

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Acquisition of 37% of Esprit International
and trademarks rights for the U.S. approved**

Unification of the ESPRIT brand worldwide

HONG KONG, March 14, 2002 – Esprit Holdings Limited (SEHK: 330; LSE: EPT LI) is pleased to announce the approval of the Company's plans, previously announced on February 8, 2002, to acquire (1) 37% interest in Esprit International; and (2) all relevant Esprit trademarks rights in the U.S. and the Caribbean Islands as well as other ancillary intellectual properties for US\$150 million (the "Acquisition").

On March 13, 2002, The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong waived the requirement for a resolution to be passed at an extraordinary shareholders meeting to approve the Acquisition by accepting instead a written certificate supporting the proposed transactions from Mr. Michael Ying and Mr. Jürgen Friedrich. Messrs. Ying and Friedrich are Directors of the Company and together hold more than 50% of the issued share capital.

Mr. John Poon, Executive Director and Group Chief Financial Officer of the Company, commented, "The Acquisition is now unconditionally approved by the shareholders and is scheduled to close on or before April 30, 2002, in accordance with the terms of the Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement. As part of that agreement, the seller, Esprit de Corp., has up to September 2002 to clear out its ESPRIT inventory in the United States, consisting of spring and summer collections only, and has undertaken not to otherwise compete with Esprit's future business."

Mr. Michael Ying, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, said, "We are all very excited about this Acquisition which unifies the ESPRIT brand worldwide. We look forward to extending our successful model of a global lifestyle company and lending our design and sourcing expertise to the brand in the U.S. We are currently developing our business strategy for that important market and will be announcing more details within the next few months. We are confident that this expansion will add a new dimension and growth to our international business for years to come."

For more information regarding the transaction, please refer to the shareholder circular dated March 13, 2002 and entitled "Major and Connected Transaction", which has been dispatched along with the Company's interim report on March 13, 2002.

Esprit Holdings Limited is a constituent stock of the MSCI Hong Kong Index, and its subsidiaries are engaged in the retail and wholesale distribution of quality lifestyle products under the globally recognized ESPRIT brand. The Group controls retail space of over 3 million square feet in more than 40 countries worldwide. It operates approximately 500 directly managed retail outlets and has over 2,000 franchised shops.

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Note to editors: Please visit our website at <http://www.espritholdings.com>

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