



## **GE COMMERCIAL FINANCE GROWS WEST**

**Perth, Australia, December 3, 2008** – GE Commercial Finance has appointed Justin Van Ast as Associate Director, Corporate Lending, for the Western Australian region.

In his new role, Van Ast is responsible for sourcing, structuring and managing new corporate lending transactions as GE looks to grow its presence throughout the state.

Van Ast recently relocated from Sydney, following almost eight years in London, where he worked in a corporate advisory and restructuring role with American advisory group, Kroll, before joining Bank of America as a Vice President in its European Business Capital Unit.

Prior to moving to London in 2000, Van Ast was a Senior Analyst in Deloitte's Corporate Reorganisation group in Perth.

Alastair Metcalf, Managing Director, Corporate Financial Services, GE Commercial Finance, says Van Ast's extensive experience in both Australia and Europe arms him with the tools he needs to successfully expand GE's business in Western Australia.

"Justin has an in-depth understanding of corporate finance and debt markets, which is exactly the mix we need to succeed in the current environment and beyond," says Metcalf. "His proven track record in establishing and maintaining customer relationships at all levels will drive growth in Western Australia and ensure we continue to leverage opportunities as they arise."

Van Ast holds a Bachelor of Commerce from Curtin University and is a qualified Chartered Accountant.

### **About GE Commercial Finance**

GE Commercial Finance is one of General Electric's largest "growth engines." With lending products, growth capital, revolving lines of credit, equipment leasing of every kind, cash flow programs, asset financing, and more, GE Commercial Finance plays a key role for client businesses in over 35 countries. The industries served include healthcare, manufacturing, fleet management, communications, construction, energy and mining, aviation, infrastructure and equipment. GE Commercial Finance has assets of over US\$335 billion and is headquartered in Connecticut, USA.

#### **For further information:**

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