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MEDIA RELEASE

VERTICON ACQUIRES LEADING CRANE HIRE BUSINESS IN NEW ZEALAND

Verticon Group Limited today announced that it had acquired the crane assets and business of Daniel Smith Industries ("DSI") for NZ\$41million.

DSI is a New Zealand based company that has operated from its base near Christchurch for over 15 years. In that time, it has grown to be one of New Zealand's most respected and trusted crane hire companies. The business coverage of DSI extends throughout New Zealand and the Pacific Islands and across industry sectors which include resources, public infrastructure, energy and construction. Over 50% of projected revenues come from infrastructure and energy projects.

The consideration for the acquisition is defensively structured with the first payment of 80% of the purchase price payable on completion, with the remaining 20% payable in 14 months from the completion date. This second payment is subject to the achievement of an EBITDA of NZ\$9.0million for the 12 months following completion.

In addition, any warranty claims made during the earn out period will be deducted from this second payment.

The acquisition is earnings per share accretive in the first year.

The acquisition will be funded by a committed debt facility with 75% of this debt funded by New Zealand debt, therefore providing a natural currency hedge. The remaining 25% of the debt is funded in Australian dollars.

The debt facilities require Verticon to repay a minimum of \$11.0million in the first 5 years. The majority of the repayments are due in year 3 through to year 5.

Included in the acquisition is a modern, well maintained fleet of 19 crawler cranes (one of which is the largest of its type in New Zealand), 8 mobile cranes, 3 man and material hoists, 2 rough terrain forklifts, 13 tower cranes and a significant and secure order book with over 70% of revenue under contract for the earn out period (December 2005 to November 2006).

Verticon has also retained all employees including Daniel Smith. Daniel, who has been the driver of the success of DSI, is contracted to run the Verticon New Zealand operation and will continue to drive the New Zealand business forward and add significant expertise to the entire Verticon Group.

Mark Kevin, Managing Director of Verticon commented, "the DSI acquisition is consistent with Verticon's strategy and provides a significant diversification from the core Australian business, which is Australia's largest hirer of tower cranes, into a

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business that will produce significant revenues and profits from industries such as energy, public infrastructure and resources”.

Verticon is Australia’s largest hirer of tower cranes in Australia with operations in Victoria, New South Wales and in Queensland. Verticon has over 85 tower cranes and 43 hoists in its fleet and listed on the Australian Stock Exchange in December 2004. For further details regarding Verticon please refer to www.verticon.com.au.

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