

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 2 November 2009

ORIEL SECURITIES APPOINTS HEAD OF EXECUTION

Oriel Securities, the leading corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, today announced the appointment of Mark Hodds as Head of Execution.

Mark joins after 17 years on the Trading desk at Dresdner Kleinwort Securities Ltd, latterly as Head of pan European Trading. In addition, he has another thirteen years experience in the industry working collectively at Natwest Securities Ltd as Associate Director at Morgan Grenfell Securities as Associate Partner and De Zoete and Bevan.

The appointment of Hodds reinforces Oriel's commitment to consistently obtain best execution for clients and continues the investments made this year in building an experienced team, following the hiring of Richard Mee from Goldman Sachs and Simon Jackson from Deutsche Bank, in upgrading the trading systems, and in increasing Oriel's market making capabilities.

Simon Bragg, Chief Executive commented: "I am really pleased that we have attracted someone of Mark's experience and knowledge to Oriel. He will enable us to drive our distribution and execution capabilities to the benefit of our institutional and corporate clients."

Hodds commented "I am looking forward to working alongside Johnny Sutton, Head of Sales and for having the opportunity to increase Oriel's market share derived from secondary trading. There is a real opportunity at Oriel for us to continue to deliver to our clients first class service and execution and ensure that institutional dealing desks have access to Oriel's innovative, insightful and money making research ideas."

For further information please contact:

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

Notes to Editors:

Oriel Securities is an established, leading corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm 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 the very best to clients by offering superior, independent advice, the very best in ideas and stability and continuity of service.

The Facts*:

Oriel Securities:

- Offers: Research; Sales, Sales Trading & Execution; Corporate Finance and Corporate Broking
- UK only Sales and Trading desks with 17 dedicated salesmen and traders
- Makes markets in over 100 stocks
- Has 25 analysts covering 500 large, mid and small cap stocks across 11 sectors
- Has been awarded the following recognition by Thomson Extel for its excellence in research:
 - 1st for General Retail
 - 1st for Oil & Gas
 - 2nd for Investment Funds on a Pan European basis
 - Top ten showing in a further seven sectors, namely, Media, Real Estate, Insurance, Consumer Goods, Leisure, Support Services and Construction.
 - 6th leading Brokerage firm Extel Survey of UK Small Caps
- Has 58 retained corporate broking clients
 - Which combined have an average market cap of £235m
 - Of which 25 are client wins this year
 - Which breakdown into
 - 13 FTSE 250
 - 6 Midcaps
 - 15 FTSE Small Cap
 - 24 AIM
- Has undertaken 20 corporate transaction deals ytd with an aggregate value of more than £3,000m; has helped corporate clients to raise almost £1,000m this year.
- Has 90 employees

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

*Information is correct as of 02/11/09