Solid. Strong. Yours.

You're never too
young to take control
of your super?

It's never too early to think about the future and even though your retirement is a long way off, here are a few tips to help towards ensuring financial comfort in your later years.

### 1. Take advantage of the Government's Co-Contribution Scheme.

Starting out on your working life is an ideal time to take advantage of the Government's co-contribution scheme. This is where the Government will put 50 cents into your super for every extra dollar you contribute (the Government will make a contribution of up to \$500 where you contribute \$1,000 or more from your after tax salary). It works on a reducing scale up to an annual income of \$46,920.

#### 2. Salary sacrifice.

If you earn more than the co-contribution limit, it may be still worth adding a little extra money to your super by making

before-tax contributions (known as salary sacrifice).

Why? You'll only pay 15% tax on the money you put in and you may also reduce the tax you pay on your income as a result.

By topping up early, you can make the most of compound earnings (earnings earned on earnings). For example, putting just \$20 per week into your super can make a big difference when you retire. And if you get an income tax refund, don't blow it! Put it into your super.

You have to check with your employer though about whether they'll allow you to make salary sacrifice contributions.

#### 3. Consolidate your super.

Changing jobs is fine, but don't end up with multiple super accounts. The average Australian is a member of up to five super funds and each of them is chewing up your money with fees, charges and paperwork. Wouldn't it be better if that money was going towards your retirement? Consolidating other super accounts into AMIST Super is easy. Just call us on 1800 808 614 and we'll show you how.

#### 4. Find your lost super.

There are also billions of dollars of lost super. But it's easy (and free) to find your lost accounts using the Australian Tax Office's SuperSeeker website (www.ato.gov.au/superseeker).

For more ideas on maximizing your super, visit our website or call the AMIST Super Hotline on 1800 808 614.



If we don't have your tax file number (TFN):

- You'll be paying the top rate of tax on all super contributions (rather than the normal 15%)
- You won't be able to make any extra contributions to your super,
- You won't be eligible to receive additional contributions through the Government Cocontribution scheme.

Plus, we're planning to run lost super searches and if we don't have your TFN, we won't be able to find any lost super you may have

So go on! Call the **AMIST Super Hotline** or visit the website to give us your TFN and stop wasting your money today!







## Small balances now stay with AMIST Super.

In the past, if your account balance with AMIST Super dropped below \$500 and no contributions had been received for at least six months, your account would be closed and your balance would be transferred to an Eligible Rollover Fund (ERF).

If this happened, not only would you no longer be a member of the fund, but any valuable insurance cover (such as life insurance, total and permanent disablement and income protection) you had as part of your membership would be cancelled too.

But from October 2013, member accounts under \$500 will no longer be transferred to an ERF but will remain within AMIST Super and continue to be managed in the usual way.

Importantly, this means that insurance cover will continue to be provided as long as there are sufficient funds in the account to pay the premiums.

Just have a look at your statement that was enclosed with this edition of SUPER BUZZ to see where you are. If you've changed jobs since the last contribution sent to us, you can ask your new employer to make Superannuation Guarantee contributions to your AMIST Super account. We accept contributions from any employer, even if they're not part of the meat industry.

By doing that, you can remain a member of AMIST Super and enjoy the benefits of being part of a solid, Australian industry super fund.





### Denis wins quiz prize.

Congratulations to Victorian member **Denis Ogden** for correctly answering the quiz questions in last year's edition. Denis wins the \$200 prize.

## AMIST Super wins award.

Last November, AMIST Super received another award for excellence in member communications at the Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees annual awards night in Melbourne. The award was for last year's "Crying Man" tax file number campaign.





# Adjusting insurance REAL LIFE cover saves family from financial trauma.

When AMIST Super Client Services Manager, David Ashton, visited JBS Pty Ltd in Dinmore Queensland in October 2012, he met with members Tatiane Nogueira and her husband Fernando Silva. They wanted to review their level of Income Protection and decided to increase it so that it would cover them for the maximum 75% of their income. Naturally, this was a precaution that they hoped they would never need.

