

February 18, 2009

14th Annual Public Funds Summit

George Douglas, SSI's Chief Investment Officer, will be a panelist at IMN's upcoming 14th Annual Public Funds Summit, March 16-18, 2009 at the St. Regis Monarch Beach in Dana Point, CA.

Over the past year, pension trustees and their consultants have challenged the utility of every investment strategy, scrutinizing performance, volatility and transparency. As a result, many pensions are rebalancing portfolios, migrating funds back to fixed income strategies, and reevaluating equity plays.

The members of the panel will closely review the asset allocation mix and how it is being fine-tuned to manage the current economic tide. Janet C. Becker-Wold, Senior Vice President, Callan Associates, will moderate the panel which, in addition to Mr. Douglas, includes: Rhett Humphreys, Partner & Senior Consultant, NEPC, Keith Hembre, Chief Economist and Chief Investment Strategist, FAF Advisors, Inc. and Kristin Finney Cooke, Principal, Mercer.

Mr. Douglas, who has over 31 years experience managing convertibles, will discuss the advantages of fixed income credit strategies, focusing on Convertible Bonds in particular. With portfolio yields at over 10% without leverage, attractive valuations and issuers with strong balance sheets, convertibles can play an important role in asset allocation during this recessionary period.

The 14th Annual Public Funds Summit is a leading conference for the public pension plan community, providing an interactive forum for attendees to converse over the course of three days about asset allocation, investment strategies, manager selection and trustee and governance issues. See IMN's website at http://secure.imn.org/web_main/index.cfm for further conference information.