



news release

17 November 2008

Paul Fegan, CEO and Managing Director announces resignation

St.George Bank today announced the resignation of Mr Paul Fegan, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Fegan joined St.George in July 2002 and has been the Bank's Chief Executive Officer since November 2007 and Managing Director since February 2008.

The Chairman of St.George, Mr John Curtis, expressed his appreciation for Mr. Fegan's significant contribution and achievements. "On behalf of the St.George Board, I would like to thank Paul sincerely for his leadership of the Bank through a most difficult external environment and for his assistance to the Board during the Westpac merger process. The Bank's record results for 2008 were achieved against this background, for which he can feel particularly proud."

Mr Fegan said; "Given that St.George shareholders have overwhelmingly endorsed the merger, it's now appropriate to make my decision about the future. I am very proud that I leave the Bank in a very good position, particularly given the challenges the sector has faced around the world. I am also very pleased that St.George, along with Westpac, are going to merge to create one of the largest and strongest financial institutions in Australia.

"I have very much enjoyed my roles and experience at St.George over the past six years, and in particular the last twelve months as Managing Director and CEO. St.George is a unique organisation with a great culture and heritage brought to life everyday by its outstanding people.

"I wish the entire team and management every success going forward and I believe St.George will go from strength to strength within the merged group. I'd also like to thank the Chairman, John Curtis and fellow Directors for their support over the last year and to wish Gail and her team all the very best."

Mrs Gail Kelly, CEO & Managing Director of Westpac, added her sincere thanks. "I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Paul over the past six years. I would particularly like to thank him for his strong leadership of St.George over this challenging 2008 year and for his assistance in ensuring the merger gets off to a good start. I wish Paul and his family every success for the future."

In accordance with the terms of his employment, Mr Fegan will receive from St.George a termination payment of approximately \$2 million. Mr Fegan will also receive payment for any amounts in respect of accrued salary, leave and other entitlements. All awards and options held by Mr Fegan will be dealt with in accordance with the Deed of Cancellation that has been previously signed with Westpac and St.George (as disclosed in the Scheme Booklet dated 29 September 2008). Mr Fegan's contract will terminate on 8 December 2008 and he will take annual leave from 28 November 2008.

Ends...

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