Two months later, Tatiane, Fernando and their 10-year-old son, Luiz, set out on a driving holiday in Queensland. Two days before Christmas 2012, they were involved in an accident near Rockhampton. The car careered off the road, colliding with a tree at high speed. The impact was so dramatic that all three occupants had to be cut out of the vehicle with the "jaws of life".

While fortunately there were no fatalities, the injuries sustained were substantial.

Tatiane broke her hip and was unable to return to work for most of the following year. Eight months after the accident she still has some discomfort, but is gradually improving.

Fernando fractured four vertebrae and was confined to a wheelchair for over

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### Adjusting insurance cover saves family from financial trauma.

two months, unable to walk. While he is now back on his feet, doctors predict he will not be fit enough to return to work until sometime in 2014. He remains uncomfortable and has regular sessions with the physiotherapist.

Luiz sustained head trauma and some brain damage and was airlifted from the scene to Royal Brisbane Children's Hospital intensive care unit. His mother joined him there a few days later.

The news was not good. Medical reports on the child's condition were devastating, indicating that the damage to his brain was such that it was unlikely he would ever regain the ability to walk or talk.

Miraculously, however, Luiz defied this prognosis and is today walking and talking once more. He is still undergoing physiotherapy twice a week, but is very much improved. He hopes to get back to playing soccer with his schoolmates very soon.

The AMIST Super Client Services team visited Dinmore the day after Tatiane returned to work. Because she and Fernando had increased their Income Protection cover, they received 75% of their normal income while they were unable to work. This meant that they were able to survive financially, which provided some relief during an otherwise very difficult time.

"Without this insurance, I don't know how we would have survived!" Fernando said. "I will tell everyone I see how great this is. Thank you, AMIST Super, for adding this feature into all members' superannuation accounts."

Tatiane was also very complimentary about the service she received from the Australian Income Protection case manager. "Lynn was lovely and very helpful," she said.

While things are not quite back to normal yet for Tatiane and her family, they are very confident they will all recover fully.

Tatiane and Fernando's experience is yet another illustration of the importance of reviewing your insurance cover regularly and adjusting it to make sure you are properly and adequately covered. Had Tatiane and Fernando not increased their Income Protection cover to match their pay,



the financial outcome after their accident would not have been as favourable.

To find out more about matching your insurance to your income, call the **AMIST Super Hotline** on **1800 808 614.** 

### Market update

### AMIST Super's Chief Investment Officer, Megan Pham, explains the improvement in market confidence in the past year.

2013 was another good year for investors with solid returns from global and domestic shares and good performances in most other asset classes. Fear of a US fiscal cliff, concerns over a potential rise in inflation and a significant slowdown in the Australian economy did not happen. Instead, global growth improved on the back of low inflation and low interest rates

The US Federal Reserve has announced that they will start reducing US monetary stimulus. This has caused bouts of market uncertainty but should be viewed positively as it indicates the US economy is recovering.



Back home, the Reserve Bank of Australia cut the official

cash rate to 2.5%. It continues to remain at record lows. There has also been significant improvement in the housing sector, suggesting a renewed interest in property as a result of the rate cuts.

These positive performances both here and overseas have driven solid returns across the AMIST Super investment options for the six month period ending 31 December 2013. This includes a particularly strong result for the AMIST MySuper option.

### 6 month returns to 31 December 2013

AMIST Super investment options	Interim rates 1 July to 31 December 2013			
Secure	1.41%			
Capital Stable	3.97%			
MySuper (Default Investment Option)	9.26%			
Balanced	9.26%			
Growth	12.28%			
High Growth	17.08%			

If you have never made an investment choice your account balance and contributions will be invested in the MySuper option.

