

MEDIA RELEASE

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ACSA launches new industry training platform – the ACSA Institute

Financial Education Professionals appointed to run Australia's first accredited custodial training program

Sydney, AUSTRALIA – The Australian Custodial Services Association (ACSA) today announced the launch of its new training platform, the ACSA Institute, which will offer a range of education opportunities to promote the professional development of employees working within Australia's custody sector. The launch has been timed with the commencement of the ACSA Institute's first flagship training course, the ACSA Accredited Program.

Details of the new program were announced at the annual *ACSA/I&T 2009 Risk and Responsibility – Investment Administration Conference* being held today in Sydney.

The new accredited program will be run by specialist education provider Financial Education Professionals (FEP) and is available exclusively to those already working in the custodial services industry. FEP is owned by Joan Street and Bill Warner, both of whom previously worked for the Securities Institute of Australia for many years.

Jean-Marc Pasquet, Executive Sponsor and spokesperson for the ACSA Education Working Group and Managing Director and Head of Asia Pacific at BNP Paribas, said the launch of the ACSA Institute is an important step forward towards broadening the pool of potential new hires to the custody industry, particularly during a period of increased focus on risk management and credentials.

"We are experiencing extraordinary market events, which places even more importance on the role that custodians play in providing security and transparency to investor clients. It is increasingly important for custodians to proactively engage with clients and utilise the skills and talents of their people to help clients through these challenging times," Mr Pasquet said.

"The new accredited course will assist people already working in the custodial industry to gain more formal custodial training which will ultimately create greater recognition of the professional standing of the many practitioners working in the industry and expand the pool of talent working in custodial roles across the Asia region," he said.

FEP Director Joan Street said FEP looked forward to developing and running the range of courses with The ACSA Institute.



“We are delighted to be working with the ACSA education working group to offer the first course of its kind for the Australian Custodian industry. We have collaboratively put our knowledge and expertise into the development of the ACSA Accredited Program which will provide a more focused career path for staff already working in the custodial industry,” Ms Street said.

The ACSA Accredited Program has two core subjects and four elective streams. On successful completion of the core subjects, participants will be eligible to receive a Certificate IV in Financial Services. They can elect to maintain this qualification or continue to the second level, being a Diploma of Financial Services, by selecting a stream relevant to their job function.

The Certificate IV in Financial Services is currently available to employees working in the custodial industry. Further information can be found via the new ACSA Institute website at www.custodial.org.au.

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About the Australian Custodial Services Association (ACSA)

Established in 1994, the Australian Custodial Services Association Limited (ACSA) is a company limited by guarantee and was set up to represent the interests of the custodial and asset administration industry in Australia. ACSA currently represents members holding securities in excess of \$1.3 trillion in custody and under administration (as at 30 June, 2008), and employing in excess of 3,000 people. For further information on ACSA and the ACSA Institute please go to www.custodial.org.au.

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