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1. **ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

UK

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 0.4% in Q1 2008 compared with the previous quarter.
- CPI annual inflation was 2.5% in March 2008, unchanged from February. RPI inflation fell to 3.8% in March 2008, down from 4.1% in February.
 - In March 2008, output price annual inflation for all manufactured products rose to 6.2%. Input price annual inflation rose from 19.7% in February to 20.6% in March.
 - Manufacturing output increased by 0.3% in the three months to February 2008 compared with the three months to November 2007.
 - Services output rose by 0.3% in the three months to February 2008 compared with the three months to November 2007.
 - In Q4 2007, whole economy productivity growth (measured by output per worker) was 1.7% compared with the same quarter a year ago, down from a growth of 2.3% in the previous quarter.
 - In March 2008, the public sector showed a deficit on current budget of £3.6 billion, compared with a deficit of £1.3 billion in March 2007.
 - The overall profitability of UK private non-financial corporations in Q4 2007 was 15.5%, which was a slight increase on the estimate of 15.4% recorded in the previous quarter. The annual net rate of return for private non-financial corporations in 2007 was 15.2%. This compares with the revised estimate of 14.5% in 2006.

- The average house price in the UK in January 2008 stood at £221,758, up from £218,007 in December 2007. UK annual house price inflation in January 2008 was 8%, down from 8.4% in December 2007. Annual house price inflation in London was 13.8% in January 2008, up from 12.2% in December 2007. For the quarter ending January 2008 UK house prices increased by 0.7%. This compares with a price increase of 0.9% for the three months ending October 2007.
- The retail sales volume in the three months December 2007 to February 2008 rose by 1% compared with the previous three months. This follows 0.7% growth in the three months to January.
- Employment rate for people of working age was 74.9% for the three months to February 2008. The number of people in employment for the three months to February 2008 was 29.51 million. This is up 152,000 over the quarter and up 456,000 over the year. The unemployment rate was 5.2% for the three months to February 2008, down 0.1% over the previous quarter and down 0.4% over the year. The number of unemployed people decreased by 39,000 over the quarter and by 90,000 over the year to reach 1.61 million.
- Average earnings including bonuses rose by 3.7% in the year to February 2008, down from 3.9% in January. Average earnings excluding bonuses, or regular pay, rose by 3.8% in the year to February 2008, up from 3.7% in January. In the year to February pay growth (including bonuses) in the private sector and public sector was equal at 3.7%. Excluding bonus payments, private sector and public sector growth both stood at 3.8%.
- During December 2007 to February 2008, the number of visits overseas by UK residents increased by 2% to 18.3 million when compared with the previous three months, while the associated spending increased by 8% to £9.8 billion. Over the same period, number of visits to the UK by overseas residents, remained broadly the same when compared with the previous three months, at 8.7 million. Spending by overseas residents on visits to the UK increased by 2% to £4.4 billion.
- During the 12 months to February 2008 visits by overseas residents to the UK rose by 3%, from 33.1 million to 33.9 million. In the same 12 month period, visits abroad by UK residents increased by 2%, from 69.9 million to 71.6 million.
- There was a current account deficit of £8.5 billion in Q4 2007, down from a deficit of £19.1 billion in the previous quarter. Earnings on direct investment abroad rose £1.4 billion to £22.2 billion while earnings on direct investment in the UK fell £10.1 billion to £4.1 billion. The current account for the year 2007 was in deficit by £57.8 billion, compared with a deficit of £50.7 billion in 2006.
- The UK's deficit on trade in goods and services was £4.4 billion in February 2008, compared with a revised deficit of £5 billion in January. (originally published as a deficit of £4.1 billion). The deficit with the EU narrowed to £3.5 billion, compared with £3.7 billion in January and the deficit with non-EU countries narrowed to £4 billion compared with a deficit of £4.3 billion in January.

