



MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

HT&E LAUNCHES NEW DIVISION, HT&E EVENTS Announces joint venture with Gfinity plc and IKON Media & Entertainment to launch Australia's first city-based eSports franchise league

SYDNEY, 07/08/2017 – HT&E Limited [ASX: HT1] today announced it has entered into a joint venture with **IKON Media & Entertainment** to create a new division and brand, **HT&E Events**.

HT&E Events will enhance the complementary nature of HT&E's existing radio, outdoor and digital businesses by providing unique content that is targeted to HT&E audiences and is highly relevant for brands.

In its first venture, HT&E Events will create an Australian eSports business, **Gfinity eSports Australia**, launching Australia's first city-based franchise league, "The Elite Series".

A partnership with **Gfinity Plc**, Gfinity eSports Australia will deliver Australian gamers a clear and structured top-to-bottom competitive framework within Australian eSports. A competition for enthusiasts at all levels – from the amateur at home, to the eSports professional – it will for the first time offer a clear pathway between the two, as amateur players earn the right to compete alongside seasoned professionals. The Elite Series will see city-based franchise teams compete weekly at dedicated eSports venues, with each event broadcast live online and across other TV and media platforms.

As well as The Elite Series, a new online competition, "The Challenger Series", will launch in Q3 this year. Open to all gamers, the Challenger Series will be the battleground for amateur players to compete against each other, to win the chance to play alongside the pros in The Elite Series. Selection for The Elite Series will take place via a player draft where the top-ranked amateur competitors from The Challenger Series will join professionals in a player pool, from which team owners will be asked to select their squads for the upcoming seasons. Each squad will have a defined number of professional and amateur players and be managed within fixed salary caps.

The founding franchise teams for Australia's first city-based professional eSports league, commencing in Summer 2018, will be:

- Adelaide Photonics
- Brisbane Deceptors
- Melbourne Metattak
- Melbourne Rebolte
- Perth Subnets
- Sydney Blue Surge
- Sydney Opsydian

Regarding the new partnerships, **HT&E CEO & Managing Director, Ciaran Davis**, said:

"We are very pleased to be partnering with IKON Media & Entertainment under the new banner of HT&E Events, which will house the eSports business and manage other niche events for Australian audiences. IKON bring to the table a depth of understanding and expertise in delivering experiences in sports, entertainment and media, making them the perfect partner as we move into this new area."



“The global eSports market has seen substantial growth in recent years, and we’re really excited to be entering this space with an established, world leading eSports business, Gfinity. This move supports our strategic objectives to diversify revenues and expand our audience base, and we see in this opportunity the potential to reach a younger audience base and drive growth for HT&E. Leveraging our unique combination of media assets, and using Gfinity’s tournament platform, Gfinity eSports Australia will also be perfectly positioned to run bespoke events for sponsors and strategic partners looking to engage with the eSports community – a highly engaged audience that will continue to grow.”

IKON Media & Entertainment Partner, Damien O’Donohoe, said:

“We are thrilled to be teaming up with HT&E under the HT&E Events umbrella. IKON is passionate about creating engaging and original content, and HT&E’s portfolio of existing assets is a powerful platform from which to launch this exciting new joint venture and will ensure that brands and businesses can capitalise on this new content.

We are also delighted that our first venture together involves working with Gfinity, a global leader in eSports, to launch Australia’s first city-based professional eSports franchise league. The opportunity presented by the rapidly growing eSports sector is tremendous, and we have carefully chosen Gfinity as our platform partner to ensure the player and viewer experience is best in class, and to differentiate ourselves in the Australian eSports market.

Gfinity plc CEO, Neville Upton, said:

“Gfinity is truly passionate about eSports, and we know that passion is shared by gamers and fans across the world. We are very excited to be partnering with HT&E and IKON to bring a professional eSports league to Australian audiences. Our goal is to grow eSports in Australia and create a vibrant domestic professional league; we look forward to promoting Australia’s home grown talent via our online competitions and city-based franchise league.”

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About HT&E

HT&E Limited is a leading media and entertainment business, with diverse assets in Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong. HT&E – Here, There & Everywhere – reflects the company’s portfolio of leading, high quality metropolitan media assets across radio, outdoor and digital. For more information visit www.htande.com.au.

About IKON Media & Entertainment:

IKON is a full-service entertainment, media and sports agency that works with clients and partners to create unmatched experiences in sports, entertainment and media. With our deep insights and capabilities, we create engaging original content for an increasing number of distribution platforms. We help the companies we partner with connect to consumers’ passions, create new revenue streams and expand their global footprint. For more information visit www.ikonmande.com.

About Gfinity:

Recognised as one of the global leaders in eSports, Gfinity Plc is a UK based eSports company which operates globally. It is based in London at the UK’s only dedicated eSports Arena and is listed on the London Stock Exchange Alternative Investment Market and has invested heavily in developing a uniquely integrated suite of assets to reach and engage with eSports fans, including viewers and participants. For more information visit www.gfinity.net.



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