

Press Release

13 April 2016

River and Mercantile Derivatives recognised by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries

River and Mercantile Derivatives, the LDI and structured equity division of River and Mercantile Group, today confirms that it has been awarded Quality Assurance Scheme (QAS) accreditation from the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA). River and Mercantile Derivatives is among the first organisations to receive the new QAS certification, announced at an event in London to mark the first awards on Tuesday, 12th April.

The key objective of the scheme is to reinforce confidence in the quality of actuarial work. In order to receive QAS accreditation, organisations must demonstrate the application of policies and procedures in the areas of quality assurance (including peer review), engagement and communication with users of actuarial work, conflicts of interest and development and training. In addition, once QAS accredited, organisations are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure they continue to meet the rigours standards set-out by the IFoA.

Mark Davies, Managing Director, Derivatives, River and Mercantile Group said:

“Receiving QAS authorisation is a fantastic endorsement of the talent and hard work of the derivatives team at River and Mercantile. We are committed to building bespoke solutions that help our clients achieve their goals and the QAS accreditation reflects the high standards we set ourselves.

“Along with delivering quality solutions and results for our clients, one of our goals through the work we do with pension fund trustees is to make the use of derivatives, either through LDI or structured equity, clear and simple to understand. We place great importance on the role of education and look forward to working with the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in educating the industry.”

Announcing the awards to the accredited organisations, Fiona Morrison, IFoA President, said:

“Public confidence in the quality of actuarial work is vital to both commercial and professional success. The IFoA firmly believes that supportive work environments, where work is peer reviewed and where employees can speak up, lead to better quality outputs that our clients want and deserve.

“For some time we’ve been conscious of where our members’ abilities to uphold their professional responsibilities sits. It doesn’t just rest on their personal integrity and competence. It’s also heavily reliant on the culture and environment in which they operate. The IFoA is therefore excited to be accrediting the first winning organisations that have achieved this mark of quality.”

Notes to editors:

About River and Mercantile Group

River and Mercantile Group PLC (the Group) is an advisory and investment solutions business with a broad range of services, from consulting and advisory to fully delegated fiduciary management, liability driven investing and fund management. The Group operates through four principal divisions: Investment Solutions encompassing both advisory and fiduciary management, Derivative Solutions providing structured equity and LDI, Equity Solutions providing both UK and global equity strategies, and the Multi Asset division providing Dynamic Asset Allocation and other multi asset based solutions.

The Group has assets under management of £22.5bn and assets under advice in excess of £30bn, as at 31 December 2015.

About the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries

The Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) is incorporated in the United Kingdom by Royal Charter (No. RC 000243). The IFoA came into being on 1st August 2010 as a result of the merger of the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland. The IFoA is the UK's only chartered professional body dedicated to educating, developing, promoting and regulating actuaries based in the UK and internationally.

The IFoA represents and regulates its members for the benefit of the outside world and oversees their education at all stages of qualification and development throughout their careers. As a professional body it works with employers to encourage and develop their actuarial employees to better themselves, the employer and the financial sector.

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For further information please contact:

Quill PR :

Hugo Mortimer-Harvey
Managing Director
0207 466 5054

Tom Climie
Account Manager
0207 466 5055