



News Release

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FirstMac kicks off another successful year with bond issue and innovation award

Brisbane, Australia (*February 13, 2007*) – FirstMac, one of the largest non-institutional mortgage finance funders in Australia, yesterday launched a domestic residential mortgage backed transaction supported by self-certified loans. The deal is FirstMac's second largest and is rated by Standard and Poors, Moodys and Fitch.

The \$710 million FirstMac Mortgage Funding Trust Series 1-2007 deal includes approximately \$76 million of low doc loans from the HSBC Bank Australia loan portfolio purchased by the company in December 2006. The deal will be jointly led by ANZ Bank and Macquarie Bank, with ANZ Bank as the arranger. HSBC Bank plc is co-manager on the transaction.

FirstMac has previously successfully issued two self-certified bond transactions which were well received by domestic, Asian and European investors, and expects considerable offshore investor interest in this latest transaction. "This is FirstMac's ninth public residential mortgage backed issuance," explained Kim Cannon, managing director and founder, FirstMac Limited. "The FirstMac programme has securitised approximately A\$4.5 billion of residential home loans in the global markets."

FirstMac will undertake investor roadshows in Singapore, London, Sydney and Melbourne and will at the same time update investors on recent company developments.

"The roadshow is an opportunity for us to explain our strategy and detail FirstMac's success to date in the self-certified loan market," continued Cannon.

"The roadshow will also be the first opportunity we have had to report to investors on how the HSBC transition has gone."



This latest issuance follows on the heels of FirstMac's \$400 million construction loans bonds offering in December 2006. That offer, which was oversubscribed, saw FirstMac become the first lender in Australia to specifically structure a transaction to enable the securitisation of construction loans. Both Standard and Poor's and Fitch rated the transaction.

FirstMac was commended for its innovation in launching this new investment product at the Insto Distinction Awards reception in Sydney on February 7. Insto has recognised the Australian first in awarding the Innovative Deal of the Year to FirstMac.

"This award highlights FirstMac's continued innovation in designing products for investors and brokers," said Paul Eagar, director of securitisation, FirstMac Limited. "The award caps off a successful year for the company which included our first foreign currency denominated deal and our biggest bond issue to date, acquisition of the loan assets of HSBC Bank Australia's broker originated residential loan book, and the market-first construction loans deal."

The Insto Distinction Awards are the pre-eminent event for the banking and finance industry and are supported by Australia's major commercial banks, investment banks, corporates, stockbrokers and other key industry participants. The winners of each award category are determined by the industry.

About FirstMac Limited

FirstMac Limited is part of the FirstMac Group, one of the largest non-institutional financial mortgage lenders in Australia. It delivers a comprehensive range of loan funding, loan servicing and portfolio management services. FirstMac initially originated and managed home loans through major third party providers, but in 2002 entered the securitisation market and began self-funding its own loan business, by issuing AAA-rated bonds on global capital markets.

FirstMac's presence has been growing through the provision of wholesale funding to the Australian and US markets via a distribution network of mortgage originators and brokers.

FirstMac has an above average Standard and Poor's servicer rating.

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