

# EmployerNews | SPRING15



Keeping electrical and communication contractors informed about your Fund and what's happening in superannuation.

## Other highlights

Supporting our industry and the community  
SuperStream Reminder

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## Investment Commentary- Another favourable year for investment returns\*

Australia's economy continued to grow but at a pace that the RBA has described as 'below trend'. The economy is experiencing conditions that differ from a normal business cycle with numerous signs the post 'mining boom' transition of the Australian economy could be challenging. Partly offsetting the downturn in mining investment, housing construction has recently seen strong growth while consumer spending has also improved. Faced with economic growth (and inflation) on the weaker side of expectations, the RBA reduced the cash rate on two occasions in the second half of the financial year. The impact of the lower rates have clearly contributed to the sharp rise in dwelling prices in some of Australia's major cities.

Growth in the US and UK have been the most resilient of the developed economies. As a result, they are expected to be the first countries to begin lifting interest rates. Elsewhere in the developed world, conditions in the Eurozone and Japan are showing early signs of improving but it is occurring slowly, underpinning the ongoing need for their respective QE programs. Ongoing issues in Greece create risks that the Eurozone's growth recovery will falter. Growth in Asia continues at a reasonable pace, while in China growth has slowed more than expected, requiring policy stimulus measures such as lower interest rates and fewer restrictions on bank lending.

Global equities as represented by the MSCI World ex-Australia index returned 11.6% on a hedged basis (in AUD) over the year while unhedged returns (in AUD) were much higher at 25.9% for the year. On the domestic front, the S&P/ASX300 index returned 5.6%. While Australia's share market recorded a modest gain, there were pronounced differences in industry sector performances. Increasing supply coupled with slowing demand in China combined to push iron ore prices lower. Rising shale oil production and a breakdown in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) cartel weighed heavily on oil prices. As a result, Energy (-20.4%) and Materials (-6.8%) sectors underperformed other sectors of the Australian market.

Interest rates remained at historically low levels around the globe for much of the year as the priority for many countries and regions was to provide much needed economic stimulus, especially in Europe where deflation has been a real risk.

\*Investment Commentary provided by JANA Investment Advisers.

## ...and another solid performance by NESS Super investment options!

The 2015 financial year has seen another solid performance by NESS Super in all NESS Super and NESS Pension investment options.

### NESS Super members

Investment Option	Crediting rates for the 2014/15 financial year
Cash	2.25%
Stable	5.66%
MySuper	8.91%
Property	9.19%
High Growth	11.26%
Australian Shares	6.51%
Overseas Shares	18.13%

### NESS Pension members

Investment Option	Crediting rates for the 2014/15 financial year
Cash	2.56%
Conservative	6.32%
Cautious	7.99%
Moderate	10.00%
Assertive	10.91%
Aggressive	12.04%

NESS Super continues to invest members' money on a long term basis. The NESS Super Board believes that diversification is essential in the current environment and is investing with this key principle in mind. To this end, NESS Super has diversified its exposure to higher risk assets to include diversifiers to shares such as property, infrastructure and credit securities, which all have the potential to deliver sound long term returns. In addition, we are also keeping a healthy level of cash to maintain the liquidity of the Fund. We believe that over the long term, this strategy will provide members with sound returns.

*The performance of the investment options is not guaranteed. The value will vary as it is based on the performance of the assets underlying each investment option. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance.*



To find out more about how NESS Super can help your business and employees with any of the topics outlined in this newsletter (including a Super Clearing House, SCH Online solution for the Government SuperStream requirements), please contact Mynas Leontios, NESS Super's employer service representative on **0448 432 443** or by email at [mynasl@neca.asn.au](mailto:mynasl@neca.asn.au). At NESS Super, we are here to help.

# NESS Super continuing to support our industry...

NESS Super has continued its ongoing commitment to supporting the electrical and communications industry through its involvement with the recent NECA Group Training Apprentice Awards, its Business Partnerships with NECA NSW & ACT and as sponsors of the NECA NSW & ACT Excellence Awards functions.

The Apprentice Awards encourage apprentices to excel in their apprenticeships, whilst the NECA Excellence Awards provide an industry wide forum to recognize and reward businesses and their projects, which have excelled in their field.



Angie Mastrippolito, NESS Super CEO presenting the Post Trade Achievement Awards to the recipients at the recent 2015 NECA Group Training Apprentice Awards.

## REMINDER that the Government SuperStream clock for employers is ticking...



The ATO has continued to remind employers of their requirements and the timeframes in order to meet the new Government Data and Payment Standard (SuperStream) requirements.

This commenced from 1 July 2014 and will eventually require all employers to make super payments and send the applicable payment data electronically. As a reminder:

- **Medium to large employers (having 20 or more employees)** must have the new requirements in place by **31 October 2015 (extended from 1 July 2015)**
- **Smaller employers (having 19 or less employees)** must have the new requirements in place by **1 July 2016**

**It's important to prepare now, especially if you have 20 or more employees (and have not already commenced your implementation) to ensure you are able to comply and meet the upcoming requirements by necessary timeframes.**

**NESS Super can help participating employers with the SCH Online clearing house solution. Please see the NESS Super website <http://nesssuper.com.au/employers/forms-publications/> and click on the "SCH Online" tab or contact us on 1800 022 067 for more information.**

## ...and also supporting the local community...



Angie Mastrippolito's  
Little Athletics NSW Award

Running a super fund like NESS Super doesn't leave much spare, that's why it was so impressive to see that Angie Mastrippolito, NESS Super CEO was nominated (without her knowing) for volunteering her time and her tireless efforts over the years to Balmain Little Athletics.

In recognition of her services to Little Athletics in her local community, Angie received the Little Athletics NSW - Volunteer of the Year, Runner-Up 2014/2015 Award.

"It was a real surprise to find out that I was nominated, let alone be recognised with such an Award. It gives me great pleasure to know that giving up some time to assist with the local Little Athletics community goes such a long way to help the local kids enjoy such a healthy pastime", Angie said about receiving her award.

What a super effort from Angie in leading the way, not just with NESS Super, but to also promote and support young Australians on their way to a healthy lifestyle through sport. Who knows how many future electrical and communications industry participants (and NESS Super members) Angie has also assisted.



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## Contact us if you want to know more about any of the topics in this newsletter

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