For previously released UK economic indicators visit National Statistics <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

LONDON

- In the most recent 28-day period, (From 3 February 2008 to 1 March 2008) London's Underground and buses had 260.7 million passenger journeys; 173.7 million by bus and 87 million by underground.
- The moving average annual rate of growth in passenger journeys was 6.9%.
- The rate of claimant count unemployment in London was 2.6% in March 2008. There were 131,900 unemployment claimants in London in March 2008, compared with 158,200 in March 2007.
- London's annual growth in output remained the same in Q3 2007, as the upwardly revised 4.6% in Q2 2007.
- London's annual employment growth increased to 1.6% in Q3 2007 from a downwardly revised 0.1% in Q2 2007.
- Annual house price inflation in London fell to 2.1% in Q1 2008, from a downwardly revised 4.3% in Q4 2007. Annual house price inflation in the UK decreased to 1.2% in Q1 2008 from a downwardly revised 5.1% in Q4 2007.
- 10.5 million passengers travelled through London's airports in March 2008. The number of passengers using London's airports increased by 1.7% from March 2007 to March 2008.
- The SPSL Retail Traffic Index of shoppers in London was 84.4 in the first full week of April 2008 compared to 84.2 in the previous week.
- The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) of business activity recorded 52.6 in March 2008 compared to 56.4 in February 2008.
- The PMI for level of employment in London firms was 51 in March 2008 compared to 52.8 in February 2008.

US

- Personal income increased \$56 billion, or 0.5%, disposable personal income (DPI) increased \$48.7 billion, or 0.5% percent, Personal consumption expenditures (PCE) increased \$12 billion, or 0.1% in February 2008.
- February 2008 exports of \$151.4 billion and imports of \$213.7 billion resulted in a goods and services deficit of \$62.3 billion, up from \$59 billion in January, revised. February exports were \$3 billion more than January exports of \$148.4 billion. February imports were \$6.3 billion more than January imports of \$207.3 billion. In February, the goods deficit increased \$3.5 billion.

For previously released US economic indicators visit US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

<http://www.bea.gov/index.htm>

NY

- Private employment rose by 700 jobs in February 2008, after an increase of 16,000 jobs in January. (Source: New York State Dept. of Labour)
- The unemployment rate fell to 4.1% in February 2008, from 5.7% in January. (Source: New York State Dept. of Labour)
- The NYC hotel occupancy rate in February 2008 was 80.8%, up from 77.9% in February 2007. (Source: New York State Dept. of Labour)
- The Direct Class A office vacancy rate was 4.3% in March 2008, while the average asking rent was \$83 per SF. (Source: New York State Dept. of Labour)
- Passengers in NYC's airports totaled 5 million in February 2008, up 4.9% from February 2007. (Source: New York State Dept. of Labour)
- In March 2008, direct vacancy rates in Downtown areas increased 0.3% to 3.2%, while direct office rental rates rose to \$62 PSF. (Source: Cushman and Wakefield)
- In February 2008, Midtown Class A direct office vacancy rates remained at 4.9% while average rental rates increased \$1 to \$87 PSF. (Source: Cushman and Wakefield)
- The total Manhattan sublease vacancy rate was 1.5% in March 2008, up from 1.1% in February. (Source: Cushman and Wakefield)
- In February 2008, 5 million passengers flew into and out of the region's airports, a 4.9% increase from February 2007 passenger levels. (Source: Port Authority of New York and New Jersey)
- In February 2008, the average daily hotel room rate was \$265, an 8.8% increase from February 2007. (Source: PKF Consulting)
- Hotel occupancy was 80.8% in February 2008, up from 77.9% in February 2007. (Source: PKF Consulting)
- Broadway attendance during the four weeks ending March 30, 2008 was approximately 1 million, a 2.7% increase from the same period last year. Broadway revenue during this period was roughly \$76 million, a 1.9% increase from last year. (Source: The Broadway League)
- Total ridership on MTA subways, trains and buses in January 2008 was roughly 208 million, an increase of 3.1% from January 2007. In January 2008, subway ridership was roughly 131 million, an increase of 4.3% from January 2007. (Source: Metropolitan Transportation Authority)
- For the four months ending February 2008: There were 1,885 building projects (including new, additions and alterations) that started construction in NYC, a 13% decrease from the four months ending February 2007. There were 78 infrastructure (non-building) project starts, a decrease of 6% from last year. (Source: Dodge Analytics)
- Planned space for building project starts is approximately 9.8 million square feet, a 26% decrease from the same period last year. (Source: Dodge Analytics)

2. INVESTMENT INDICATORS_

UK/US/Global

UK Investment Position: Fourth Quarter 2007

The UK surplus on direct investment income was £18 billion in Q4 2007, up on the £6.5 billion surplus in the previous quarter. UK earnings on direct investment abroad were £22.2 billion in Q4 2007, up £1.4 billion on Q3. Foreign earnings on direct investment in the UK fell to £4.1 billion in Q4 2007, compared with earnings of £14.2 billion in Q3.

