

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Census results: population aged 85+ has grown 62% in ten years - highlights need for longevity planning

Sydney, 28 June 2007 – As predicted Australia’s population is ageing, and living longer. The new Census results have shown that the population of Australia aged 85 years and over has grown a staggering 62% in a decade. This is compared to a total population growth of 11.84% over the same period.

Those in the age bracket of 85 years and over today make up 1.63% of the population or 322,848 people, up from 262,689 at the 2001 Census, and 199,253 in 1996.

“This ageing population has been predicted by economists and sociologists, and has the potential to seriously impact on Australia’s social security, retirement planning and policy frameworks. While it’s great people are enjoying good health well into their 80s, longevity brings with it new financial considerations in the later stages of retirement” said Louise Biti, Asteron Head of Technical Services.

This group of Australians - coined ‘Generation L’ by Asteron (L for Longevity) - are a growing number of Australians who are fortunate enough to enjoy a long life, but are prone to the consequences of outliving their retirement savings.

In August 2006, Asteron released a longevity income stream specifically developed to meet the income needs of those people.

Called the Asteron Longevity Income Stream (ALIS), the product is the result of intensive research and development by Asteron investigating the needs of a growing number of Australians, dubbed ‘Generation L’.

“The Asteron Longevity Income Stream (ALIS) is specifically designed to complement existing retirement strategies such as allocated pensions. The ALIS is designed to kick in at the time when other retirement strategies are running out – at around age 85 – and pays an income to the client for the remainder of their life - no matter how long they live.

“The latest Census figures only further prove the need for government and industry to consider the financial needs of this growing generation. And it is important for retirees to seriously consider their own longevity and plan for it. Traditional ideas of living until we are 75 fall well short of the mark” said Louise Biti.

—ENDS—



AT YOUR FINANCIAL SERVICE®

Notes to Editors:

About Asteron

Asteron is one of Australia's largest financial service providers, with key business activities in life insurance, superannuation, retirement incomes and financial planning. As a member of the Suncorp Group since 20 March 2007, Asteron is part of an entity with over \$600 million of Life Risk in-force premiums and over \$26 billion funds under management.

At the end of December 2006, the life insurance portfolio of Asteron in Australia comprised more than 257,000 policies and \$354 million in in-force premiums. Our customers across Australia and New Zealand entrust Asteron with \$9.8 billion in funds under administration.

Asteron's market-leading suite of financial products is offered through a broad network of financial advisers, including the leading financial planning groups, Guardian Financial Planning and Cameron Walshe.

Disclaimers:

The information contained in this media release is merely an overview of the ALIS, is of a general nature and is not intended to be financial advice. We have not taken into consideration the personal objectives, circumstances or financial needs of any individual.

The ALIS is distributed through financial advisers and we strongly recommend that any person considering purchasing the ALIS should obtain advice from their financial adviser and should read the ALIS Product Disclosure Statement (PDS). An ALIS PDS is available from the nearest Asteron office, or by visiting www.asteron.com.au.

The obligations of Asteron are not guaranteed by any other company in the Suncorp Group. Neither Suncorp nor any company associated with Asteron guarantees ALIS, the investment performance of ALIS or the return of capital invested in ALIS.

Asteron Portfolio Services Limited (ABN 61 063 427 958, AFSL 237905, RSE Licence No L0002059) is the issuer of the ALIS.

—ENDS—

For more information please contact:

Alice Bradbury, Communications Specialist, Asteron

T | 02 8275 3114 M | 0410 428 887 E | alice_bradbury@asteron.com.au