



news release

October 24, 2006

CANNEX REAFFIRMS ST.GEORGE MARGIN LENDING'S COVETED 5 STAR RATING

St.George Margin Lending has been awarded a ninth consecutive Five Star "superior" rating by independent research group CANNEX, in its latest review of Australian financial services.

"Achieving another Five Star rating from CANNEX at a time when the margin lending market in Australia is not only growing, but becoming more sophisticated, is an important acknowledgement of St.George Margin Lending as one of the most consistently flexible and competitive products in the market," said St.George Margin Lending General Manager, Andrew Black.

The CANNEX Five Star rating is awarded in recognition of the many product features and enhancements that continue to be developed by St.George Margin Lending.

St.George Margin Lending is part of the Wealth Management and Retail Financial Services division of the St.George Bank Ltd, Australia's fifth-largest retail banking group with \$100 billion in assets and 2.6 million customers Australia-wide.

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**St.George Margin Lending is a member
of St.George Bank Ltd (ABN 92 055 513 070)**