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Allegro attracts strong commitments to newly launched Fund III

Australian private equity fund manager Allegro is pleased to announce the first close of Allegro Fund III, the third private equity fund managed by Allegro focused on transformation, turnaround and distressed investment opportunities.

With commitments already received in excess of \$200 million, the Fund is on track to close above its \$250 million target before the end of October 2017. Allegro is also raising a committed side car vehicle that will invest alongside Allegro Fund III, enabling the firm to selectively target larger investment opportunities and have the ability to deploy \$50 million equity into any one deal.

Founded in 2004 by Chester Moynihan and Adrian Loader and investing institutional capital since 2008, Allegro has managed more than \$1 billion of total enterprise value in transformation, turnaround and distressed investments. Allegro Fund I originated in 2008 through Allegro's appointment as manager by investors in ABN AMRO Capital Australia Fund II. Allegro Fund II closed with \$180 million of equity in June 2015 and has since made investments in Terrex Seismic, Healthy Life, Great Southern Rail, Carpet Court NZ, Custom Bus, Pizza Hut Australia, Experience Australia and JSW.

"Allegro is focussed on attracting long term, committed investors and the strong first close at over \$200 million in under three months reflects this ability. We are incredibly proud of what we continue to achieve by investing in mid-market businesses in industries that are often over-levered or experiencing temporary headwinds," said Allegro Managing Director, Chester Moynihan.

Adrian Loader, Allegro Managing Director, said the Allegro Fund III investment strategy would be the same as Fund II. "It will be focused on mid-market businesses experiencing headwinds where we can deploy capital and expertise to help transform and drive future growth. We target Australian and New Zealand businesses with equity investments of between \$10 million and \$50 million. Allegro seeks to partner with incumbent shareholders and debt holders and is happy to actively drive a turnaround or business transformation for the benefit of all stakeholders," said Mr Loader.

Allegro is also pleased to announce the appointment of Menno Veeneklaas to its team of Operating Partners. Menno has 25 years of diverse business experience gained from managing companies, leading business improvement projects, private equity investment and strategy consulting across Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Europe and North America. Menno was previously with Partners in Performance (PIP) as Director and Head of Digital and prior to that he was COO of iSentia, a private equity backed business. He has also worked at Macquarie Direct Investment as

an Investment Executive, was a consultant with Boston Consulting Group and has founded and managed various investment funds.

The continuing growth in Allegro's senior resources and capabilities has enabled it to meet the intense resourcing requirement of its "hands on" transformation style. This approach is a significant part of the success Allegro has already enjoyed with an assembled suite of high-calibre individuals available to the firm at any time who work with portfolio companies on strategy, operations and overall transformation.

Reflecting Allegro's strong track record, Allegro last month won the Australian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association's award for Best Management Buyout <\$75million while also securing the 2017 Turnaround Management Association (TMA) Mid-Size Company Turnaround of the Year Award for the same deal. This follows Allegro's success as winner of TMA awards in 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2016.

Media Enquiries

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About Allegro Funds Pty Ltd

Established in 2004, Allegro is an independently-owned Australian private equity fund manager investing primarily in private mid-market businesses within Australia and New Zealand.

Backed by a team of experienced investment professionals, Allegro deploys capital, expertise and a distinctly hands-on approach to investing in businesses requiring transformation.

The firm is based in Sydney, New South Wales.