# **GLASS EARTH LIMITED**

Suite 500, 357 Bay Street. Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 2T7

Shares Outstanding: 57,237,634 GEL

Trading Symbol: TSX-Venture:

## **NEWS RELEASE**

NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION TO UNITED STATES NEWSWIRE SERVICES OR DISSEMINATION IN THE UNITED STATES

### GLASS EARTH ANNOUNCES THE ACQUISITION OF HPD NEW ZEALAND RESULTING IN ONE OF THE LARGEST GOLD EXPLORATION COMPANIES IN NEW ZEALAND

**Toronto, Canada**, Friday December 23, 2005. Glass Earth Limited (**TSXV-GEL**) ("**Glass Earth**") wishes to announce that it has reached agreement with Patagonia Gold plc (**PGD.L**) to acquire HPD New Zealand Limited ("HPD New Zealand") resulting in one of the largest gold exploration companies in New Zealand.

#### Acquisition of HPD New Zealand

Glass Earth has agreed to acquire all the issued and outstanding shares of HPD New Zealand from HPD Investments Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Patagonia Gold plc. The consideration payable by Glass Earth will be 12,665,000 common shares and 6,332,500 share warrants with a strike price of \$0.25 for a period of 2 years.

HPD New Zealand has a total of 22 Exploration and Prospecting Permits covering over 4,724 square kilometres over both the North and South Islands of New Zealand. The North Island Exploration and Prospecting Permits are contiguous and adjacent to Glass Earth's existing property interests and contain numerous epithermal gold targets with a Waihi "Martha Mine" style of mineralization which have been identified by Glass Earth as part of its exploration activities over the last 2 years. These North Island HPD New Zealand Exploration and Prospecting permits are a strategically important fit with the Glass Earth properties. The South Island Exploration and Prospecting Permits are generally for mesothermal gold targets which exhibit "Macrae Deposit" type signatures.

An important feature of the HPD New Zealand acquisition are the services of Marc Sale who is currently Exploration Director of HPD New Zealand. Marc will be joining the Board of Glass Earth and will be part of the New Zealand based Glass Earth exploration team.

The transaction is subject to final documentation and regulatory approvals and is expected to close no later than March 31, 2006

#### **Company profile**

Glass Earth is a New Zealand based gold exploration company focused on exploring a 9,000 square kilometre area located within the Coromandel /Central Volcanic Region of the North Island, New Zealand. The Coromandel / Central Volcanic Region is host to the 10 million ounce Waihi / Martha Hill Mine, owned by Newmont Mining, which is considered the "type" epithermal gold deposit and the kind of large epithermal gold deposit targeted by Glass Earth

Glass Earth has so far defined and delineated a total of 21 priority individual drill target areas that could potentially host large deposits of Martha Mine "look-a-like" epithermal gold mineralization. Six Exploration Permits covering these targets have either been, or are expected to be, granted to Glass Earth within the next month. These will form the basis of a drill program scheduled to start in April 2006

For further information about Glass Earth Limited, please visit Glass Earth's website at: www.glassearthlimited.com

Or Contact: investor@glassearthlimited.com

#### **Qualified Persons**

Glass Earth's exploration programs are carried out under the supervision of Glass Earth's VP Exploration and Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Simon Henderson, M.Sc, M.AUSIMM. Mr. Henderson meets the qualified person requirements (as defined by National Instrument 43-101) with more than 30 years of experience in the gold mining and exploration industry.

Glenn Laing President and CEO Officer Email: <u>glaing@glassearthlimited.com</u> **Tel:** (416) 368-7220 **Fax:** (416) 368-3259 Simon Henderson VP Exploration and Chief Operating

simon.henderson@glassearth.co.nz Tel: +64-4-916-1774 Fax: +64-4-916 -1774 Mobile: +64-21-556750

The TSX Venture has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.