

## **CIO shake-up at BT Financial and IAG**

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by Melanie Timbrell, FST Media

Long-serving Chief Information Officer of BT Financial Group (BTFG), Tony Forward, is leaving the Group after nine years following an organisational restructure designed to more closely integrate IT functions with parent company, Westpac.

The move will see Forward's replacement, Richard Holmes – BTFG's current Head of Technology, Platforms, Super and Retirement, report directly to Westpac Chief Technology Officer Sarv Girn, rather than BTFG's Group Chief Executive Brad Cooper.

"The BT Financial Group IT team will be re-pointing into The Westpac Group IT division – becoming more closely integrated into Group Technology while continuing to work in close partnership with the broader BTFG business," a BTFG spokesperson told FST Media.

The move is part of a wider restructure which will also see the creation of a new Business Transformation division, lead by general manager John Shuttleworth. Forward will remain with the Group in the short term to assist with the transition.

In a separate move, Insurance Australia Group is searching for a new Chief Information Officer, following Neil Whiteing's move to the Group's Australian intermediated arm, CGU.

Whiteing will assume the new position of Chief Operating Officer overseeing business operations and business technology services, as well as HR and legal functions, effective September.

"I see it as a great opportunity to expand the focus of my current role and really get close to CGU, particularly as it is enhancing its focus on the customer and driving profitable growth," said Whiteing.

The move comes as part of broader changes to the CGU leadership structure designed to better position the company for profitable growth, according to new CGU CEO Peter Harmer.

Harmer joined the company in November 2010 following former CEO Duncan West's resignation.

IAG is due to announce its FY11 results on August 25.