Portfolio investment income recorded a deficit of £0.3 billion in Q4 2007, down from a deficit of £0.6 billion in Q3. UK earnings on holdings of foreign securities rose by £0.5 billion in Q4 2007, to £16.6 billion and foreign earnings on portfolio investment in the UK rose by £0.2 billion in Q4 2007, to £16.9 billion.

The deficit on earnings from other investment increased by £0.2 billion to £8.5 billion in Q4 2007. UK earnings on other investment abroad were £35.4 billion, an increase of £1 billion from the previous quarter. Foreign earnings on other investment in the UK increased by £1.2 billion, to £43.9 billion.

The financial account showed a net inflow (inward investment) of £7.5 billion in Q4 2007, compared with a net inflow of £28.2 billion in Q3. There was net investment abroad of £171.8 billion in Q4 2007, £17.3 billion higher than Q3. Net investment in the UK was £179.3 billion in Q4 2007, £3.4 billion lower than in Q3.

Direct investment abroad showed net investment of £64.3 billion in Q4 2007, compared to net investment of £22.7 billion in Q3. Direct investment into the UK showed net investment of £22.5 billion in Q4 2007, compared with net investment of £15.6 billion in Q3.

Portfolio investment abroad showed net investment of £2.5 billion in Q4 2007, following net disinvestment of £18.8 billion in Q3 and Portfolio investment in the UK showed net investment of £29.4 billion in Q4 2007, compared with net investment of £42.9 billion in Q3.

Other investment abroad showed net investment of £97.2 billion in Q4 2007, down from £147.7 billion in Q3. Other investment in the UK showed net investment of £127.5 billion in Q4 2007, compared with £124.3 billion in Q3.

The UK international investment position showed net external liabilities of £351.3 billion at the end of Q4 2007 compared with net external liabilities of £318.4 billion at the end of the previous quarter. UK assets abroad increased by £276.7 billion from the end of the third quarter to a level of £6445.9 billion at the end of Q4 2007. UK liabilities increased by £309.5 billion over the same period to a level of £6797.2 billion.

UK Investment Position for the year 2007

There was a direct investment surplus of £37.5 billion in 2007, £5.2 billion higher than the previous year. UK earnings on direct investment abroad increased to £86.7 billion in 2007 from £84.3 billion in 2006. Foreign earnings on direct investment in the UK in 2007 were £49.2 billion, down from £52 billion in 2006.

In 2007 the balance on Portfolio investment showed a deficit of £1.7 billion, £0.1 billion lower than in the previous year.

The deficit on other investment rose from £22.7 billion in 2006 to £30.5 billion in 2007. UK earnings on other investment abroad rose by 38% from 2006, to £130.1 billion in 2007 while foreign earnings on other investment in the UK also rose by 38% to £160.7 billion

In 2007 there was a net inflow (Inward investment) of £62 billion, compared with a net inflow of £44.8 billion in 2006. UK investment abroad in 2007 was £1024.1 billion, compared with £671.7 billion in 2006. Foreign investment in the UK was £1086.1 billion in 2007, compared with £716.5 billion in 2006.

Direct investment abroad in 2007 showed investment of £114.9 billion, compared to investment of £47.2 billion in 2006. Direct investment in the UK was £92.9 billion in 2007, compared with £80.5 billion in 2006.

In 2007 Portfolio investment abroad showed net investment of £134.2 billion, following net investment of £198.5

billion recorded in 2006. In 2007 Portfolio investment in the UK showed net investment of £189.6 billion compared with £157.6 billion in 2006.

Other investment abroad in 2007 saw net investment of £756.3 billion, compared with net investment of £434 billion in 2006. Other investment in the UK saw net investment of £803.5 billion in 2007, compared with net investment of £478.4 billion in 2006.

