**Transcript - Andrew Abercrombie**

The greatest career highlight I suppose is a career I was a lawyer and I enjoyed that immensely. That period was a highlight, I practised for seven years in all sorts of exciting contexts. But probably in terms of perhaps commercial highlight, rather than a career, it would have be the day that I listed my business on the stock exchange which was, December 2006. I’d need to start probably with ambition, a dream that achievement can be, can be had, with focus tenacity, they’re probably the main characteristics, never thinking about the possibility of failure. Well I think I’m a great believer in the old concept of *noblesse oblige* in the sense that I think with great fortune and good fortune comes responsibility. being born in Australia is a great privilege in itself, living in a wonderful democracy and many people aren’t as fortunate as I have been. Well various boards that I participate in vary from, philanthropic, uhm political, NGOs and of course commercial interests. Well one of my favourites is the Florey Institute which is one the, the world’s leading neuroscience institutes and to be able to contribute to the brilliance of the scientists who are not necessary commercially skilled and help sustain the welfare of that institute and the wonderful science that happens there is very fulfilling. La Trobe was, in the seventies when I attended, it was the newest of the significant universities and it was regarded as somewhat second tier. It gave me agreat education and great experience, and as far as I’m concerned my economics degree is as good or better than a Melbourne University economics degree. Look I made a lot of friends there and, we had a huge amount of fun, there was a kind of, almost a sightly pioneering sense about it, again because of the fact that it was so new, and the absence of the, you know, blue stone halls of Melbourne University, were not there and in a sense it was uplifting and the, the culture was one of, I suppose a sense of radicalism, a sense of we’re doing something new and different and, to see the University thrive, both in terms of its reputation, its brand if you like, and, the success of graduates, is very satisfying.