

MEDIA RELEASE
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IXIS Australia appoints Deborah Alliston as new Investment Director

IXIS Asset Management Australia Limited (IXIS Australia) is pleased to announce the appointment of Deborah Alliston as Investment Director.

Ms Alliston, most recently Head of Investments at BT Financial Group, will focus on developing strategies to strengthen IXIS Australia's investment management capabilities and work with existing clients on their ongoing investment requirements.

IXIS Australia Managing Director Karyn West said: "Deborah comes to this role with 20 years' experience in financial markets and the funds management industry. Her technical expertise and experience in portfolio construction will be invaluable to continuing our record of providing innovative investment solutions for clients.

"Deborah's knowledge will assist with the further development of appropriate investment opportunities through the range of products offered by IXIS Australia's affiliate boutique managers, including Loomis, Sayles & Company L.P., Harris Associates L.P. and Harris Alternatives L.L.C.

"We are delighted to welcome Deborah to IXIS Australia. Her track record and investment knowledge come to us during a key growth phase for the company."

Last year, Ms Alliston managed a successful investment team that was awarded Fund Manager of the Year by *AFR Investor* and S&P Australian Equity and Diversified Fund Manager of the Year.

Ms Alliston said she was delighted to join the IXIS Australia team. "Over the past seven years, IXIS Australia has continually demonstrated its capacity to anticipate market requirements and operate with flexibility, integrity and flair," she said.

"Karyn West and her team strive for investment excellence, and their results in building the company and its client base are testament to their dedication and market knowledge."

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NOTES TO THE EDITORS:

About IXIS Asset Management Australia Limited:

IXIS Asset Management Australia Limited ABN 60 088 786 289 AFSL No. 246830 ("IXIS Australia"). IXIS Australia is part of the international IXIS Asset Management Group, which as at December 2006, managed US\$617 billion worldwide. Commencing operations in 2000, IXIS Australia provides integrated portfolio solutions to wholesale investors through its affiliation with 12 boutique managers, including Harris Associates L.P., Harris Alternatives L.L.C and Loomis, Sayles & Company L.P. The investment management affiliates mentioned above are licensed to provide investment advisory services in the US and conduct any portfolio management activities in and from the US.

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