Compared with the position at the end of 2006, UK assets and liabilities have risen by 21.5% and 20.4% respectively. The UK's net liability position has widened by £7.4 billion, from £343.8 billion at the end of 2006.

US Investment Position: Fourth Quarter 2007

In Q4 2007, income receipts on US owned assets abroad decreased to \$203.5 billion from \$205.7 billion. Income payments on foreign owned assets in the United States decreased to \$168.8 billion from \$182.6 billion.

Net financial inflows- net acquisitions by foreign residents of assets in the United States less net acquisitions by US residents of assets abroad were \$230.1 billion in Q4 2007, up from \$111.1 billion in Q3. Net acquisitions by foreign residents picked up, and net acquisitions by US residents slowed.

US owned assets abroad increased \$116.5 billion in Q4 2007, following an increase of \$174 billion in Q3. Foreign owned assets in the United States increased \$346.6 billion in Q4 2007, following an increase of \$276.6 billion in Q3.

US direct investment abroad increased \$116.4 billion in Q4 2007, following an increase of \$58.7 billion in the third. Foreign direct investment in the United States increased \$39.9 billion in Q4 2007, following an increase of \$101.3 billion in the third.

US Investment Position for the year 2007

In 2007, income receipts on US owned assets abroad increased to \$779.3 billion from \$647.6 billion. Income payments on foreign owned assets in the United States increased to \$698.2 billion from \$604.4 billion.

Net financial inflows- net acquisitions by foreign residents of assets in the United States less net acquisitions by US residents of assets abroad were \$657.4 billion in 2007, down from \$833.2 billion in 2006. Net acquisitions by US residents increased much more than net acquisitions by foreign residents.

US owned assets abroad increased \$1,206.3 billion in 2007, following an increase of \$1,055.2 billion in 2006. Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$1,863.7 billion in 2007, following an increase of \$1,859.6 billion in 2006.

US direct investment abroad increased \$335.4 billion in 2007, following an increase of \$235.4 billion in 2006. Foreign direct investment in the United States increased \$204.4 billion in 2007, following an increase of \$180.6 billion in 2006.

Summary Estimates for Multinational Companies: Employment, Sales, and Capital Expenditures for 2006

Worldwide employment by U.S. multinational companies (MNCs) increased 3.3% in 2006, to 31.3 million workers, following a 1.4% increase in 2005. Employment in the United States by U.S. parent companies increased 2.7%, to 21.9 million workers, following a 0.8% increase. The employment by U.S. parents accounted for almost one-fifth of total U.S. employment in private industries. Employment abroad by the majority-owned foreign affiliates of U.S. MNCs increased 4.7%, to 9.4 million workers, following a 3% increase.

Worldwide capital expenditures by U.S. MNCs increased 17.8% in 2006, to \$547.6 billion, following an increase of 7.2% in 2005. Capital expenditures in the United States by U.S. parents increased 16.5%, to \$394.2 billion,

following an increase of 9%. Capital expenditures abroad by majority-owned foreign affiliates increased 21.3%, to \$153.4 billion, following a 2.4% increase.

Sales by U.S. parent companies increased 7.5% in 2006, to \$8,283.7 billion, following a 9.1% increase in 2005. Sales by majority-owned foreign affiliates increased 10.3%, to \$4,113.9 billion, following a 12.6% increase.

Employment in the United States by majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs increased 1.8% in 2006, to 5.3 million workers, following an increase of 0.9% in 2005. The employment by affiliates accounted for 4.5% of total U.S. employment in private industries. Capital expenditures by these affiliates increased 20.2% in 2006, to \$141.2 billion, following a 4.5% increase in 2005. Sales by affiliates increased 10.8%, to \$2,764.4 billion, following an 8.8% increase.

Employment in the United States by U.S. parent companies accounted for 70% of the worldwide employment of U.S. MNCs in 2006, down from 71% in 2005. The U.S.-parent share of the worldwide capital expenditures of U.S. MNCs in 2006 was 72%, down from 73% in 2005.

