

Aon Master Trust cited as "best of breed" personal super solution in coveted Smart Investor Blue Ribbon Awards

Sydney 22 August 2014: The Aon Master Trust has today claimed the coveted *Smart Investor* Blue Ribbon "Best of the Best" Award for Personal Super Fund of the Year.

Award judges cited a range of features that set the \$2.8 billion, 55,000 member fund apart. In addition to describing extremely high performance over the long term across its capital stable, balanced and growth options as "impossible to ignore", they pointed to features the fund offers members through the leveraging of Aon's global skills and partnerships, saying that "there is more to a superior personal fund than just good returns".

"As the biggest risk broker in the world, Aon can use its partnerships with companies such as insurance giant AIA and fund manager Vanguard to provide features at a cost few can match," the judges said. Steven Gaffney, CEO of Aon Hewitt Pacific added that as the world's largest investment consulting firm, Aon Hewitt have negotiated attractive fees with fund managers such as Russell, Vanguard and others – benefitting their members.

Steven Gaffney noted that the approach of the Aon Master Trust has always been to provide members with not only a "best value for money" solution, but one that also addresses their needs more holistically.

"We are very conscious that our clients – and advisers on behalf of their clients – want more than just excellent investment performance and a comprehensive suite of insurance solutions. They also value broader, deeper services via our integrated telephone support and counselling services and our strong customer service ethos that focuses on education."

Speaking of future plans for the fund, Mr. Gaffney highlighted the upcoming pipeline of innovative developments to ensure the fund continues to lead the pack in the delivery of both investment returns and holistic benefits that offer both financial and emotional support.

"We are building a market-leading Scaled Advice offering to ensure advice is available for simple one-off matters, complementing our existing comprehensive offering. We are also developing a direct investment offer that will give those members who want it, additional control and choice," he explained.

"What it all comes down to is flexibility – a luxury we can offer our members because we're small enough to care, but big enough to count. In an environment where consolidation and consequent vast scale and standardisation are the prevailing trends in super, our position and ability to deliver on a personal level for members is unique. I think the Award recognises this fact, which makes us all the more proud to have received it."

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