**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Eveni Carruthers signs on to support the Pacific Games**

*Chairman of the Games Organising Committee posing with CEO of Eveni Carruthers this morning after signing on Eveni to be the Official Elei Sponsor of the Games*

(PACIFIC GAMES OFFICE); The Pacific Games Office is excited to announce the support from leading retailer Eveni Carruthers as the Official Elei of the Games for the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

The announcement was made by the Chairman of the Organising Committee, Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio, at the signing ceremony earlier today.

“Eveni Carruthers has been serving the people of Samoa for 90 years and to mark this milestone they have decided to support the Games preparations” said the Chairman.

“On behalf of the Government and people of Samoa, we congratulate Eveni Carruthers on this significant milestone, and thank management and staff for your generosity. May God continue to bless Eveni Carruthers in the years to come.”

Senior spokesperson, Selina Galuvao spoke on behalf of Eveni management and staff to reaffirm their support.

“Eveni is humbled and grateful for the opportunity to mark our 90th Anniversary by giving back to our community, through the Games. The Games provides an opportunity to celebrate our culture and what makes us unique. As the *Elei Company* we are excited to be partnering with the Games to clothe athletes and officials in our Elei designs. In hosting the Games, Samoa is putting its best foot forward, and we are playing our part in ensuring we present ourselves well to the watching world.”

Eveni is one of the leading retailers of fabrics, uniforms, sporting goods and Polynesian inspired apparel. The blend of Polynesian and Samoan motifs, used in the various brands sold in store, is inspired by the expanded family history of the Carruthers family in Samoa.

The announcement of Eveni’s support highlights the continuous outpouring of support from private and public partners towards the Games in July. It also marks the success of an extensive sponsorship strategy set up by the Pacific Games Office for the Pacific Region’s largest quadrennial games.

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