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ORIEL SECURITIES STRENGTHENS ITS RESEARCH TEAM

Oriel Securities, a leading independent UK corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, continues to strengthen and expand its Research capability with the appointments of **Chris Wickham** (Consumer sector), **John Karidis** (Telecoms sector), **Justin Smith** (Pharmaceuticals sector) and **Vugar Aliyev** (Oil & Gas sector). Justin Smith, Chris Wickham and John Karidis join Oriel Securities as Partners and Vugar Aliyev as Associate Partner.

Chris Wickham has 27 years of experience in the consumer goods sector and most recently worked at Matrix Group. He will work alongside Jonathan Prichard and Eithne O'Leary. John Karidis joins from MF Global with 20 years of research expertise and will initiate Oriel's coverage of the telecommunications sector. Justin Smith will lead Oriel's initiation of the pharmaceutical sector having previously worked at MF Global, Deutsche Bank, JP Morgan and Citigroup covering the sector for over 12 years. Vugar Aliyev joins from Matrix Securities where he was Partner at the Oil and Gas Equity Research team and prior to that, worked at BP for 8 years.

Mike Trippitt, Head of Research at Oriel Securities, said:

"We are delighted to have such experienced and talented analysts joining Oriel's Research team as we continue to expand our services to clients. John, Justin and Chris will initiate on telecoms, pharmaceuticals, and consumer stocks, which are new sectors for Oriel, whereas Vugar will be a valuable addition to our already strong coverage of the oil and gas stocks, thus, further strengthening Oriel's research capabilities. These are important hires for Oriel Securities." Strengthen

END

For further information please contact:

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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:

- Services provided to institutional and corporate clients: Research; Sales, Sales Trading & Execution; Corporate Finance and Corporate Broking
- UK only Sales and Trading desks with 40 dedicated salesmen and traders
- Trading in over 400 stocks
- RSP team offers a full service to retail brokers
- Research coverage of 270 large, mid and small cap stocks across 14 sectors
- Recognised by both Starmine and Thomson Extel for its excellence in research and accuracy of recommendations
- Has 58 retained corporate broking clients with a combined average market cap of £313m, including 13 FTSE 250 constituents
- Has undertaken 26 transactions for clients in the past 12 months with an aggregate value of more than £2bn; has helped corporate clients to raise over £1.5bn in the past 12 months
- Currently has around 150 employees

For more information visit our web site: www.orielsecurities.com.