

Media Release

Opportunity knocking for first home buyers; says Mortgageport

Mortgageport offers first home bonus as Government rebate decreases and market growth slows

SYDNEY, 26 May 2010: Independently-owned mortgage broker, Mortgageport, today launched a special offer for first home buyers as the numbers of those forced out of the market continues to rise.

According to the most recent Australian Bureau of Statistics Housing Finance statistics (March 2010), the number of first home buyers in NSW has fallen almost 60 per cent over the past 12 months*.

Mortgageport Managing Director, Glen Spratt, said a cash bonus of \$5,000 - in addition to any other government grants available - would allow eligible applicants to make the most of the current favourable conditions and reduce the costs associated with buying a first home.

“The recent overheating of property markets, increased lending costs and tightening of bank’s lending policies have forced many potential first home buyers out of the market,” he said. “However, with many predicting a spiralling in Sydney rents – along with a stalling of property values, we believe that now is the right time for buyers sitting on the sidelines, to enter the market.”

Mr Spratt said that although the decrease in the government’s First Home Owner Grant will deter a number of new entrants to the property market, many economists are predicting a slow down in the growth of property values. “The fall in new buyers means the overheated conditions that have characterised property markets are now easing. However, these conditions are not expected to last, so we suggest first time buyers act quickly.”

Mr Spratt said he was excited to announce that Mortgageport was moving to help first time buyers make their dream purchase by offering a \$5,000 cash payment to eligible buyers.

“Mortgageport has negotiated a very attractive offer with one of our wholesale lending partners to provide first home buyers with a one-time \$5,000 cash upfront payment. The payment is made on or after settlement of the loan.

Mr Spratt said the \$5,000 bonus would have an additional benefit for many borrowers of reducing mortgage insurance costs. “For a borrower with a \$400,000 home loan secured against a property being purchased for \$444,000, the mortgage insurance premium payable would be \$9,400. If the loan was reduced to \$395,000 (courtesy of our bonus) the mortgage insurance premium would drop to \$5,933. That is a saving of over \$3,400 in addition to the \$5,000 bonus.”

Mr Spratt confirmed that the \$5,000 cash bonus can be used in conjunction with the loan, or the borrower could opt to have the cash paid to them for other purposes on the day the loan settled.

Mr Spratt also stated that the Government First Home Owners Grant is now restricted to people who purchase a property worth less than \$750,000. The Mortgageport offer has no such restrictions and is available to all first home buyers for loans between \$400,000 and \$2,000,000.

The offer is limited to the first 200 borrowers. Applicants should call 02 9466 8200 to make contact with a Mortgage Consultant. Please note applicants will be required to come to Mortgageport's Milsons Point offices to complete a 100-point ID check.

Mortgageport – About Us

Established in 1998, Mortgageport is an Australian-owned mortgage broker, 50% owned by the publicly listed OFG Group Ltd. Our commitment to finding our clients the right home loan choices specific to their individual needs, has seen our Mortgage Consultants deliver nearly \$3 billion dollars in loans for over 10,000 highly valued clients.

At Mortgageport we understand that everybody's different. The first thing to know about us is that we pride ourselves on getting to know our clients and making their home loan choice easy. Whether you're buying your **first home, investing, upgrading or refinancing**, we understand that your needs in a home loan will be different to everyone else's.

To give our clients the best possible choice of loans on offer, we are licensed to provide options from both the retail and wholesale market. This means our clients can choose from off-the-shelf home loan products from one of our 14 major banks, retail mortgage providers, or have a home loan created specific to needs from one of our two wholesale lenders.

*<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/5609.0>

First Home Buyers	Mar-2009	6317
	Mar-2010	2545

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