3. NEW INVESTMENTS

US Investments into the UK

Satellier Opens London Office

Satellier Inc., the global leader in workshare solutions and pioneer in Building Information Modeling services (BIM) for the architecture, engineering, construction and building owner (AECO) industry, announced that it has opened a London office to directly serve the UK market. Mikele Brack has joined Satellier from Atlas Industries as Executive Vice President and will lead the company's London office and European business development efforts.

Satellier Inc (Corporate Office), 5516 West Foster Avenue, Chicago, Illinois-60630. Tel: 001- 866 305 7553 Fax: 001- 866 571 7555 Email: info@satellier.com Website www.satellier.com

Satellier Inc, 230 Park Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10169, Tel: 001- 212 551 3506 Fax: 001-212 551 3509

Method Expands Global Presence with New London Office

Method, a leading brand experience agency, announced the opening of a new office in London to expand their presence in the growing European market. In addition, the firm is also announcing the appointment of Claus Nehmzow as General Manager, International. Nehmzow will oversee the London office and will help expand the company's international footprint. He will also be leading Method's Virtual World/Immersive Experiences efforts, where he will work with clients to properly integrate virtual worlds into their interactive branding and communications strategies.

Method, 972 Mission Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94013. Tel: 001-415 901 6300 Fax: 001- 415 901 8310

Method, 151 Lafayette Street, 5th Floor, New York NY 10013. Tel: 001-212 981 9499 Fax: 001-212 981 8195

Website: www.method.com.

AIRS Expands Global Presence With UK Office

AIRS, a company of The RightThing and the leader in recruitment training, technology and outsourcing, announced it has opened a regional office in the UK and hired country manager, Matt Jessop. Jessop, who has nearly 15 years experience in the UK recruiting industry, will be responsible for introducing AIRS SourcePoint technology, which has been specially tailored for the UK market, as well as continuing to ramp up recruitment training in various UK locations this year.

AIRS US Headquarters, 58 Fogg Farm Road, White River Junction, VT 05001. Tel: 001-800 466 4010 Fax: 001-888 997 5559 Website: <http://www.airsdirectory.com>.

AIRS Human Capital Solutions UK Ltd, 68 Hamble Road, Stone Cross, Pevensey, East Sussex BN24 5PU. Tel: 01323 743601, Website: www.airsdirectory.co.uk.

Opticon Establishes UK Office

OptiCon Systems, Inc. a Network Management Software and Professional Services Company that enables

medium and large companies to accurately and cost-effectively manage the physical and logical layers of their fiber and wire networks, announced that it plans to expand its sales and marketing reach into Europe, by opening an office in the United Kingdom. For the next few months the Company will work diligently to have the necessary resources for this proposed expansion. While several cities are being considered, London is the first preference due to its easy access to all the major telecommunications centers in the UK, Europe, and beyond.

Opticon Systems Inc, Corporate Headquarters, 1701 W Northwest Hwy, Suite 100-54, Grapevine, TX 76051
Tel: 001- 817 305 0628 Fax: 001- 813 354 2739, Sadruddin Currimbhoy, CEO, Website: www.opticonsystemsinc.com

Autotask Opens London Office for UK Operations & EMEA Expansion

Autotask Corporation, the leading provider of web-based business management software for outsource IT service companies, has expanded its global footprint with a new office dedicated to UK operations and EMEA expansion. The London office opened on January 15 and has produced immediate results with new customers in the UK, Scandinavia, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. From the new office, Autotask is working closely with its existing customer base, as well as with industry organizations, global and local managed services vendors, channel partners, and IT distributors.

Autotask Corporation, 26 Tech Valley Drive, Suite 2, East Greenbush, NY 12061. Tel:001-518 720 3500 Fax: 001-518 720 3407 Email: info@autotask.com Website: www.autotask.com

Autotask Corporation, PO Box 272, Chertsey, KT16 6BL. Tel: 0203 00 63147, David Salzberg, Managing Director, Email: info@autotask.com Website: www.autotask.co.uk

iPerceptions Opens London Office

New-York headquartered online customer satisfaction specialist iPerceptions has opened a permanent office in London, England. The new London office will allow iPerceptions to enhance its service to clients based in the U.K. and will provide a gateway for iPerceptions into the rest of Europe. Overseeing iPerceptions European expansion is Edward Chatham, iPerceptions' Director of Sales, Europe.

