

**26th June 1998**

**FIRST PACIFIC WINS FOUR INTERNATIONAL AWARDS FOR 1997 ANNUAL REPORT**

First Pacific Company Limited announced today that its 1997 Annual Report has received four prizes, including three gold medals, at the 12th annual International ARC Awards competition in New York, which is known as the Academy Awards of Annual Reports.

The competition, the largest such event in the world for annual reports, received more than 1,200 total entries, including those from 16 companies competing in the Conglomerates industry-sector in which First Pacific was judged.

First Pacific's Annual Report received gold medals in the categories of Financial Data, Cover Design and Photography, as well as a finalist prize awarded for Interior Design.

The company's Annual Report has also been nominated by the International ARC Awards' panel of judges to compete in the Best of Show competition in each of these categories, as well as for Best Overall Report. The results will be announced on 28th July in New York.

Robert Sherbin, First Pacific's Group Vice President for Corporate Communications, said: "This year's Annual Report, built around the theme of 'A New Beginning', describes First Pacific's efforts to prune back its activities so that it is best positioned to weather the region's economic storm and flourish in the new operating environment that is emerging in Asia. We consider our annual report be our primary investor relations tool, and thus it is gratifying to see it recognized as being of top caliber, especially when judged against some of the world's biggest companies."

He also thanked the design firm of Fishburn Hedges and photographer Ben Rice, both based in London, for their significant contributions to the Report.