



MEDIA RELEASE

Hills Limited emerges from administration stronger, with ambitious plans

8 November 2023: Hills Limited has successfully emerged from administration, with the company announcing it is in a stronger position to build on its substantial footprint as a leading technology provider in hospitals and aged care in Australia and New Zealand.

Hills was placed into administration in June after a ten year long court battle led to a \$8.2 million loss in the Court of Appeal in favour of Stellar Vision, a company providing in-hospital patient engagement technologies.

On 31 October, Hills Limited emerged from administration under new ownership as an affiliated company of Stellar Vision, with Hills now helmed by the CEO of Stellar Vision, Brendan McCarthy.

Hills is no longer listed on the ASX as a public company and is once again completely Australian owned.

"A decade ago, I could never have imagined that bringing a legal case would end in us owning Hills but here we are and we are determined to leverage Hills' significant footprint in hospitals and aged care to return the company to its once formidable status," Hills CEO Brendan McCarthy said.

Hills' technologies are currently used in more than 200 hospitals and 300 aged care facilities in Australia and New Zealand, and the company will continue to service all existing contracts.

"The Hills frontline tools help in the delivery of quality care and introduce time savings and efficiencies for staff that are essential at a time when there are critical pressures on our health and aged care sectors. Many people who have been in hospital have also been able to rely on Hills technologies, including when they have needed the help of clinical staff. These are important systems and we are going to make them even better," McCarthy said.

Stellar Vision's plans for Hills include accelerating the development and enhancement of Hills core products, including nurse call systems, and strengthening the company's position in patient

engagement with the addition of the Stellar IPTV system, which is currently integrated in public and private hospitals primarily in New South Wales and Queensland.

"There is immense scope for the Hills product portfolio to be developed and expanded to include the most state-of-the-art and emerging technologies. Stellar's software development capabilities will see Hills' customers provided with a significant upgrade path and productivity improvements for their existing systems. So it's an exciting time for the company," McCarthy said.

Hills is currently working to implement its flagship Nurse Call 'smart room' technology in the \$1.5 billion New Footscray Hospital, as part of a Plenary Health consortium led by Multiplex and Honeywell. The new health campus is the largest ever health infrastructure investment in Victoria's history.

The Hills' system will provide real time messaging for patients to call for assistance, reporting tools that log activity to track workflow and performance data, and bed management capabilities to signal when rooms require cleaning and are available for new patients. It will also integrate smart touchscreen terminals in each patient room.

"This is a time of global digital transformation in health and aged care, and Hills is positioned to deliver a connected ecosystem of technologies that support best quality patient care, and help providers in their shift to new and innovative models of care delivery," McCarthy said.

Hills, which was founded in 1945 by the inventor of the Hills Hoist, Lance Hill, expanded into communications and technology in the 50s and sold off the rights to its iconic clothesline in 2017.

About Hills – Hills is an Australian-owned company that develops, distributes, implements and manages integrated health technology solutions for homes, hospitals, aged care facilities and other health settings across Australia and New Zealand.

To arrange an interview with Hills CEO Brendan McCarthy contact: media@hills.com.au