

19 September 2011

ORIEL SECURITIES ACQUIRES THE VERSATUS DEBT ADVISORY BUSINESS

Oriel Securities, the leading independent UK corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, announces that it has acquired Versatus, the Debt Advisory business. Michael Berry will join Oriel as Head of Debt Advisory and Jacco Brouwer as a Partner.

Versatus, which was founded by Michael and Jacco in early 2009, provides specialist debt advisory services to companies, their owners, debt providers and investors. They advise clients on all aspects of debt, including debt raisings, refinancings, restructurings and secondary debt purchases. As part of Oriel, they will be able to bring to bear Oriel's research and analytical strengths for the benefit of their clients and create additional opportunities by taking advantage of the synergies with Oriel's corporate finance business. Versatus debt advisory services will be an important additional offering to Oriel's corporate clients and will also allow Oriel to further develop its freestanding debt advisory practice. Whilst the Versatus name will continue to be used in parallel to start with, the team will be fully integrated into Oriel's business.

Michael Berry, Head of Debt Advisory, said: *"This is an exciting opportunity for Versatus to join forces with one of the most successful securities firms of recent years with a very strong research focus. Oriel has built an excellent reputation and a proven track record across the UK market by giving clients superior, independent advice and the very best in ideas, backed by stability and continuity of service. It is known for building long-term relationships with clients based upon integrity, for belief in their business and for helping them to make informed, successful decisions"*.

Simon Bragg, Chief Executive, said: *'This is an important development for Oriel Securities and I am delighted that Michael and Jacco are joining Oriel. Working alongside KC Wong and Hugh Samuel, who initiated Oriel's debt advisory capabilities, they will make a formidable combination and build upon an excellent 2011 to date.'*

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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 or Alina Ulkina on 020 7002 1080

Notes to Editors:

About Oriel Securities

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 40 dedicated salesmen and traders
- We trade in just over 400 stocks
- RSP team offers a full service to our broking clients.
- Research coverage of 272 large, mid and small cap stocks across 14 sectors
- Has been recognised by both Starmine and Thomson Extel for its excellence in research and strength of recommendations
- Has 59 retained corporate broking clients – Which combined have an average market cap of £342m, including 14 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 136 employees and expects to grow to around 150 employees by the end of 2011

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

*Information is correct as of 25/08/11