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INGIM Dominates Property Awards

ING Investment Management (INGIM) has won the Fund Manager of the Year Awards for both Australian Property Securities and Global Property Securities at this year's **Money Management/Lonsec Fund Manager of the Year Awards**.

At last night's presentation of the awards in Sydney, INGIM was recognised for its breadth of expertise across the listed property sector. Justin Blaess, Director Real Estate Securities, accepted the award for the Australian Property Securities Manager of the Year, while Martin Donnelly, Deputy CEO, collected the award for the Global Property Securities Manager of the Year.

"These awards represent one of the most prestigious in the industry and it is a credit to both our local property securities team and our US based colleagues, ING Clarion, to be recognised for the quality of their investment skills and outperformance, particularly in the challenging environment experienced over the past year", said Mr Donnelly.

Both portfolios have continued to provide top quartile returns despite negative returns in the listed property sector. Commenting on the success of the Australian portfolio, Justin Blaess noted that the ability to perform well over a long period of time is largely due to a strong research process and particular emphasis on qualitative analysis.

The ING Clarion investment team have a similar philosophy, looking more closely at the quality of the management team of real estate companies and how they have addressed business issues and capital restructures in the current environment. "We are attracted to those businesses that are exploiting the current environment to position themselves for future growth" said Ritson Ferguson, CIO and Managing Director of ING Clarion.

The Money Management/Lonsec Fund Manager of the Year Awards recognise excellence in funds management and are judged by independent research firm Lonsec. The process Lonsec implement to select the winners for each category consists of:

- An initial screen, whereby the funds needed to be highly rated by Lonsec to qualify.
- Within this screened universe, Lonsec then utilise two equally weighted components to select the fund manager of the year winners - one-year excess return and a qualitative analyst 'momentum' score including process enhancements, team stability and depth, as well as risk management.

FINAL STANDINGS

Australian Property Securities Manager of the Year

Winner: ING Investment Management

Finalists: BT Investment Management and RREEF Alternative Investments

Global Property Securities Manager of the Year

Winner: ING Clarion Real Estate Securities

Finalists: EQT SGH LaSalle and Colonial First State (WS Colliers)