



## **AIMS Financial Group Press Release**

**6 May 2010**

### **AIMS FINANCIAL GROUP & MACARTHURCOOK ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD OF GLOBAL PROPERTY SECURITIES**

AIMS Financial Group and MacarthurCook today announced John Snowden as its Head of Global Property Securities.

John Snowden comes to the AIMS Financial Group from Colonial First State Global Asset Management where he was previously Head of Global Property Securities having been recruited by the then CEO, Mr. Warwick Negus . Prior to CFSGAM, he was a managing director and Head of UBS Real Estate and Global Real Estate Securities for Australia, New Zealand and Asia.

Mr. George Wang, CEO & Executive Chairman of the AIMS Financial Group said he is delighted to find such a strong business partner to manage and grow both existing mandates and in developing new opportunities over the coming months.

“John comes to us with an extremely strong background in managing both Australian and global property securities – he is the perfect fit for this role“, Mr. Wang said.

“The listed property securities business, which covers domestic and international markets, has always been an important part of our business.

“Under John’s leadership we expect to be in a position to offer a broader range of Property Securities products to domestic and overseas clients. We have particularly strong business relationships in China and the Asean region and we see this as an area of special focus for us and our clients in the years ahead“, Mr. Wang said.

The AIMS Financial Group & MacarthurCook currently have offices (or representation) in Singapore, Shanghai, Beijing, Sydney, Melbourne and Hong Kong.

Mr. Snowden said he hopes to be able to announce the other members of the global team shortly. The team will include experienced property security portfolio managers and analysts.



## **Biography: JOHN SNOWDEN, CFA**

John Snowden was previously the Head of Global Property Securities at Colonial First State Global Asset Management where he was responsible for the \$8 billion-plus invested in the Australian and global property securities portfolios around the world.

In late 2005 John was approached by Warwick Negus CEO of Colonial First State to re-establish the Global Property Securities business at CFSGAM. John subsequently established teams of analysts in Sydney, London, New York and Hong Kong.

He recruited all personnel, many of whom had previously worked with him at UBS Global Asset Management both domestically and offshore. As well as establishing new teams, John established new regional and global Property Security Funds in Dublin, London, Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia. These were marketed to both institutional and retail clients. He also co-managed the largest Global Property Securities Fund in Japan for the Diam-Mizuho group.

During his time at Colonial, John and his team grew Funds Under Management from \$3 Billion to over \$8 Billion in late 2007. He was responsible for nearly 20 different property funds around the world including specialist Global, Asian, Australian, European and various opportunistic property funds.

Prior to Colonial, John was a Managing Director and Head of UBS GAM Real Estate and Global Real Estate Securities for Australia, NZ and Asia, where he managed the Australasian and Asian region. He was also Deputy Head of Equities and the senior analyst for the areas of property, banking and developers and contractors.

Previously, John held positions at JP Morgan Investment Management Australia Limited for eight years where he was a Vice President with responsibility for investments in property, banking and financial institutions.

Other companies John has worked at include BZW Australia (the predecessor of ABN AMRO) and Potter Warburg (the predecessor of UBS Warburg) in the areas of Mergers and Acquisitions and Investment Banking and as a tax and commercial solicitor for Mallesons and Blake Dawson Waldron in Sydney.

He is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), a member of the CFA Institute (previously the Association for Investment Management Research) and the International Society for Financial Analysts (ISFA).



### *Selected Industry Awards and Achievements*

**Morningstar Japan 2007** Best Global Investment Fund Manager (For the Diam – Mizuho Group)

**Money Magazine Best of the Best 2006 Awards** “Best Australian Property Securities Fund”

**Property Fund Manager of the Year 2002** (Assirt/Money Management Magazine)

**Property Fund Manager of the Year 2003** (Assirt/Money Management Magazine)

Finalist: Property Fund Manager of the Year 2004 (Assirt/Money Management Magazine)

**Overall Fund Manager of the Year 2002** (Assirt/Money Management Magazine) [based on performance in property/equities/fixed interest & Multi-sector – balanced asset classes]

**Overall Fund Manager of the Year 2003** (Assirt/Money Management Magazine)[based on performance in property/equities/fixed interest & Multi-sector – balanced asset classes]

**Personal Investor Magazine Listed Property Fund of the Year 2002**

**Personal Investor Magazine Listed Property Fund of the Year 2004**

**Personal Investor Magazine Listed Property Fund of the Year 2005**

**Overall Fund Manager of the Year 2001** (“Golden Bull” Award - Equities) (Investor Info/Intech)

**Overall Fund Manager of the Year 2002** (“Golden Bull” Award – awarded for Listed Property Securities) (Investor Info/Intech).

**Overall Fund Manager of the Year 2003:** Investor Web Research Awards 6 Star Finalist: Investor Web Listed Property Awards 6 Star 2004. (Also finalist for Balanced & Overall Fund Manager of the Year).

Finalist: Standard & Poor’s Listed Property Fund of the Year 2005