**Media Release**

Friday, 22 June 2012

**ING DIRECT WINS GLOBAL TECH AWARD FOR INNOVATION**

ING DIRECT has been awarded a global NetApp 2012 Innovation Award for its ‘Bank in a Box’ concept, as part of a ceremony at The Tech Museum in San Jose, California.

The Efficiency Innovation award, one of just three categories, was accepted by ING DIRECT CIO, Andrew Henderson, and Ben Issa who led the ‘Bank in a Box’ project.

“To be recognised on an international scale has been amazing. We knew this was important for ING DIRECT but it is clearly having an impact on the industry as a whole, so we’re incredibly proud,” said Henderson.

The award identifies ‘companies using less budget for equipment, people, power, space, and capacity - with the end benefits of decreasing complexities and increasing operational efficiency.’

‘Bank in a Box’ enables the rapid provisioning of ING DIRECT’s complete operating environment, this includes a full set of the bank’s applications, services, configurations and 5.5 terabytes of data - reducing the time associated with environment provisioning from three months to ten minutes.

The 8th annual awards program recognises visionary organisations around the world that are building agile IT infrastructures to outpace, out-innovate, and outperform their competition and achieve remarkable results. The winners and finalists of the Innovation Awards program were honored on Wednesday, June 20, 2012.

**-ENDS-**

To watch a video on ‘Bank in a Box’, visit the ING DIRECT [Online Newsroom.](http://ingdirect.wieck.com/releases/ing-direct-australia-innovates-with-bank-in-a-box-data-centre-solution)

For more information on the Innovation Awards Program: <http://www.netapp.com/us/company/our-story/innovation-awards/>

**Media contact:**

Caroline Thomas

PR Manager, ING DIRECT

+61 2 9018 5160

+61 413 317 225

caroline.thomas@ingdirect.com.au

**About ING DIRECT**

ING DIRECT pioneered branchless banking in Australia by offering the first online, high interest, fee free savings account. Our low cost operating model allows us to pass these savings on to the customer in the form of great value products and services. Today, ING DIRECT has more than 1.4 million customers with $26 billion in deposits and $38 billion in mortgages and a range of innovative banking products.

**Please note ING DIRECT is never abbreviated to ING.**

**About the NetApp Innovation Awards**

In 2004, [NetApp introduced the Innovation Awards program](http://www.netapp.com/us/company/news/Network_Appliance_Honors_Customers_With_First_Annual_NetApp_Innovation_Awards.html) to recognize visionary companies that embody a culture of innovation with technology, products, people and services that achieve remarkable results for business. The award recipients are selected by a prestigious third-party panel of international judges who conduct a critical, unbiased assessment of real-world deployments at customer sites. More than 200 global nominations were submitted for customers and partners representing wide-ranging industries, such as healthcare, financial services, entertainment, energy, and education, each highlighting new and innovative ways to impact business.