

6th December 2010

(Embargoed until 6/12/10)

ORIEL SECURITIES STRENGTHENS ITS MANAGEMENT TEAM

Oriel Securities, a leading independent UK corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, today announces three new appointments:

- **Paul Thompson** will be joining the firm as Deputy Chief Executive;
- **Glenn Poulter** as Head of Equities;
- **Peter Meinertzhagen** will be joining the Oriel Board as a Non-executive Director.

Simon Bragg, Chief Executive said: 'We are delighted to be announcing the additions to our senior team. Paul, Glenn and Peter bring valuable skills enabling us to build the business further.'

'Both Paul and Glenn are highly experienced, senior equities professionals and their appointment reinforces the excellent progress we have made in Oriel's development to date.'

'Over the last 18 months Peter has been a great asset to Oriel and me. I am really pleased that he will be expanding his advisory role with Oriel by joining our Board.'

The appointments of Paul Thompson and Glenn Poulter

The growth of Oriel's secondary business has been substantial over the past 2 years and it now has a strong team of Equities professionals covering 500 large, mid and small cap stocks across 10 sectors, servicing over 225 institutional clients and market making in more than 200 stocks.

Oriel continues to take advantage of what it sees as a significant opportunity in the market to hire excellent individuals to enhance the quality of the services that Oriel can offer its clients and build a successful business.

Paul joins from Amias Berman & Co, a global fixed income brokerage firm, where he was a founder partner and COO. Prior to that, he was with Citigroup from 1999 to 2008, latterly as COO of Global Investor Sales. Prior to Citigroup, Paul worked at Merrill Lynch Investment Managers, James Capel & Co, County NatWest Securities and BZW/de Zoete & Bevan where he began his City career in 1982.

Glenn was co-CEO of European and Asian Equities at ICAP, from 2008 until July 2010, where he was responsible for building a global agency broker with an emphasis on high quality product and differentiated technology. Prior to ICAP, Glenn was with Schroder Securities/Citigroup for thirteen years where he was latterly Head of Cash Equities. Before that, Glenn worked at Swiss Bank/SBC Warburg, Wood MacKenzie/Nat West Markets, Hoare Govett and the London Stock Exchange, where he began his City career in 1981.

The appointment of Peter Meinertzhagen

Oriel also announces that Peter Meinertzhagen will be joining the Oriel Board as a non-executive Director. Peter joined Hoare & Co in 1965, became a partner of Hoare Govett in 1973 and spent 42 years working in the City prior to his retirement from Hoare Govett in 2007. He has been a member of Oriel's Advisory Board for the past 18 months and this new appointment will enable Oriel to continue to benefit from his considerable wealth of knowledge and experience.

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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 Tom Allison 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 1/12/10