

**ASX RELEASE
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SKILLED APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR

The Chairman of Skilled Engineering Ltd, Mr Ken Loughnan AO, announced today the appointment of Mr Bob Herbert as a non-executive independent director.

Mr Herbert is currently CEO of Australian Industry Group which is Australia's most significant national industry representative organisation. He has advised that he will be retiring from that role in February 2004.

Mr Herbert has been involved with Australian Industry Group and its predecessor organisation, Metal Trades Industry Association of Australia, since 1961 including 30 years as a director in various roles.

Mr Loughnan said "the Board is delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Herbert. He is well informed and influential in issues related to Australian industry and the economy generally, and has an excellent reputation with Government, government agencies, trade unions, private and public sector organisations. We look forward to the strong contribution he is expected to make to the company."

FURTHER INFORMATION: Please contact Ken Bieg (03) 9924 2424.