

WOOLWORTHS LIMITED

02.11.2011

PRESS RELEASE

Woolworths to create 10,000 jobs to support new store openings

Woolworths Limited has today announced it will create more than 10,000¹ new retail jobs in Australian & New Zealand during the current financial year as it recruits staff to work in new stores. The new jobs represent an increase of more than 100% over last year, driven by a significant spike in the number of new store openings.

During the year, the company will open a record 39 new supermarkets, seven BIG Ws and 15 Masters Home Improvement stores, each of which will employ in excess of 130 people. A new distribution centre in Western Sydney will employ a further 350 people. In total, the group will grow its total number of stores by 117, compared to 73 in financial year 2011.

Speaking at an investor briefing today, CEO Grant O'Brien said: "Woolworths is committed to providing job and training opportunities for as many people as possible. Retail can be a fantastic career choice and Woolworths is the kind of company where you really can work your way up from the shop floor to the CEO's office, which was exactly my own path."

The increase in store openings is indicative of Woolworths' strong focus on building a long term pipeline of properties so it can deliver convenience, range, quality and value to more customers. During the global financial crisis, Woolworths significantly expanded its role as a property developer in order to maintain the future pipeline.

At the end of June 2011, Woolworths employed a total of 190,793 people.

- ends -

CONTACT DETAILS: Woolworths Press Office (02) 8885 1033.

¹ Job numbers are net, reflecting store closures as well as store openings.