

Mariner continues staff build

29 January 2004

New Chief Financial Officer and Business Manager appointed

Emerging financial services group Mariner Financial Limited [ASX: MFI] today announced the appointment of a Chief Financial Officer, Joseph Prsa, to oversee the financial operations of the group, as well as an additional Business Development Manager to work in the group's growing retirement business.

Mr Prsa joins Mariner this week and will oversee the financial operations of Mariner Financial and Mariner Retirement Solutions, including accounting and tax considerations for the Mariner group.

He has over 16 years of management, accounting and finance experience, most recently working as CFO for Lumley Life Limited. Mr Prsa has also worked as Manager of Fund Accounting for Permanent Trustee Company, and has extensive audit experience gained through a number of years with KPMG.

"We are delighted to fill this key position with someone as experienced as Joseph," said Bill Ireland, Managing Director of Mariner.

Mr Prsa holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Wollongong, and became a Chartered Accountant in 1993.

Mariner has also appointed Chris Saunders as a Business Manager for Mariner Retirement Solutions. Mr Saunders joins the group from a similar role with Zurich Financial Services. Prior to this Mr Saunders was a Business Development Manager with Citicorp Investments selling annuities, and was a licensed financial planner with Apogee FP. He also traded futures on the Sydney Futures Exchange for eight years.

Mr Saunders joins Mariner's experienced sales team of six headed by Melbourne-based Kim McDonald.

Mr Ireland said 2004 would see Mariner Retirement establish a solid suite of innovative retirement products.

"Our sales team is already establishing the foundation for sales of new products, and securing relationships across the financial planner network," he said.

This month Mariner launched its first financial product, Mariner Lifestyle Bonds - a fixed-term investment designed to help people with their long-term cash flow planning.

"This is a first in a series of innovative solutions aimed at giving retail investors better choice and flexibility in their investment and retirement planning," Mr Ireland said.

Note to the editors

Established in 2003, Mariner Financial Limited is an Australian-owned financial services company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange [ASX: MFI]. Mariner's primary focus is servicing Australia's growing superannuation market by providing uniquely structured investment and retirement income solutions. It also provides strong branding and marketing, education and technical support, and a dedicated distribution capability to its subsidiary company, Mariner Retirement Solutions [ASX: MRT].

For further information, please visit the Mariner website at <www.marinerfunds.com.au>.

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