elders IXL, Coles Myer, CRA and John Fairfax). Today it requires more than 10 times that value.
- Around 800 million cash equity trades have been transacted since 1987.
- Approximately \$750 billion has been raised by listed entities on ASX in capital raisings over 25 years.
- In 1987 the All Ordinaries was the benchmark index with a purely domestic focus. Today the S&P/ASX 200 is the benchmark with a subset, the S&P/ASX 50, forming part of the S&P Global 1200.
- 10 ASX staff (out of around 500 employees today) are celebrating 25 years or more of employment at ASX.

Cash equity market	End of 1987	End of February 2012	Change
Number of listed entities	1,528	2,226	46% increase
Market capitalisation	\$190 billion	\$1.3 trillion	7 times larger
Average daily value traded	\$333 million	\$4.8 billion (FY12 to date)	15 times greater
Average daily number of trades	11,000	653,000 (FY12 to date)	60 times greater
Number of participants (trading, clearing and settlement)	27	136	5 times more
Latency (trading order round trip time)	1-2 second (open outcry trading floor)	250 micro seconds (ASX Australian Liquidity Centre)	>4,000 times faster
All Ordinaries Index	1318.8	4388.1	233% increase

More information: [www.asxgroup.com.au/media-releases.htm](http://www.asxgroup.com.au/media-releases.htm)