



## Media release

5 November 2009 (MR 09 - 18)

### **Perpetual signs up to United Nations PRI**

Perpetual Limited (Perpetual) today advised its funds management business, Perpetual Investments, had signed up to the [United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment \(PRI\)](#).

As a signatory, Perpetual Investments must formally incorporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into its investment decision-making and ownership practices in a consistent and transparent manner.

Perpetual's Group Executive Perpetual Investments Business Services and Chief Operating Officer Australian Equities, Ms Cathy Doyle, said the widespread uptake of PRI was aligned with clients' long-term interests and expectations and was a positive step for the industry and for Perpetual Investments.

"There is a strong belief in the market that, if companies do not meet ESG expectations, investment returns can be compromised through increased reputation, litigation and regulatory risks, and missed business opportunities," she said. "As a result, there is a growing social and political expectation that fund managers will invest client money in companies who adhere to responsible and sustainable practices."

Ms Doyle said Perpetual had always incorporated ESG type principles into its four quality investment filters: quality of management, quality of business, conservative balance sheet and recurring earnings.

Under the PRI agreement, Perpetual Investments will be required to report annually to the PRI secretariat and to also regularly provide progress statements on its website.

Perpetual also announced the appointment of Mr Pablo Berrutti to the newly-established position of Manager Responsible Investment and Sustainability within Perpetual Investments. In his new role, he will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of PRI, working with industry on improved ESG integration and research, and monitoring and reporting on Perpetual's progress.

Mr Berrutti has been with Perpetual for two years working in the company's risk management function. Prior to Perpetual, he worked for five years with Commonwealth Bank in risk management, compliance and business analyst roles.

Ms Doyle said Mr Berrutti had worked in recent years on the preparation of Perpetual's ongoing sustainability reporting to the market.

"This experience and his personal passion for ESG principles make him the right choice to ensure Perpetual is appropriately informed and positioned around this increasingly relevant issue for investors," she said.

For further information, please contact:

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