iPerceptions, 575 Madison Avenue, Suite 1006, New York, NY 10022-2511. Tel: 001-877 796 3600 Fax: 001-866 484 2600, Jerry Tarasofsky, CEO, Email: info@iperceptions.com Website: www.iperceptions.com

iPerceptions, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB, Tel: 0800 085 8414 Fax: 020 7936 9100, Edward Chatham, Director of Sales, Europe

Tempus to Open New UK Location

Tempus Consulting, a leading provider of corporate foreign exchange (FX) and international payment services, recently unveiled plans to open its first overseas office in the United Kingdom. Tempus UK, Ltd will be opening this summer in the city of Oxford, near London. The new operation will support clients based throughout the United Kingdom and is expected to grow to ten staff members over the next year. Tempus provides expert, cost-effective foreign exchange (FX) and cross-border payment solutions to thousands of companies in a variety of market segments including art and antique dealers, freight forwarders, tour operators, and a large array of importers including automotive, wine, furniture and equipment companies.

Tempus Consulting, 1612 K. Street NW, Suite 204, Washington, DC 20006. Tel: 001- 202 785 5534 Fax: 001-202 785 2554 Email: information@tempusconsulting.com Website: www.tempusconsulting.com

Tempus UK Limited, 8 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP

BATS Opens London Office

BATS Trading Inc. announced the formation of BATS Trading (Europe), formally signaling BATS' move into the European equities market, and is targeting live trading on its European platform in 2008. As part of the move, BATS will have an office and a separate data center in London. Ken Conklin, senior vice president of business development for BATS Trading, will assist with opening the London office. BATS Trading, based in Kansas City, Missouri, with additional offices in New York, was launched in January 2006 and operates one of the fastest-growing, top-tier equity markets in the United States. The BATS platform is developed by a core team of market and technology professionals, catering to the needs of the broker-dealer community

BATS Trading, Inc. 4151 N. Mulberry Drive, Suite 275, Kansas City, MO 64116. Tel: 001-816 285 9900
Website: www.batstrading.com

BATS Trading Ltd, 6 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3LX

Palmer Johnson to Create 800 Jobs in UK

At least 800 jobs will be created when Wisconsin-based super yacht builder Palmer Johnson establishes its UK base in Hampshire. The company is to build a range of bespoke vessels in Hythe and Woolston in Southampton. Palmer Johnson is primarily engaged in building and repairing ships, barges, and lighters, whether self-propelled or towed by other craft. The services also include the conversion and alteration of ships and the manufacture of off-shore oil and gas well drilling and production platforms.

Palmer Johnson, 128 Kentucky St, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235. Tel: 001-920 743 4412, Mike Kelsey President, Website: www.palmerjohnson.com

UK Investments into the US

Cognisco Establishes US Subsidiary

Cognisco Ltd., an intelligent employee assessment solutions specialist, announced the opening of its US subsidiary, Cognisco USA Inc., headquartered in New York City. Cognisco's employee assessment solutions address the growing need for key corporate decision makers including CEOs and HR directors to bring together the different human capital management functions and direct them toward driving improvements in employee performance and business performance. Establishing a U.S. operation is an essential part of Cognisco's growth strategy. Cognisco customers include some of the world's largest organizations, many headquartered in the U.S. The company's new U.S.-based sales and operations team will localize service provisioning for existing U.S. clients and develop additional business in key vertical markets, including financial services, pharmaceuticals, petrochemicals and transportation. Stewart Feller joins Cognisco USA Inc. as vice president of sales.

Cognisco Ltd, Conway House, Medway Court, University Way, Cranfield Technology Park, Cranfield Bedford MK43 0FQ. Tel: 01234 757520 Fax: 01234 757521, Mary Clarke, CEO, Email: information@cognisco.com Website: www.cognisco.com

Cognisco US, Inc, 1230 Avenue of the Americas - 7th Floor, Rockefeller Plaza Center, New York 10020. Tel: 001-646 756 2842, Stewart Feller, VP Sales.

