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# Press Release

20 April 2009

## **Hermes BPK Partners Appoints COO**

Hermes BPK Partners is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Smith-Lyons as Chief Operating Officer.

Mark brings eight years of senior management experience within the investment management industry. Mark was formerly Head of Change Management, Fund Services at Crosby Forstyth and previously Head of Operational Relationship Management at Invesco Perpetual.

Matteo Dante Perruccio, CEO and Founding Partner at Hermes BPK said: "We are delighted Mark is on-board to manage all operational, financial and business processes and procedures for Hermes BPK. We recognise that good governance and robust operational infrastructure and procedures are a necessary prerequisite to attract and keep institutional investors".

**ENDS**

**For further information:**

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## **Notes to editors:**

### **Hermes BPK**

Hermes BPK Partners LLP (Hermes BPK) is a partnership between Hermes and the Management of Hermes BPK Partners. CEO Matteo Dante Perruccio is former co-CEO of Olympia Capital Management and brings over 20 years of industry experience. Co-CIOs Mark Barker and Greg Knott have worked together in the alternative investment management industry since the mid 1980s and are supported by an experienced team that became partners in Hermes BPK in late 2008.

The team have extensive experience of investing in alternative investments covering all strategies with particular emphasis on distressed/ event driven strategies, particularly those that are leverage averse, skill based and focused on extracting value following in-depth fundamental analysis and human judgement.

Providing investment solutions to the BT Pension Scheme, Hermes BPK will use the backing of over £900m of long term investment capital and a clean balance sheet to negotiate and structure new and unique investment propositions for institutional clients.

### **Hermes**

Hermes is a multi boutique asset manager with a truly long-term and responsible approach to delivering investment returns. As a multi boutique we offer our clients the best combination of specialist investment teams and products along with a robust operating platform from which to run them.

Hermes offers investment solutions which range from alternative strategies such as fund of hedge funds, commodities and our engagement focus funds to real estate, private equity and specialist equity products. Hermes invests assets on behalf of 204\* clients across these product areas and has £27.5bn\* under management. Additionally, we help pension funds meet the highest standards of responsible long term ownership through our innovative Equity Ownership Service, which has over £50 billion\* of assets under stewardship.

Hermes is the advisor and principle investment manager for the BT Pension Scheme (BTPS) and BTPS is also the 100% owner of Hermes. This unique relationship gives us a long term parent whose requirement for investment excellence is perfectly aligned with that of all of our other clients and provides a privileged insight which informs our product development.

\* As at 31 December 2008