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ASSOCIATION OF
ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS

Smooth process for AAT Australia on the start date of the Tax Agent Services Act

The Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) Australia's CEO, Mr Robert Comelli was elated with the commencement of the Tax Agent Services Act 2009 yesterday.

"We had many AAT Australia members contacting our office advising that they had registered with the Board and found it relatively simple after the information and assistance we had offered them in preparation for this day. They were now confident of their position in the industry going forward."

AAT Australia has always been in favour of the new legislation believing it to be long overdue. "Our members are already familiar with adhering to a code of professional conduct through their membership with AAT Australia; as a result our members are ready for the legislative changes that are now in place."

To assist members and other bookkeepers in the industry, AAT Australia will be conducting nationwide seminars beginning mid-March to educate current bookkeepers in 'How to become a BAS Agent'.

"The Tax Agent Services Act, and particularly the Code of Professional Conduct that is part of it, aims to increase the professionalism of BAS agents in providing services to clients. Accordingly, AAT Australia has designed this specific CPE seminar to address the Act's key requirements and associated issues, and to provide practical instructions for complying with the law." Mr Comelli said.

The half day seminar will cover the following topics in much detail:

- Code of Conduct Requirements
- The importance of letters of engagement
- Setting the boundaries for the services provided
- Potential client conflicts applying the tax law
- Administering a practice under the new law
- Taking reasonable care in relation to your client's affairs

These seminars will also allow for members and other bookkeepers to query any issues or set aside any uncertainties they have in becoming a BAS Agent. For more information on the CPE sessions please go to www.aat.org.au

Ends:

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