Good Products Establishes US Office

Good Products, a leading provider of Enterprise Content Management (ECM) systems for the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries announced the opening of new US offices to drive commercial growth. The facility in Irvine, California, will enable Good Products to support existing North American customers as well as introducing new products to the US market. Former ClinPhone Senior VP of sales and marketing, Patrick Hughes, will lead US growth from the new office in Irvine. This strategic location allows Good Products to provide sales, support and marketing to the wide number of small and mid-sized pharmaceutical and biotechnology organisations clustered in Southern California.

Good Products Limited, BioCity Nottingham, Pennyfoot Street, Nottingham NG1 1GF. Tel:0115 912 4544 Fax: 0115 912 4546 Email: info@goodproductseu.com Website: www.goodproductsltd.com

Good Products LLC, University Tower, 4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550, Irvine, California 92612. Tel: 001- 949 725 2946 Email: info@goodproductsus.com Website: www.goodproductsUS.com

Aepona Expands North American Operations

Aepona, the leading supplier of software products and solutions to telecommunications operators globally, announced its further expansion into the North American market, and also the appointment of Al Snyder as its new CEO. The expansion capitalises on recent successes for its Telecom Web Services solution with Tier 1 operators in the US and Canada, and includes the establishment of a US subsidiary, Aepona Inc., based in Denver, Colorado.

Aepona Ltd, Interpoint Building, 20-24 York Street, Belfast BT15 1AQ. Tel: 028 9026 9100 Fax: 028 9026 9111 Email: contact@aepona.com Website: www.aepona.com

Aepona Ltd, Unit 8, Apex Court, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4JT.

Aepona, 414 S. Ridge Avenue, Arlington heights, IL 60005-1716. Tel: 001-847 9200 Fax: 001-847 670 9824

Creative SharePoint Opens New Office in Austin, Texas

UK-based Creative SharePoint, Ltd., a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner, announced the opening of a new office in Austin, Texas. Creative SharePoint is a unique SharePoint consultancy working hand in hand with a creative design agency, delivering the technological know-how and power of Microsoft's SharePoint product with an artistic flair. The US-based Creative SharePoint business is being directed by Michael Tucker, president, and Susan Booth, chief information officer. Creative SharePoint's Austin-based US offices already has generated interest from across the nation in providing implementation and custom development services to multiple industries.

Creative Sharepoint UK, The Old Bakehouse, 26 High Street, Twyford, Berkshire RG10 9AG. Tel: 0118 934 7911 Fax: 0118 934 3066, Oliver Stickley, Managing Director, Email: info@creative-sharepoint.com Website: www.creative-sharepoint.com

Creative Sharepoint US, 9225 W. Parmer Lane, Suite 104, Austin, Texas 78717. Tel: 001-512 659 0113, Michael Tucker, President, Email: info@creative-sharepoint.com Website: www.creative-sharepoint.com

Really Useful Products to Open US Plant

UK-based Really Useful Products, a British maker of storage containers is gearing up to start production at a US unit, Really Useful Boxes, in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. The company already has invested \$4m (€2.5m) to develop new products for American consumers and set up a warehouse, according to Mike Pickles, president of the parent company. The US factory will be modeled after the headquarters plant in Normanton, which has 75,000 square feet of manufacturing space and 25 presses. The company planned to invest around \$5m a year (€3.2m) to bring a complete line to the US market.

Really useful products Ltd, Unit 2, Network North, Foxbridge Way, Normanton, West Yorkshire WF6 1TN. Tel: 01924 898 477 Fax: 01924 898 588, Mike Pickles, Director, Email: boxes@reallyusefulproducts.co.uk Website: www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk

Sirane to Open Plant in North America

A UK plastics packaging firm looks set to branch into the North American manufacturing market by the end of the year. Sirane, based in Telford, is currently investigating new site opportunities across the pond after the US market expressed an interest in its ovenable absorbent pads, rotisserie liners and absorbent cook-in bags. The manufacturing company, which appointed its first US sales manager this month, plans to have a plant up and running by the end of 2008 and eventually open a second in the mid west. Sirane, which employs over 90 people and turns over in excess of £7m (€8.7m) plans to launch its entire range. Sirane manufactures a range of packaging and other products including specialised absorbents, bio-degradable, bio-compostable microwaveable and ovenable materials and protective materials for a number of food and other applications.

