

## Media release

24 March 2023

### Mondiale VGL celebrates global expansion

On the two-year anniversary of the successful merger of Mondiale Freight Services and VISA Global Logistics, Mondiale VGL has announced the appointment of Justine Smyth CNZM as Independent Director and Chair to support its next phase of growth in the global freight forwarding sector.

Mondiale VGL CEO, Ray Meade, says it has been a significant two years for the business with the merger, the acquisition of Customs Agency Services (CAS) in South Australia and further strategic investments in China, Spain, Germany, and India.

Mondiale VGL has transitioned into a global entity, and today, the rapidly growing freight forwarding company employs over 1500 staff across 39 offices in New Zealand, Australia, Asia, Europe, and the USA, supported by 1000 agency offices worldwide.

“We are seeing clear evidence of the advantages the merger has delivered through increased international trade lane access, enhanced technology, and the achievement of the growth milestones we mapped at the outset,” says Meade.

“Our goal was to build a global supply chain operation with its roots in the Asia Pacific region, and we are firmly on the path to achieving that, with our strategic position across New Zealand, Australia, Asia, Europe, and America.

“The merger has placed Mondiale VGL in the world’s top 30 freight forwarding companies, with a particularly strong competitive advantage in Australasia and robust networks right across the global supply chain.”

Meade says coming together as a combined entity has allowed Mondiale VGL to provide increased commercial value to customers during a challenging period for the industry, following COVID-19 and continued supply chain constraints.

“While the sector faces ongoing pressure, our united volumes, long term relationships with carriers and suppliers, and combined 40 years of industry knowledge have enabled us to solve complex supply chain issues and innovate at pace.

“A key factor of our success has been the way our people have come together and embraced the merger. We’re thrilled to watch them grow their careers within a global organisation and have made several senior appointments to support our expansion ambitions.

“Having Justine Smyth join Mondiale VGL to chair our Board is another important step forward for our business.”

Smyth’s appointment to the Mondiale VGL Board of Directors supports the firm’s strategic commitment to leveraging its increased capabilities, cementing long-term customer partnerships, and expanding its global reach.

She brings extensive commercial and governance experience to Mondiale VGL and is currently the Chair of Spark NZ and Chair of The Breast Cancer Foundation NZ. She was

made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) for services to governance and women in 2020.

On joining the Board of Directors, Smyth notes the opportunities that the merger has created for the business.

“Mondiale VGL has built Oceania’s leading freight forwarder by bringing together two highly experienced industry leaders in the supply chain and logistics sector. This has established solid strategic and financial foundations, with current and expected market dynamics creating further opportunity to scale.

“I’m thrilled to be joining the Mondiale VGL team at such an exciting time in their expansion journey.”

## **ENDS**

### **For further information:**

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### **About Mondiale VGL**

Mondiale VGL is Oceania’s leading sea freight forwarder and a significant player in the global supply chain solutions sector.

Through a strong network of industry relationships, Mondiale VGL provides access to the world’s most critical trade routes for a large, diversified group of customers operating in a variety of industry sectors across New Zealand, Australia, Asia, Europe, and the USA.

The firm was established through the merger of two of the largest freight companies in New Zealand and Australia: Mondiale Freight Services Ltd and VISA Global Logistics Pty Ltd (VGL), in 2021.

Mondiale VGL acquired South Australian-based customs and logistics business, Customs Agency Services (CAS), in December 2021.

Today, Mondiale VGL continues to be owned by founding shareholders from both Mondiale Freight Services and VISA Global Logistics, alongside Direct Capital and ACC.

Mondiale VGL is proud to employ over 1500 staff across 39 offices in New Zealand, Australia, Asia, Europe, and the USA, and is supported by 1000 agency offices worldwide.