



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FISHER & PAYKEL APPLIANCES COMMISSIONS MANUFACTURING PLANT

March 14th 2006

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA – Fisher & Paykel Appliances today joined with its employees, suppliers and government representatives to celebrate the installation and commissioning of the first stage of its Clyde facility.

The start of washer production at Clyde follows an ambitious project plan that involved dismantling and relocation of plant from Queensland, Australia. The plant was shipped to the port of Philadelphia during December last, with commissioning at the Clyde site starting in January. Around 40 of the Company's tradespeople and engineers were involved, including several local employees who had earlier traveled to Australia and New Zealand for training. Initial production commenced on February 20th and will ramp up progressively as new staff are trained.

"This is a sensational accomplishment," said John Bongard, Managing Director and CEO of Fisher & Paykel Appliances, "We have even exceeded our own bold expectations by completing the project in such a short time frame. The support we have received from KMH and Janotta and Herner in the construction and delivery of additional factory space was crucial to the project. We have been very impressed by the project manager and their contractors during the construction phase." The Company added 33,000 square feet of factory space to the existing buildings on site.

John Bongard also acknowledged the contribution of the Company's employees. "We asked a number of technical and skilled trades employees from Down Under to help with the commissioning of the plant at Clyde. This team passed up the peak of the Southern Hemisphere summer to travel up to the unfamiliar chill of the northern winter. They were also separated from their families for six to eight weeks. Their skill and dedication are very much reflected in what has been achieved. We are very appreciative of their contribution."

Fisher & Paykel Appliances is delighted with the welcome it has received from the local community at every level. The Company hopes to return this welcome by having a positive impact on employment and commerce in the region.

The plant will produce washing machines to support solid growth in US sales. This move will reduce working capital and delivery times for the Company. Future development on the Clyde site will see the manufacture of appliance motors and the Company's unique top-loading clothes dryer. These projects will be completed during 2006.

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About Fisher & Paykel Appliances

Fisher & Paykel is a global company best known for its innovative DishDrawer® dishwasher. Fisher & Paykel Appliances designs, manufactures and markets a range of innovative household appliances developed with a commitment to technology, design, user friendliness and environmental awareness.

DCS by Fisher & Paykel products are widely regarded to be among the best performing professional cooking equipment in the U.S. market place. The brand has a strong reputation for product innovation and evolution of the high-end cooking market.

Fisher & Paykel Appliances has manufacturing sites located in Auckland and Dunedin, New Zealand; Cleveland, Australia; Huntington Beach, California and Clyde, Ohio, USA; and Treviso, Italy.

Fisher & Paykel and DCS products are sold, directly or via distributors, to approximately 4,500 dealers in the United States. Further details on Fisher & Paykel Appliances and DCS Appliances are available on their Web sites:

www.fisherpaykel.com
www.dcsappliances.com

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