

THE FINANCIAL SERVICES PRACTITIONER PANEL

PP/03/03

22 July 2003

DOUGLAS GARDNER JOINS PRACTITIONER PANEL

The Financial Services Authority has appointed Douglas Gardner, Chief Executive of Thomson's Group plc, to the Financial Services Practitioner Panel, which represents a cross-section of regulated firms and the interests of practitioners generally. He replaces David Grigson, who steps down from the Panel with immediate effect.

Donald Brydon, Chairman of the Panel, said:

"I am very pleased that Douglas is joining the Panel. This appointment will help us ensure that the Panel continues to provide an authoritative channel for communication at a senior level between the FSA and the financial industries and firms that it regulates. Furthermore, Douglas will bring with him wide experience and expertise of the retail distribution sector – this will continue to make certain that there is an adequate and appropriate balance of knowledge on the Panel and that we maintain our desire to be both an important and representative voice for the regulated community. I would like to thank David Grigson for the insights he brought to the Panel during his tenure."

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. Douglas Gardner joined Thomson's Group plc in 1989 and has been Chief Executive since 1997. He started his career with Halifax Building Society and then moved to Royal Insurance before joining Minet Employee Benefit Services. David Grigson is Chief Financial Officer at Reuters.

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2. The Practitioner Panel was established in November 1998, comprising senior figures from a cross-section of the financial services industry, to provide a high level body available for consultation on policy by the FSA and able to communicate to the FSA views and concerns of the regulated industries. It has a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
3. The other members of the Panel are: Donald Brydon of AXA Investment Managers (Chairman); Jonathan Bloomer of Prudential plc (Deputy Chairman); Alan Ainsworth of Threadneedle Investment Services Ltd.; Matthew Bullock of Norwich and Peterborough Building Society; Clara Furse of the London Stock Exchange; David Hardy of the London Clearing House; Roy Leighton of Credit Lyonnais; Brendan Nelson of KPMG; Michael Quicke of Leopold Joseph and Sons; Roger Sanders of Roger Sanders Associates; Hector Sants of Credit Suisse First Boston; David Verey of the Blackstone Group.
4. Further information on the Panel is available on its website: www.fs-pp.org.uk

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