Media release

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BT FINANCIAL GROUP'S IN-HOUSE EQUITIES TEAM WINS RATINGS

BT Financial Group's in-house equities research team eQR Securities has been awarded three 'Highly Recommended' ratings for its model equities portfolios by global rating agent Independent Investment Research (IIR).

eQR Securities services approximately 1,300 planners across Westpac Financial Planning, Westpac Private Bank, Securitor and BT Select.

It is regarded as a unique industry offering to both planners and clients with its ASX200 analysis, daily market commentary and four direct equity model portfolios.

eQR's Securities Core Portfolio, Concentrated Core Portfolio and Concentrated Income Portfolio all received 'Highly Recommended' ratings from IIR, while eQR Securities Income Fund received a 'Recommended' rating.

eQR Securities Concentrated Core Portfolio was the top performing portfolio when compared to other large fund managers.

According to BT Financial Group's head of research and strategy Piers Bolger, eQR is different because of the independent nature of the research and the highly specialist equities research team that manages it.

"At a time when customers are more willing to get back into the market, eQR research and model portfolios provide planners and their clients with a very attractive and stable offering.

"We have certainly seen an increase in demand for this resource since we launched it in November 2010, a reflection of its quality and customer's desire for this service."

The model portfolios can be used by all BT Financial Group advisers who subscribe to the equities research and are available as both a separately managed account and individually managed account through BT Equities.

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