



Geneva, 22nd October 2001

**SGS to acquire Scientific Services Limited - Australia**  
**Important strategic move for SGS Minerals Services**

SGS Société Générale de Surveillance Holding S.A., announces that it has made a public offer for 100% of the shares of Scientific Services Limited (SSL) in Australia, a company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX).

Scientific Services Limited is engaged in testing and analytical services to the global minerals and petroleum industries with activities centred primarily in Australia and Africa and had a turnover of AUD 80 million in the year 2001.

The directors and management have indicated their support for the SGS offer.

This acquisition represents an important strategic move for SGS Mineral Services and is fully in line with the Group's declared strategy of asserting its market leadership in its core sectors.

Scientific Services Limited web site: [www.ssl.com.au](http://www.ssl.com.au)

**The SGS Group is the clear global leader and innovator in verification, testing and certification services.**

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**Media Release**