

**Media Release**

**CHAMP Ventures acquires a significant minority stake alongside the founders of leading active wear retailer “Lorna Jane”**

**26 March 2010**

CHAMP Ventures Pty Ltd is pleased to announce that the CHAMP Ventures Investments Trusts No. 6 (“CHAMP Ventures”) has agreed to acquire a significant minority stake alongside the founders of Brisbane based active wear retailer Lorna Jane.

Lorna Jane is a leading and award winning designer, wholesaler and retailer of women’s fitness and leisure apparel in Australia, with 72 stores nationwide. Lorna Jane founders, Bill and Lorna Jane Clarkson welcomed the added financial and strategic support that CHAMP Ventures will bring to the table.

Bill Clarkson, CEO of Lorna Jane, said “We are excited about the opportunities ahead for our business. Lorna Jane is Australia’s premier active wear label and we have experienced significant growth over the last few years. This opportunity with CHAMP Ventures allows us to realise the potential in the active wear category both here in Australia and overseas”.

Paul Readdy, Director of CHAMP Ventures, said “We are really looking forward to partnering with Lorna Jane management and continuing to expand the business. Lorna Jane is very well placed to take advantage of the social trends toward healthy and active living”.

The founders of Lorna Jane were advised by KPMG Corporate Finance.

**ENDS**

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### **About CHAMP Ventures**

CHAMP Ventures is the mid-market private equity specialist within the CHAMP Private Equity ("CHAMP") group. CHAMP is Australia's largest independent private equity funds manager, having invested over \$1.2 billion in more than 72 Australian companies since 1987.

CHAMP Ventures' investors are major Australian superannuation funds.

Previous CHAMP group successes include Looksmart, SEEK, Amdel, Austal Ships, Dexion, MIA, Australian Temporary Fencing, Austar and Bradken.

For further information please go to [www.champventures.com](http://www.champventures.com).

### **About Lorna Jane Pty Ltd**

Lorna Jane was founded in 1990 by Bill and Lorna Jane Clarkson. The business has grown from its first store in Broadway Queen St Mall Brisbane, to a network of 72 stores today.

Lorna Jane is a leading and award winning designer, wholesaler and retailer of women's fitness and leisure apparel, designed by women for women.

Lorna Jane inspires women to live their best life through active living.

For further information please go to [lornajane.com](http://lornajane.com)