

9th December 2010

Oriel Securities Appoints New Head of Research and Continues its Investment in High Quality People

Oriel Securities, a leading independent UK corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, today announced that **Mike Trippitt**, who has led Oriel's Financials Research team since 2006, will be succeeding **Eithne O'Leary** as Head of Research at the firm.

Mike joined Oriel Securities in April 2006 from HSBC Investment Bank. For over 17 years Mike has been the UK banks analyst with S G Warburg, Schroder Securities, HSBC and Oriel. Under Eithne's leadership Oriel has continued to take advantage of what it sees as a significant opportunity in the market to hire excellent people to enhance the quality of the services that Oriel can offer to his clients and to maximize its revenue potential. With a substantially larger Research department in place, Eithne, who built the award winning Research team over the past 3 years, has expressed her wish to focus on further developing the firm's Retail franchise both within Research and with Corporates.

Simon Bragg, Chief Executive said: *'Eithne has built a leading research department that consistently produces award winning research. She has recruited excellent analysts and the team now covers 500 large, mid and small cap stocks across 10 sectors. I am delighted that she will now focus her considerable talents on developing further the already strong Retail franchise to the benefit of all areas of the firm. Mike takes over an excellent team and I'm sure his considerable experience will be invaluable as we grow our business further.'*

Investing in high quality people

To further enhance its Equities business Oriel has, over the past few months made significant hires in Research, Sales, Sales Trading and Trading. In the Research department **Anthony Codling** and **Edward Stanford** join from JP Morgan Cazenove and will initiate coverage for Oriel on the Building and Construction sector and Transport respectively. In addition, **Kate Ward** joins from Westhouse Securities as an addition to the Mining research team and **Hannah Piper**, joining from Pricewaterhouse Coopers, will be working with **Jeffrey Harwood** in the Leisure team. **Julie Thomas** joins the Financials Team, from the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, as specialist sales.

Further strengthening the Sales, Sales Trading and Trading teams has also been a key focus and Oriel is delighted to announce that **James Nield** returns to the Oriel Sales team after 2 years at RBC Capital Markets, **Victoria Huxter** will be joining in January from Liberum Capital; previously she was at JP Morgan Cazenove in pan European equity sales. **Georgina Millar** comes to us from JP Morgan Cazenove where she has been focused on Pan-European Equity Sales. On Sales Trading, **Justin Law** has joined from JP Morgan Cazenove where he was a UK Equity Sales Trader and on the Trading desk **Daniel Arnold** has joined from Macquarie.

Simon Bragg, commented: *'I am delighted to announce that Oriel has attracted so many talented people to the firm this year. Being an independent employee owned business has been a major factor in us being able to hire. The business has continued to perform well thanks to our clients' support and we have been able to make this considerable investment in further response to our clients' desires to see us expand'.*

So far this year a total of 53 people have joined Oriel.

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For further information please contact:

Simon Bragg, Chief Executive or Lexa Hunt, COO on 020 7710 7600

Temple Bar Advisory: Alex Child-Villiers, Tom Allison or Alina Ulkina on 020 7002 1080

Notes to Editors:

Oriel Securities is an established, leading corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, established in 2002, with an excellent reputation and a proven track record across the UK market. It is an employee owned company with a partnership culture and an equity participation model and is dedicated to delivering excellence to clients by offering superior, independent advice, the very best in ideas, stability and continuity of service.

The Facts*:

Founded in 2002, Oriel Securities provides the following services: Research, Sales, Sales Trading & Execution and Corporate.

Research

- 26 analysts covering 500 large, mid and small cap stocks across 10 sectors
- Awarded the following recognition by Thomson Extel for its excellence in research:
 - Starmine - Top Ranked Brokers for 2010
 - 1st for FTSE 100 Recommendations
 - 3rd for FTSE 250 Recommendations
 - Extel
 - 1st for Oil & Gas
 - 3rd for Retail, Real Estate & Insurance
 - Top 10 showing in a further four sectors, namely, Leisure & Gaming, Support Services and Construction.
 - 7th leading Brokerage firm Extel Survey of UK Small Caps

Sales, Sales Trading & Execution

- Has one of the largest UK only Sales and Trading desks with 27 dedicated salesmen, sales traders and traders
Market Making in over 200 stocks

Corporate

- 54 retained corporate broking clients
 - average market cap of £297m
- Which breakdown into
 - 12 FTSE 250
 - 10 Midcaps
 - 16 FTSE Small Cap
 - 18 AIM
- In the past 12 months Oriel has advised on 41 transactions worth over £5.7bn, helping our clients to raise £1.2bn

Recent Announcements

- Appointment of Darren Winder as Head of Strategy
- Appointment of Mark Hodds as Head of Execution

Oriel Asset Management

- Launched in September 2009, an alternative asset management business focussed on long-term wealth creation for its clients.

More information visit our web site: www.orielsecurities.com.

*Information is correct as of 19/11/10