# MySuper is now our default investment option.

If you haven't specifically selected an option for the investment of your super, your contributions and account balance are invested in AMIST MySuper. Members who make their own investment choices are unaffected by this.

Remember, AMIST Super has always offered low-cost super with consistently strong returns and great insurance benefits. AMIST MySuper is another investment option we offer, providing good value, low fees and our trademark solid returns. Please note that currently the asset allocation and investment returns for AMIST MySuper are identical to the Balanced Option.

If you have any questions about AMIST MySuper, please call the **AMIST Super Hotline** on **1800 808 614**. If you'd like to consider your investment choice options, visit www.amist.com.au and take a read through our Investments section.

If you work in an office, you could be paying too much for your insurance cover.



Did you know that if you work in an office, rather than being in a manual occupation, you're probably entitled to cheaper premiums for Income Protection, plus a higher level of Life Insurance and TPD cover than a manual worker?

But according to our records, of the tens of thousands of members who receive insurance, less than 700 have identified themselves as office workers and are benefitting from the reduced premiums.

Surely, we have more office worker members than that!

Because insurance is offered to members automatically, the insurance policy assumes members are manual workers unless a member tells us they are an office worker. So if you are an office worker and you haven't told us, you're probably paying too much for your insurance.

#### Let us know now.

If you have the default level of insurance cover, that's 2 units of life insurance, 1 unit of TPD and 4 units of income protection, you'll be paying \$6.50 per week as a manual worker. But if you're actually an office worker, your premium would be only \$5.82 per week.

So if at least 75% of your job is office work, go to www.amist.com.au, download the "Office Worker occupation declaration" form, fill it out and send it back to us. Alternatively, call the **AMIST Super Hotline** on **1800 808 614** 

It's really worth saving the money.

and we'll assist you.

# Changes to investment objectives for Growth and High Growth options

AMIST Super constantly monitors and reviews the objectives of its investment options based on current circumstances, forecasts and the advice of our consultants. After a review in late 2013, and in light of investment market conditions, it was decided a revision of the objectives of the Growth and High Growth options was in the best interests of members.

From 1 January 2014, the investment objectives are as follows:

Investment option	Long-term objectives
Growth	Inflation plus 3% over rolling ten-year periods
High Growth	Inflation plus 4% over rolling ten-year periods

In order to achieve the previous target returns in the current environment, it would have been necessary to make more high risk investments and the Trustee decided this was not appropriate.

No changes have been made to the investment objectives of any of our other options.

# Do you have questions?

If you have any questions about your AMIST Super membership, call the

AMIST Super Hotline 1800 808 614 or

### hop on the web!

For all the latest information about AMIST Super, log onto www.amist.com.au. Get the latest news and results, view fact sheets and download forms. It's all there to make your super easier to understand.







### **Changes to Asset Allocation**

Asset allocations are the percentage of funds to be invested in each asset class. The Trustee regularly reviews these allocations and several changes have been made since 30 June 2013 for investments in the Capital Stable, Balanced and Growth Options. We have also revised the estimated probabilities of each option having a negative return. The details appear below:



	Capital Stable Option		MySuper and Balanced Options		Growth Option	
	Target Return: Inflation plus 1% over rolling ten year periods		Target Return: Inflation plus 2% over rolling ten year periods		Target Return: Inflation plus 3% over rolling ten year periods	
	Estimated probability of a negative return:  0.9 years out of every 20 years		Estimated probability of a negative return:  3.2 years out of every 20 years		Estimated probability of a negative return: 4.6 years out of every 20 years	
Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation Range	Benchmark Asset Allocation	Target Asset Allocation Range	Benchmark Asset Allocation	Target Asset Allocation Range	Benchmark Asset Allocation
Australian Shares	5% - 15%	10%	23% - 40%	30%	35% - 45%	40%
International Shares	0% - 15%	5%	12% - 30%	15%	25% - 40%	30%
Direct Property	5% - 22%	10%	10% - 22%	15%	5% - 15%	10%
Alternative Investments	0% - 12%	5%	0% - 15%	10%	0% - 12%	5%
Australian and Overseas Fixed Interest	25% - 65%	55%	10% -32%	25%	5% - 18%	13%
Cash	Balance	15%	Balance	5%	Balance	2%

# New brochures and fact sheets now available

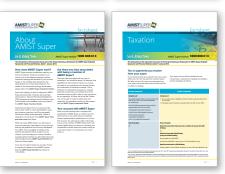
## To make your super easier to understand, AMIST Super has created a new range of fact sheets and booklets.

