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## Media Release

### FINSIA EDUCATION TO HELP TACKLE FINANCIAL CRIME COSTING AUSTRALIA BILLIONS

**FINSIA**, the leading Australasian financial services professional body, today launches a new suite of ground-breaking interconnected professional qualifications focused on risk management and cyber-crime in conjunction with the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment (CISI).

Global Financial Compliance, Risk in Financial Services, Managing Cyber Security, and Combatting Financial Crime professional qualifications are available online and have been reviewed by a group of senior practitioners led by FINSIA to ensure they are fit for purpose for the Australian industry.

Chris Whitehead, FINSIA CEO says, "The introduction of these qualifications to meet the needs of those in investment, funds management and stockbroking is the latest example of two years of work between the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment and FINSIA.

"We have also partnered with Fitch Learning, part of the Fitch Group to assist candidates in studying and exam preparation.

"The aim is to upskill those in the investment space with a focus on risk management to minimise financial crime.

"Australia clearly has had a problem with financial crime in all forms over the past few years with cyber crime alone costing the economy \$1bn a year according to the government.

"The scale of the problem shows there is a huge amount of work to be done. It is certainly an area that FINSIA believes financial professionals can develop new skills and expand their expertise.

"The course modules focus on the global reach and impact of financial crime. They are portable as they are recognised around the world as they address international threats and ways to tackle them."

Simon Culhane, CISI CEO says, "The CISI Is delighted to work with this leading professional body in Australian Financial Services to introduce these qualifications for the first time to the market.

"Professional bodies must ensure members have a level of knowledge and understanding of the changing face of cyber threats and financial crime with new technology being used in their profession.

Mr Culhane added, "The benefits of these programs are how easily they can enhance and be integrated into an organisations' existing learning and development framework."

Mr Andreas Karaiskos, Chief Executive Officer of Fitch Learning says, "We are happy to be partnering with FINSIA and continuing our long-standing relationship with the CISI."

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Whitehead added, “FINSIA will continue to build on its portfolio of professional qualifications and programs to support our objective of developing strong competency and high ethical standards in financial practitioners and promoting such standards in Australia.”

FINSIA and CISI have also worked together to launch ethics workshops and recently announced an online ethics test for financial services professionals.

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**FINSIA. The professional excellence pathway.**

FINSIA — the Financial Services Institute of Australasia — is the professional membership body in Australia and New Zealand for the financial services industry.

FINSIA's heritage is over 130 years of progressing financial service knowledge and conduct to high standards. More importantly than ever FINSIA is the connector of key stakeholders, industry regulators, government and education providers to help deepen trust in financial services by raising standards of professionalism. FINSIA enables the advancement of competence and integrity for the benefit of professionals, consumers and society.