Sirane Ltd, Unit 14, Hortonwood 32, Telford, Shropshire TF1 7EU. Tel: 01952 677931 Fax: 01952 291052 Simon Balderson, Managing Director, Email: info@sirane.co.uk Website: www.sirane.co.uk

4. TRADE SHOWS

UK

May 20-22, 2008 - Sustainability Live 2008 -Birmingham NEC

Website: <http://www.sustainabilitylive.com/sliver08/common>

Sustainabilitylive! brings together the successful ET&ES, ICU, NEMEX and IWEX exhibitions. Focusing on the environmental, land remediation, energy and water sectors respectively.

Contact: Cheryl Withers, Commercial Assistant, Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Cheryl.Withers@mail.doc.gov

May 21-22, 2008 - "All-Energy" Renewable Energy Conference & Exhibition 2008 - Aberdeen AEEC

Website: www.all-energy.co.uk

The All-Energy exhibition and conference is the UK's largest event devoted to renewable energy. It's highly relevant to companies actively involved in all areas of the renewable energy industry - wind (onshore and offshore), wave, tidal, hydro, hydrogen and fuel cells, solar and biofuels.

Contact: Richard Stanbridge, Senior Commercial Specialist, Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Richard.Stanbridge@mail.doc.gov

May 22-24, 2008 - The May Series - NEC Birmingham

Website: <http://www.themayseries.co.uk/>

The May Series 2007 represents the UK's leading protection and management exhibitions, featuring well over 1,000 exhibitors, cover Security, Fire, Facilities, Safety & Health and Policing and benefit greatly from being closely aligned to each other.

Contact: Lisa Cogan, Commercial Assistant, Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Lisa.Cogan@mail.doc.gov

June 18-19, 2008 - HR Software Show - Olympia London

Website: www.cipd.co.uk/hrss

The HR Software Show gathers all the leading suppliers of HR technology under one roof providing you with practical advice and solutions to your workplace issues.

Contact: Cheryl Withers, Commercial Assistant, Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Cheryl.Withers@mail.doc.gov

US

May 5-7, 2008 - Waste Expo 2008 - Chicago, IL

Website: <http://wasteexpo.com>

WasteExpo is the largest tradeshow in North America, servicing the \$43 billion solid waste, recycling, and medical waste markets. Industry sectors and exhibits at the show focus on solid waste, recycling, medical waste, and landfill products and services.

Contact: Cheryl Withers, Commercial Assistant, Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Cheryl.Withers@mail.doc.gov

May 17-20, 2008 - National Restaurant Show (NRA) - Chicago, IL

Website: www.dineout.org

The NRA/Show is the leading trade show in the restaurant and hospitality industry.

Contact: Marcella Marcheso, Commercial Specialist, Tel: 020 7894 0419, Email: Marcella.Marcheso@mail.doc.gov

June 16-19, 2008 - NXTcomm 2008 - Las Vegas, NV

Website: www.nxtcommshow.com

The focus of NXTcomm will be the business and technology of communications, information and entertainment.

Contact: Richard Stanbridge, Senior Commercial Specialist, Tel: 020 7894 0419

Email: Richard.Stanbridge@mail.doc.gov

June 18-20, 2008 - InfoComm 2008 - Las Vegas, NV

Website: www.infocomm.org

InfoComm is the leading business-to-business marketplace for display, projection, audio, conferencing, lighting and staging, digital signage, internet streaming and networked presentation and communications systems. More than 28,000 professionals from over 80 countries will gather to explore new products, learn the latest trends and techniques and interact with peers. InfoComm 2007 featured 800 exhibitors and more than 450,000 net square feet of exhibit space.

Contact: Richard Stanbridge, Senior Commercial Specialist Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Richard.Stanbridge@mail.doc.gov

June 28-July 2, 2008 - Institute of Food Technologies Annual Meeting & Food Expo New Orleans, LA

Website: www.am-fe.ift.org/cms/

The IFT Annual Meeting & Food Expo is the most highly regarded new product development forum in the food industry, bringing food technologists, scientists, buyers and sellers from all corners of the food world together.

Contact: Marcella Marcheso, Commercial Specialist, Tel: 020 7894 0419 Email: Marcella.Marcheso@mail.doc.gov

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