



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Tilney Group appoints Chris Woodhouse as CEO

Tilney, the award winning wealth manager responsible for over £23 billion of client assets, is pleased to announce the appointment of Chris Woodhouse as Chief Executive Officer.

Tilney is a leading UK-wide investment and financial planning firm with a heritage of more than 180 years. Last year saw the successful acquisition and integration of both Towry and Ingenious Asset Management, following which the business has continued to deliver strong organic growth.

Chris succeeds Peter Hall, who is stepping down after dedicating seven years to Tilney, having made an invaluable contribution to the business and overseen a period of major growth and development. Peter will become an adviser to Permira pursuing investment opportunities in global wealth management.

Until February 2017 Chris was CEO of UK motoring and financial services group RAC plc, a position he held for five years. During that period, a combination of strengthening of the RAC brand, improved customer engagement particularly through the use of digital technology and a material expansion of RAC's financial services offer resulted in a doubling of profit. Chris has previously held senior management roles in a number of well-known UK brands including Deputy CEO and Finance Director of Debenhams Plc and Commercial Director and Deputy CEO of Homebase prior to its successful sale to GUS plc. Chris is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and an Associate of the Association of Corporate Treasurers.

Will Samuel, Chairman of Tilney, commented:

"We are delighted to welcome Chris to Tilney where his career and experience working with some of the UK's most recognisable brands will bring real value to Tilney's already strong market position.

"I would like to thank Peter for his major contribution to the development of the firm. Peter has served as Chief Executive of Tilney since 2010, leading the organisation through a period of rapid growth. He has been responsible for the successful integration of the Tilney, Bestinvest, Ingenious and Towry businesses to create one of the leading wealth management firms with over £23bn of client assets and an excellent reputation."

Chris Woodhouse said:

“Tilney is a business that has built a leading position within a highly competitive market, and I am thrilled to be joining. Its success today is a result of bringing together some of Britain’s most respected brands in the wealth management space, with a very high calibre team of professionals and by offering a broad range of services that span financial planning, investment management and an online investment service. Recent changes in in the landscape for pensions mean there is a need for high quality financial advice, investment management and guidance which puts the customer first. I believe there is a real opportunity for Tilney to deliver even greater value to customers and I look forward to working with the team as we enter the next exciting phase”.

-ENDS-

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Note to editors

Chris Woodhouse biography

Chris Woodhouse is the former CEO of RAC Ltd, the second largest UK roadside assistance provider with over 7 million members. The company provides a range of financial services,

Chris has also previously held the following positions:

- Deputy Chief Executive of Debenhams plc following a buy-in backed by CVC, Texas Pacific, and Merrill Lynch Global Private Equity.
- Deputy Chairman of Halfords a buyout backed by CVC. Following a successful Stock Market listing in June 2004 Halfords was judged BVCA large deal of the year.
- Commercial Director and Deputy Chief Executive of Homebase a buyout backed by Permira where a threefold improvement in operating profit was achieved prior to its sale to GUS plc. Following the sale, Homebase was judged European Venture Capital large deal of the year.
- Commercial Director of Birthdays Group following a buyout backed by Permira and PPM ventures.

- Has also held various Finance Director posts including Superdrug, which was then a division of Kingfisher Plc.

He is also a former Chair of Agent Provocateur, the iconic global luxury lingerie brand and the Gondola Group, a market leader in the UK dining sector, operating Pizza Express, Zizzi and ASK, employing over 15,000 people.

Chris is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, was voted Finance Director of the Year 2002/03 and is also an associate member of the Association of Corporate Treasurers.

About the Tilney Group

Tilney is a leading investment and financial planning group that builds on a heritage of more than 180 years. Our clients are private investors, charities and professional intermediaries who trust us with over £23 billion of their assets. We offer a range of services including financial planning, investment management and advice and, through our Bestinvest service, a leading online platform for those who prefer to manage their own investments. We have won numerous awards. Bestinvest was voted best SIPP Provider and Best Fund Platform at the 2017 City of London Wealth Management Awards. Tilney has been awarded Best Advisory Service in the 2015 City of London Wealth Management Awards; Investment Award – Cautious category in the Private Asset Management Awards; and Stockbroker of the Year, Execution-only Stockbroker of the Year and Self-select ISA Provider of the Year 2015, as voted by readers of the Financial Times and Investors Chronicle.

Headquartered in Mayfair, London, the Tilney Group employs over 1,000 staff across our network of 30 offices, enabling us to support clients with a local service throughout the UK.

For further information, please visit: www.tilney.co.uk