

## MEDIA RELEASE Tuesday, 9 April 2002

## The Hon Chief Justice Paul de Jersey AC

Chief Justice Paul de Jersey yesterday announced an initiative designed to enhance the service provided by the Supreme Court to the commercial community.

The Supreme Court of Queensland is already recognised nationally as performing very well. "But we will continue to refine the product", the Chief Justice said.

"We are setting up a specialized commercial stream. Commercial cases will be subjected to intensive judicial management. This will ensure they are determined quickly and with a minimum of expense."

"With the current dynamic and bustling State economy, it is important that the court offers the business community a specialized facility for the quick determination of their disputes", the Chief Justice said. "Commercial claims can be extremely complex. They often concern vast sums of money. We must ensure they not become bogged down."

"The operation of this list will mean the Judges cut quickly to the essential issues and chart a course for their speedy determination."

The list will operate from 1 May 2002. The Chief Justice has designated the Hon Mr Justice Muir and the Hon Mr Justice Chesterman as the inaugural commercial list Judges on the basis those Judges will hear both interlocutory matters and trials and hearings, but on the understanding that other Judges may be called upon to participate in hearing applications and trials as necessary.

The initiative has been enthusiastically welcomed by the profession and will, it is hoped, substantially enhance the service the court is able to provided to commercial litigants.

The Hon P de Jersey AC Chief Justice