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Matrix recruits to build fixed-income business

3rd September 2009: Matrix Corporate Capital LLP (MCC) has appointed Bill Blain and Jim St Johnston as co-heads of Fixed Income as Matrix Group continues to grow its business in response to market developments.

MCC has more than doubled in size since November as it develops its business into a full service integrated issuing house and broker with capabilities across fixed income and equities as well as convertibles and equity linked products.

Bill and Jim each bring more than 20 years of fixed income markets experience to MCC, most recently at KNG Securities where they developed a new fixed income franchise for the specialist convertibles firm.

At MCC they will develop the Fixed Income origination and brokerage business, working on behalf of clients to identify investment and financing opportunities, and will also develop a financial institutions platform focusing on capital-raising for small and mid-sized banks and insurers.

Bill's previous roles include five years at HSBC, where he set up and ran the financial institutions debt capital markets team, and nine years at Bear Stearns from 1993-2002 where he became co-head of the global financial institutions group.

Before joining KNG, Jim spent eight years at ABN Amro where he became global head of syndicate, running ABS, Bank Capital and Emerging Markets businesses. Previously he spent many years trading at Swiss Bank Corporation.

Commenting on the appointments, Chris Merry, Chief Executive of Matrix Group, said:

"Matrix has embarked on a period of major expansion. We have been hiring top professionals in equity broking, corporate finance, research and asset management to grow a strong and diversified financial and capital markets business."

Commenting on the appointments, Charles Good, Chairman of MCC, said:

"We are delighted with the appointment of two such experienced individuals as Bill and Jim to build our fixed income business, a further important step in contributing to the development of Matrix Corporate Capital as a full service debt and equity financing and investment services provider.

Commenting on the opportunity presented by joining Matrix, Bill Blain said:

"While talking to Matrix we found our expectations on the shape of post-crisis capital markets were closely aligned. Matrix has the credentials to become a core player in these newly reborn capital markets. We will be working with clients to innovate new funding initiatives, identify liability management opportunities and extend their capital markets access."

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Notes for Editors

Matrix Corporate Capital LLP (MCC), part of Matrix Group, is an independent, research driven broker and corporate adviser. MCC looks to build strong long term relationships with clients and has specialist sector teams across disciplines to do this. MCC's core values are quality, integrity and delivery. The services include:

- Corporate Broking - providing clients with access to institutional investors for primary and secondary fund raisings, market making and secondary trading.
- Corporate Finance – advice on capital fund raisings for quoted and unquoted companies, mergers and acquisitions advisory and general corporate advisory.
- Research - broad sector coverage.

A specialist Investment Funds team provides corporate finance, research, secondary trading and market making for Investment Companies.

The recent dislocation in markets has allowed MCC to grow its business, moving from an IPO capital raising model to a balanced integrated corporate broking model incorporating trading and market making. The MCC partnership culture is key: people of integrity working in a stable environment, building long term relationships of trust with clients, based on quality of service.

Matrix Group is a privately owned financial services business founded in 1987 whose areas of expertise include Asset Management, Corporate Capital, Property and Specialised Finance. To date Matrix has raised over £7 billion for its investment products and currently has over £2 billion of funds under management. Matrix's staff of around 200 are based in the West End of London at One Vine Street.

Matrix Group Limited is the holding company for the following business activities:

Asset Management:

- Alternative Funds of Funds
- Cash Funds
- Hedge Funds
- Private Client Investment Management
- Private Equity
- VCT Services

Corporate Capital:

- Corporate Broking
- Corporate Finance
- Market Making
- Primary and Secondary Issues
- Research

Property:

- Development
- Investment
- Management

Specialised Finance:

- Alternative Energies
- Private Equity Fund Placement
- Project Finance



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