

5 June 2008

**ASX Announcement: Calliden Group Limited (CIX)**

**The Calliden Group exercises call option to purchase addition 50% shareholding in ARGIS Limited.**

The Calliden Group has exercised its call option to purchase the 50% shareholding in ARGIS Limited (Australian Regional General Insurance Services) from Australian Unity Strategic Holdings Pty Ltd for the consideration of \$6.3 million. This increases Calliden Group's holding in ARGIS Limited to 100%.

The purchase has been funded from internal cash resources and will be completed by the middle of next week.

ARGIS specialises in regional and rural insurance products and is focussed on "Protecting Regional Australia".

Nick Kirk, Calliden Group's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, said:

"Exercising the call option now, following last year's purchase of Australian Unity General Insurance Limited, makes sense for Calliden. The deal is earnings per share accretive and allows Calliden Group to maximise the financial and strategic benefits of having full control of this growing and successful regional insurance business."

ARGIS has offices located in Albury, Tamworth and Toowoomba with representation in Canberra and Shepparton and works closely with a network of regionally based insurance brokers and agents.

ARGIS products are underwritten by Calliden Insurance Limited.

**For further information please contact:**

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