



Athens, January 16th 2006

COMMENT ON A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

**Comment on the newspaper
"The Investor's World"
article of 14.01.2006 with title
"Highlander Code – Purchase Sofokleous –
Large International Fund is preparing a plan to buyout HELEX"**

According to article 2 of decision 5/204/14.11.2000 of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission, as it applies, concerning the press report in the Greek weekly newspaper "The Investor's World" on 14/1/2006, with title "Highlander Code – Purchase Sofokleous – Large International Fund is preparing a plan to buyout HELEX", the Company would like to clarify that it has never come in contact with any private equity fund or any other person with the purpose of carrying out a buyout of the Company.

The Management of the Company, as part of its policy of regularly informing investors and HELEX shareholders, is actively participating in roadshows and regularly gives presentations to foreign institutional investors, whose participation as HELEX shareholders has increased considerably and is now above 25%. The Management reports that none of the meetings – presentations were to consider the possibility of a buyout of the Company by a private equity fund, or by any other interested party.