

## Lark Chair Succession

#### **Step down from Chair**

Lark Distilling Co. Ltd (ASX: LRK) ("LARK" or the "Company") today announced that its Chair, Mr David Dearie, will step down from the Chair role of Lark and transition to a Non-Executive Director role within the Company. Mr Dearie joined the Board in May 2019 initially as the Executive Chair, then as the Non-Executive Chair from May 2020. He has overseen a period of growth across Lark in line with the Company's strategy, with a focus on brand development and growing the high-quality whisky bank.

Mr Dearie thanked the Lark Board and said, "It has been a privilege to serve as the Chair of Lark since 2019. Whilst we have had success in growing the Lark brand domestically and the whisky bank, the Board and the Lark Team are now focussed on our next chapter of growing the brand and distribution of Lark internationally, and I remain committed to support Lark with this next growth phase as a Non-Executive Director and using my network within Europe and America, where I will be based, to aid Management in unlocking this opportunity."

#### **Chair appointment**

The Board has elected current Non-executive Director, Mr Domenic Panaccio, as Mr Dearie's successor effective immediately. Mr Panaccio joined the Board in March 2022 and has over 30 years' experience in real estate and consumer product industries. He has extensive experience across all facets of company management, including finance, equity and debt capital markets, risk management and business strategy. Domenic has had a long and distinguished career in senior management of large public companies including 20 years at Fosters Group and 10 years at Westfield. From 2010 to 2014, Domenic was Chief Executive Officer of Westfield Retail Trust, one of the largest ASX listed property trusts in Australian at that time. Domenic previously held a number of senior positions including Deputy Chief Financial Officer of Westfield Group, Chief Financial Officer of Westfield America and Chief Financial Officer for the Foster's Group Wine Division, Beringer Blass Wine Estates.

Mr Panaccio said, "I am honoured to be elected to succeed David as Chair. David has worked tirelessly with the Executive team and the Board for many years to grow Lark into Australia's Number 1 Luxury Single Malt Whisky. I am committed to the creation of long-term value for all our stakeholders and look forward to working with my fellow Directors and management to achieve this." Mr Dearie said, "I am very pleased that the Board has selected someone of Domenic's experience and calibre and I am confident that, under his leadership, the business will achieve success."

CEO Sash Sharma highlighted Mr Panaccio's extensive executive experience and said that he was looking forward to working with him to deliver future opportunities for the business. "I welcome Domenic's appointment as Chair of Lark as we continue to execute on Lark's strategy to create long term value for our stakeholders. I also thank David for his commitment to Lark and look forward to working closely with him as we embark on Lark's next stage of overseas expansion"

Mr Dearie will work closely with Mr Panaccio to facilitate a smooth and orderly transition.

#### **About Lark Distilling Co:**

Founded by pioneers Bill and Lyn Lark in 1992, LARK Distilling Co. has been crafting world-class, award-winning Tasmanian whisky for more than 30 years. From humble beginnings on a kitchen table, curiosity and courage bore Tasmania's very first licensed distillery in 154 years. LARK, Australia's No.1 Luxury Single Malt Whisky brand,

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houses a range of spirits headlined by its Single Malt Signature Collection; Classic Cask 43% ABV, Rebellion Chinotto Citrus Cask 44% ABV, and Tasmanian Lightly Peated 46% ABV, and its unique blended-malt whisky, Symphony No.1 40.2% ABV. The distillery also handcrafts a range of Forty Spotted Gins with native pepperberry, and Tasmanian liqueurs.

LARK is locally and internationally recognised for its quality, innovation, and people; awarded numerous prestigious accolades over the past three decades. At the World Whiskies Awards in August 2023, LARK took home Best Single Malt and Best Blended Malt in the region, as well several gold medals across the portfolio. Bill Lark was recognised and honoured for his life-long dedication to the advancement of Tasmanian whisky with the prestigious 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at the 2022 Spirits Business Awards in London.

At the Australian Whisky Awards in March 2023, LARK was proudly awarded "Distillery of the Year", DARK LARK was crowned "Single Malt of the Year", Bill Lark was named "Personality of the Year", and Master Distiller Chris Thomson was named "Distiller of the Year". In August 2022 LARK received the Master Medal Award, in the World Whisky Masters for its innovative Chinotto II Cask Strength release, alongside a further seven gold medals across the portfolio.

LARK can be enjoyed at the iconic Hobart Cellar Door and neighbouring award-winning Whisky & Cocktail Bar The Still, as well as at leading cocktail, whisky and hotel bars across the world. LARK Distilling Co, a fabric of our community, is crafted from grain to glass, using the purest, natural elements from Tasmania. Welcome to the New World of Whisky.

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This announcement has been approved for release by the Board of Directors.