



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Matrix Group triples its Investment Banking head count in the last year

24 May 2007: Matrix Corporate Capital LLP (MCC), the rapidly growing Investment Banking business of the Matrix Group today announces the appointment of Charles Good as its Executive Chairman. The team now totals 14 bringing with it great depth of experience, gained over many years with the City's major institutions. Charles will oversee MCC's three divisions, Corporate Finance, Institutional Broking and Research.

MCC differentiates its services for corporate clients and the city institutions that invest in them, by ensuring that its high standards of integrity and responsiveness are backed up by high-quality in-depth research provided by analysts with strong industry backgrounds. Initially MCC is focusing its energies on property, mining, natural resources, clean-technology, media and collective investment funds.

MCC is a Nominated Adviser and Broker for the AIM Market and is a Corporate Adviser for the Plus Market. It is set up to advise firms with market capitalisations between £20million and £250 million and undertakes primary and secondary fund raisings for them in the £5million - £150million range. MCC is also active in the Pre-IPO market raising capital from £1million to £50 million.

Commenting on Charles's appointment, David Royds, Chief Executive of Matrix Group said;

"Charles has an exceptional reputation as a successful builder of businesses and fund raiser. He has raised significant amounts of capital for both quoted and unquoted small to medium sized businesses."

Commenting on Matrix's ambitions in the Investment Banking arena, David Royds continues:

"We are determined to build a 'small but potent investment banking' boutique leveraging off our core competencies of property, mining, natural resources and clean tech."

"In order to differentiate ourselves we have built a team from within our industries, enabling us to deliver entrepreneurial, value added research and greater opportunities to our clients. The recent appointments are all highly respected individuals within our core sectors and are further proof of this commitment."

Charles, aged 61 joins Matrix from Dexia Private Banking, previously Ely Fund Managers, where he was Chairman, major shareholder and integral part of the Management team, with a remit to grow the business. During his tenure Ely grew six-fold in as many years. He negotiated the sale of Ely Fund Managers for £28 million, in 2001, to the large continental banking group, Dexia, at which point Funds under management had grown to more than £600 million. He started his career in the Corporate Finance department of Warburgs, before spending 16 years advising and raising finance for junior high-growth companies, several of which have become significant and successful companies in their fields.

He continues to hold several Chairmanships including AI Claims Solutions Plc, an AIM listed motor insurance outsourcer; Gallega Capital Management LLP, a hedge fund

manager; Hurricane Exploration Plc, a UK North Sea exploration company and is an Advisor to Wyevale, the UK's leading garden centre specialist, following its acquisition of Blooms of Bressingham, where Charles was chairman for 6 years and instrumental in its highly successful turn-round. He has also held a number of other non-executive positions including main board director of Huntsworth Plc, following its acquisition of the Incepta/Citigate group of companies where he had served 18 years as Non-Executive Director of Citigate and its parent companies from its formation in 1988.

Commenting on his appointment, Charles Good said:

"I am delighted to be joining such a strong team of professionals at the beginning of a period of rapid expansion, particularly as their core values are so similar to my own, namely focus on service to our clients, integrity and strong corporate governance."

Charles' appointment follows a number of recent hires by MCC to expand its range of services beyond its existing Corporate Finance business into full Institutional and Corporate Broking backed up by strong research capability.

INSTITUTIONAL BROKING

John McMillan heads up **Institutional Broking** bringing with him over 20 years experience in institutional broking, gained with Hoare Govett, Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein and Credit Agricole; he has been joined by **Dick Hine**, head of trading, who has 25 years trading experience gained at senior level with Bisgood Bishop, UBS and latterly Bridgewell and **Gavin Haywood** who has over 10 years broking experience with Brown Shipley and latterly as head of sales at Corporate Synergy. MCC's operations are lead by **Graham Voke** who has over 20 years experience in operations with Pershing Securities and Dryden Wealth Management; the team is supported by **Robert Martin** who has over 7 years working within the financial markets, mostly with Pershing Securities.

RESEARCH

Pieter Vorster heads up Research and brings a wealth of experience in a number of sectors gained over 17 years principally during his time at UBS and Credit Suisse, where he also gained an II rating in Tobacco. **Brad George**, a geoscientist by training, brings MCC an in depth understanding of the mining, resources and associated service industries in which he worked for 18 years, mainly with the major mining houses, Mount Isa and Western Mining. **Steven Fawkes**, a Chartered Engineer and PhD, brings to MCC more than 20 years experience gained in the energy efficiency and sustainable energy industries, including several years with RWE. He has published a number of insightful papers and a book entitled "Outsourcing Energy Management". He gives MCC a unique ability to assess the latest opportunities in the field of clean-tech energy.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

Matrix Group

Matrix Group, founded in 1987, is a well-established business that delivers investment products and services, ranging from property management to investment banking.

Matrix Corporate Capital is the investment banking business of the Matrix Group. It is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and is a member of the London Stock Exchange. It is a Nominated Adviser (NOMAD) for the AIM Market and a Corporate Adviser for the Plus Markets.

www.matrixgroup.co.uk