



"Recovery accelerates push for executive pay rises"  
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The economic recovery and a big rebound in the sharemarket over the past seven months are likely to intensify pressure for executive pay rises after a double-digit decline in total pay packets during 2008-09....

Remuneration expert, John Egan of Egan Associates, said concerns were emerging that, given Australia's positive economic position relative to many northern hemisphere trading partners, "companies can't continue for an extended period to not increase pay or address their competitive positioning because there is not an abundance of talent sitting on the bench waiting for work." ...

Mr Egan said the lower bonuses paid in the most recent reporting period reflected an environment of declining company profits.

But there were "some companies that ...over the last 12 months have done quite well and they have responded to that success by paying people well." he said.

The new year should bring a return to "considered pay adjustments", because "most boards and chief executives would be reluctant to pursue a third year of pay pause."

...end.