

GRANT SAMUEL FUNDS MANAGEMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

Colonial First State adds Epoch fund to FirstChoice platform as investors and SMSF trustees search for sustainable yield

The Grant Samuel Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield Fund has been added as an investment option on the Colonial First State FirstChoice platform, as investors continue to search for sustainable sources of yield from their investments.

The fund is managed by the New York-based equity manager, Epoch Investment Partners, and is unique in the Australian market place as it offers a globally diversified equity portfolio of listed global companies with a history of attractive dividend yields and positive growth in free cash flow.

Mr Damien McIntyre, director and head of distribution with Grant Samuel Funds Management, says: "The Grant Samuel Epoch Global Shareholder Yield Fund aims to generate superior risk-adjusted returns with a dividend yield that exceeds the dividend yield of the MSCI Word (ex Australia) Index.

"Companies in the portfolio are run by management that focus on creating value for shareholders through consistent and rational capital allocation policies, with an emphasis of cash dividends, share buy-backs and debt reduction – the key components of shareholder yield.

"To date the fund has offered lower volatility than most equity products and distributed higher levels of income. This has proven to be of great interest to self managed super fund investors with about 20 per cent of funds' net cash flows to date coming from SMSF investors," Mr McIntyre says.

The addition of the fund to the FirstChoice platform follows the announcement earlier this year that the fund had surpassed the \$1 billion market in retail assets under management, and had more than doubled its size over 12 months.

Launched to institutional investors in October 2007 and to retail investors in May 2008, during the GFC, Grant Samuel Funds Management has also raised over \$1.5 billion in institutional money for Epoch Investment Partners in Australia.

The Grant Samuel Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield Fund is also on the platforms of all the major banks and life insurers. It has an A rating from van Eyk Research, and a "Recommended" rating from Lonsec and Zenith.

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Grant Samuel Funds Management (GSFM) was established in July 2007 and is a subsidiary of the Grant Samuel Group, and co-owned by the executives of GSFM. Grant Samuel Group is an independent investment advisory house founded in 1988 and owned by its executives. GSFM specializes in marketing funds managed by high calibre local and international managers to Australian institutional and retail investors.

GSFM formed an alliance in October 2007 with New York based Epoch Investment Partners, Inc. to distribute Epoch's investment products to Australian clients.

In May 2008, GSFM acquired an equity stake in Tribeca Investment Partners, a successful Australian boutique manager which has been investing clients' funds since 1999.

In May 2011, GSFM formed a relationship with Payden & Rygel, a Los Angeles based independent investment management firm established in 1983, to distribute its global fixed income and absolute return strategies in the Australian market.

In early 2014, GSFM established a relationship with Triple Three Partners Pty Ltd (Triple3) a boutique research and investment management firm based in Sydney. Triple3 specialises in volatility as an asset class. The first fund from this relationship the Triple3 Volatility Advantage Fund was launched in May 2014.

GSFM currently represents \$4.8 billion funds under management (as of 31 May 2014). For more information about GSFM please visit the website: <u>www.grantsamuelfunds.com.au</u>

Epoch Investment Partners, Inc. (Epoch) is a New York-based U.S. and global equity investment manager. Epoch's investment approach is based on fundamental research, seeking companies that can grow free cash flow and allocate it intelligently for the benefit of shareholders. Epoch manages investment assets for retirement plans, mutual funds, endowments, foundations, and high net worth individuals.

Epoch is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Toronto-Dominion Bank as a result of a transaction that was completed on March 27, 2013. Epoch has AUD\$42.2 billion assets under management for clients around the world (as of 31 March 2014).

For more information about Epoch, please visit Epoch's website at www.eipny.com.

Before making an investment decision in relation to the Grant Samuel Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield Funds, investors should read and consider the Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) for the Funds dated 18 September 2012. The PDS may be obtained from GSFM on (02) 9324 4356 or from <u>www.gsfm.com.au</u>. The Lonsec Rating (**assigned January 2014**) presented in this document is published by Lonsec Research Pty Ltd ABN 11 151 658 561 AFSL 421445. The Rating is a "class service" (as defined in the Financial Advisers Act 2008 (NZ)) or is limited to "General Advice" and based solely on consideration of the investment merits of the financial product(s). In New Zealand it must only be provided to "wholesale clients" (as defined in the Financial Advisers Act 2008 (NZ)). Past performance information is for illustrative purposes only and is not indicative of future performance. It is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold Grant Samuel Funds Services Limited's product(s), and you should seek independent financial advice before investing in this product(s). The Rating is subject to change without notice and Lonsec assumes no obligation to update the relevant document(s) following publication. Lonsec receives a fee from the Fund Manager for researching the product(s) using comprehensive and objective criteria.

For further information regarding Lonsec's Ratings methodology, please refer to our website at: http://www.beyond.lonsec.com.au/intelligence/lonsec-ratings

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