



MARKET RELEASE

4 August 2008

Asciano Group

TRADING HALT

The securities of Asciano Group (the "Group") will be placed in pre-open at the request of the Group, pending the release of an announcement by the Group. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in pre-open until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Wednesday, 6 August 2008 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: AIO

James Gerraty
Manager, Issuers (Melbourne)



4 August 2008

James Gerraty
Manager, Issuers
Australian Stock Exchange
Level 45, South Tower Rialto
525 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Mr Gerraty

TRADING HALT REQUEST

In accordance with ASX Listing Rule 17.1, Asciano Group ("**Asciano**") requests a trading halt pending the release of an announcement in relation to an indicative proposal to acquire Asciano.

The trading halt is requested immediately before the opening of market today, Monday, 4 August 2008.

Asciano is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F Mead".

Fiona Mead
Company Secretary

9557110_1

MELBOURNE

Level 6/380 St Kilda Road,
Melbourne VIC 3004 Australia
Telephone: +61 3 9284 4000
Facsimile: +61 3 9699 2869

SYDNEY

Level 6/15 Blue Street,
North Sydney NSW 2060 Australia
Telephone: +61 2 8484 8000
Facsimile: +61 2 8484 8154

Email: info@asciano.com.au
www.asciano.com

ABN: 26 123 652 862