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BANKLINK PARTNERS ROWING NEW ZEALAND TO 2010 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lake Karapiro, 8 February 2006 – New Zealand’s leading accounting data and services provider, BankLink today announced that it is the principal partner for Rowing New Zealand for the next five years which includes support through to the 2010 World Championships and beyond.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, BankLink has been a leading Australasian provider of accounting data and services since 1986, now with an 75 percent share of the New Zealand accounting practice market.

Malcolm MacDonald, Director of BankLink says that the company is proud to be the partner of Rowing New Zealand as both organizations share many of the same values and philosophy that drive success and performance.

“BankLink is delighted to support Rowing New Zealand as its new principal partner and sponsor over the next five years. We believe that Rowing New Zealand epitomizes everything that is great about sport and being a Kiwi – the desire to win on the world stage, a commitment to excellence, innovation and relentless performance, as well as delivery above and beyond expectations. These are all values that have been at the core of BankLink’s vision since it started business 20 years ago,” says MacDonald.

MacDonald and other directors Steven Agnew and Derek Jones all emphasise that the partnership with rowing is a way that BankLink feels it give something back as well as make a significant national contribution to New Zealand.

“Through our sponsorship we really wanted to do something that all Kiwis could also take pride in, and we hope that getting behind Rowing New Zealand with a five year sponsorship to assist their rowers reach their goals will achieve that,” says Derek Jones.

“BankLink also hopes that its partnership with Rowing New Zealand helps foster the sport at a grassroots level all across the country for events such as the New Zealand Rowing Championships.”

Craig Ross, CEO of Rowing New Zealand says that the partnership with BankLink will boost the country’s chances and medal hopes on the eve of the bid to host the 2010 World Championships.

“Having BankLink on board with Rowing New Zealand for the next five years will give all our rowers, including our elite athletes who are competing against the world’s best, the confidence and support to go even further.”

MacDonald and Jones also say that BankLink sees similarities in freeing up rowers so they can spend more time on training with that of business owners having more time to focus on generating revenue than worrying about compliance issues and paperwork.

“The clear advantage with using BankLink is that business owners can spend more time making money and less time sweating over their accounts. Often the last thing many business owners do each month is their accounts, but with BankLink both accountants and their clients can have more focus on what really counts through the time they save.”

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About BankLink

BankLink is the leading New Zealand provider of accounting data and services. The BankLink Service facilitates the delivery of a business's bank transaction data directly to their accountant, thereby eliminating the burden of manual data entry. Not only does this save everyone time, it also empowers the accountant and business owner to make informed decisions based on accurate data through a range of business reports from the BankLink software.

Established in 1986 BankLink has a 75 percent share of the New Zealand accounting practice market. BankLink also has a sales team throughout Australia with a 25 percent share of the Australian accounting practice market which represents a combined total of approximately 200,000 small to medium size businesses. For more information please visit the BankLink website at www.banklink.co.nz