Each publication concentrates on a particular aspect of your super and explains it in easy-to-understand language. There's a booklet about insurance, another that deals just with our investment options, plus a whole selection of fact sheets that answer just about every common question.

All of these publications are now available from our website under the title "Incorporated by reference fact sheets and guides". The insurance and investment guides are also available in printed form, so if you'd like a copy, just call the **AMIST Super Hotline** on **1800 808 614**.







### Client Services

Meet our team of service professionals.

Remember our Client Services Managers are here to help you get the most from your super. Feel free to contact them.



Royston Bennett on 0437 697 737 or roystonb@amist.com.au Client Services Manager for Vic, SA and Tas.



David Ashton on 0434 043 785 or davida@amist.com.au Client Services Manager for QLD and NT.



Steve Fleming on 0419 160 293 or stevef@amist.com.au Client Services Manager for NSW and WA.

**Melinda Gibson**, manager of the Client Services team, is currently on maternity leave.

# Fees for small account balances

Prior to 1 July 2013 members with less than \$1,000 in their accounts could only be charged fees up to the amount of earnings for the year (ending 30 June).

As part of the Federal Government's superannuation reforms, from 1 July 2013 super funds are no longer required to limit the amount of fees charged to low balance members. For members invested in the MySuper option, limiting the amount of fees for a group of members only (e.g those with balances below \$1,000) is not permitted.

Therefore, if your account balance is less than \$1,000 then the weekly administration fee

of \$1.70 will be deducted irrespective of the amount of earnings applied to your account.

With the Superannuation Guarantee increasing from 9% to 9.25% from 1 July 2013, and the plan for it to increase to 12% in coming years, most members will have more than \$1,000 in their account in a relatively short period of time anyway. In any event, AMIST Super always strives to achieve strong investment returns on your money.

# Did you get a credit in your Income Protection premium?

If you noticed on your statement that your Income Protection premium for August 2013 is in credit, that will be as a result of a refund to members of a portion of the Income Protection Insurance Reserve.

We wrote to you last year letting you know that we decided to remove the reserve accrual that was previously in place under the Income Protection policy. This means a reduction in cost for this cover too. From 15 June 2013, 'Manual Workers' pay \$2.40 per week for the existing default cover of 4 units of Income Protection and for 'Office Workers', the premium has reduced to \$1.72 per week.

So now, AMIST Super Income Protection cover is even more valuable.

## Take our quick quiz and you could win \$200!

How well do you know your super? You'll find the answers in this edition of Super BUZZ.

Entries close 30 May 2014. Just send your answers and details below to:

AMIST Super Quiz GPO Box 4293 Sydney NSW 2001 or Fax to: 02 9230 1111

1. Where does Tatiane Nogueira work?
In which city were the Australian Institute of     Superannuation Trustees awards held?
3. What does "ERF" stand for?
4. What is the new investment objective for the Growth option?
5. True or false: Insurance premiums are more expensive if you work in an office?
6. What is the normal tax rate for contributions to super?
7. Under the Co-contribution Scheme, if you contribute \$1 extra to your super, how much could the Government put in?
8. What was the Balanced option's 6 month return to 31 December 2013?
Please be sure to write your name and contact details clearly.
Name: AMIST Super Member No:
Address:
State: Postcode: Phone:
Email:

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#### AMIST Super

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