

Collins Stewart appoints pan-European insurance analyst

London, 4 September 2008. Collins Stewart, a leading independent investment bank, is pleased to announce the further strengthening of its equity research team with the appointment of Ben Cohen as a pan-European insurance analyst.

Ben joins Collins Stewart from UBS where he was part of one of the industry's most highly regarded global reinsurance research teams (ranked 4th by Extel in 2008). He will lead Collins Stewart's coverage of the insurance sector, significantly bolstering the Group's quality research offering to its clients.

Since joining UBS in 1995 straight from Oxford University, Ben has worked as a sell-side analyst. His 13 years of experience began with four years covering the UK non-life insurance sector. Ben then moved to New York to cover US IT Services, returning to London as a European Software & Services analyst and then a European Wireline Equipment analyst. In 2002, he moved to his most recent role as a Reinsurance and P&C analyst covering the large cap pan-European market.

Ben's appointment further demonstrates Collins Stewart's commitment to strengthening its research capabilities. It follows the recent hires of Gordon Guy as a senior global Oil & Gas analyst from JP Morgan, Paul Leyland from Arbutnot as a Leisure and Gaming, Imran Akram from Deutsche Bank to cover construction materials and Aaron Guy from Bear Stearns to cover Real Estate.

John Abularrage, Head of Equities at Collins Stewart, said:

"This is yet another significant hire for Collins Stewart. Ben Cohen is a highly rated insurance analyst who will significantly strengthen our research offering to clients."

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About Collins Stewart plc

Collins Stewart plc is a leading independent investment banking group with offices in 11 geographies worldwide including; London, New York, Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Dublin, Paris, Geneva, Singapore, Tel Aviv, and Mumbai.

With over 750 employees, the Group is organised around four operational divisions; advisory, capital markets, securities and wealth management. All are serviced by Collins Stewart's unique research tool, Quest™.

Collins Stewart is the top fundraiser on London's Alternative Investment Market (AIM), raising £1.3 billion in 2007. The Group's Wealth Management division manages and advises in excess of £4 billion of assets and is the largest investment manager and stockbroker in the Channel Islands. Through its advisory division, Collins Stewart is one of the leading independent corporate finance firms in Europe.

www.collinsstewart.com

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