

## MEDIA RELEASE

December 18, 2007

# Almond Board appoints new Chairman

The Almond Board of Australia (ABA) recently elected Brenton Woolston, general manager of Almondco Australia as new chairman.

Mr Woolston takes over from John Bird of Select Harvests, who held the position since August last year.

Mr Woolston also holds the position of president of the Australian Nut Industry Council (ANIC).

Brenton was appointed to Almondco to fill the role of marketing manager in 2001 and was promoted to group general manager just over a year later.

He has managed a period of significant growth and success in Almondco's long history and is a strong advocate for promoting Australian almonds as a premium product on the world market.

Mr Woolston said he was looking forward to building on the good foundation established to date and working with the ABA management team.

"John has done a lot of work in improving the governance and structure of the ABA during his term and I am keen to further enhance this during my term in office," Mr Woolston said. "The Australian almond industry is on the brink of an exciting era that should see us become the second biggest producer in the world and that will bring new challenges for all of us involved."

Former chairman Stephen Lynch was appointed ABA vice chairman.

Brendan Sidhu and Tony Spiers have been elected to the ABA for the first time as Riverland grower representatives, replacing retiring members Richard Smart and Randell McClure.

The ABA's full committee confirmed as follows:

### **Grower Representatives:**

- Adelaide Region – Jim Pierson
- Riverland Region – Brendan Sidhu
- Riverland Region – Tony Spiers
- Sunraysia Region – Neale Bennett
- Sunraysia Region – Stephen Lynch

### **Marketer Representatives:**

- Brenton Woolston – Almondco Australia
- Bruce McDougall – Nut Producers Australia
- John Bird – Select Harvests

### **For further information contact:**

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