

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Investors gather to get the ‘good oil’

With share markets experiencing unheralded volatility and investor sentiment at an all time low*, obtaining incisive information is vital to help guide future strategic decision-making.

The Australian Investors Association Annual Conference, *Wealth Creation Opportunities*, being held in Sydney 1-3 September, offers just such insights into global and local economies and latest market trends.

The conference has already attracted more than 300 participants with an overall estimated \$600m in financial assets invested across a range of asset classes.**

The Australian Investors Association (AIA) is an independent, non-profit association with over 2500 members nationally.

A number of conference streams and plenary sessions are offered which are designed to be of value to all individual investors, whether novice or experienced, in their wealth creation strategies.

With ongoing concern in relation to debt issues in Europe and the US, investors will be keen to hear the viewpoints of Bill Evans, Chief Economist of Westpac and Jonathan Pain, an expert on global markets. Details of their presentations can be viewed at:

<http://www.investors.asn.au/events/national-conference/program/#program>.

A recent survey of AIA investors revealed that Australian shares are still the most popular form of investment for AIA members.** Marcus Padley (*Marcus Today Daily Stockmarket Newsletter*) will be revealing real life approaches to making money in the stock market and Elio D’Amato (*CEO Lincoln Indicators*) will demonstrate how to evaluate company performance through the application of ratios. Popular presenter Colin Nicholson will examine share market strategies using both technical and fundamental analysis.

For those in retirement or in the planning stages, Jeremy Cooper (CEO Challenger Limited) will examine government retirement policies and Trish Power (SuperGuide website) will help participants understand their SMSF trustee obligations and help them become profitable. Property investors are well catered for with Mike Anderson’s (*Silverhall*) presentation putting the spotlight on location, current and future demands and how to maximize returns in the residential market and Michael Blake (*Cromwell*) examining opportunities in the commercial market.

With investor portfolios currently showing higher than usual percentages allocated to cash** it will be of interest to many to hear what Kumar Palghat, former PIMCO fixed interest manager, thinks for the fixed interest sector looking ahead. The **July Investor Sentiment Survey*** shows that investors currently have an average of over 25% of their asset allocations invested in cash, with 10% of members holding a cash allocation of greater than 75%. AIA members believe that an ideal allocation to cash would be around 16%.

Of particular interest for those wanting practical application of theories and analytic tools to dissect balance sheets and company reports are the double sessions of Daryl Guppy (*Guppytraders.com*), Trend Trading 1&2, and Roger Montgomery's (*Montgomery Investment Management*) Valuation Masterclasses 1&2.

As well sessions on estate planning, managed funds, microcaps, building wealth for children, plus more analysis of global market trends are featured on the program.

The conference also offers participants a forum to meet and mingle at Happy Hours, lunches and the harbor Dinner Cruise.

* The July Investor Sentiment Survey is jointly conducted by the AIA and FN Arena. The survey conducted every two months shows a deteriorating sentiment regarding the Australian share market with 48% bearish and a meagre 6% bullish.

** A very recent survey of AIA members revealed that, on average, members have more than \$2m each invested across asset classes.

Australian shares comprise 40% of members' portfolios, 16% is invested in direct property and a relatively high 26% is currently being held in cash.

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AIA National Investors Conference

Title: ***Wealth creation strategies***
Date: 1-3 September 2011
Venue: Sofitel Sydney Wentworth Hotel
Features: Over 40 presentations over 8 streams covering all asset classes.
Website: <http://www.investors.asn.au/events/national-conference/>

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