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## **NEW CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR APPOINTED TO CARTESIA INVESTMENTS LTD**

H2O is pleased to announce the appointment of two key members to the Board of Cartesia Investments, a financial services company in which H2O is a major shareholder.

Andrew Baum, a leading figure in the property sector, has taken up the position of Chairman. Andrew has been at the forefront of the development of property derivatives as a new asset class since the late 1990s. Andrew can draw on a wealth of experience and contacts gained through a long and highly successful career in property research and investment. In 2006, Andrew sold OPC, the fund of fund business he founded in 2001, to CB Richard Ellis Investors, a leading global property fund manager. Andrew retains a position on the investment committee for the global multimanager team at CB Richard Ellis Investors and is a member of the supervisory board for the Schroder Exempt Property Unit Trust. From 2000 to 2007 he was a non-executive director of Grosvenor Limited and has held senior executive positions at Henderson and Prudential. Andrew is also the Professor of Land Management at the University of Reading.

Speaking on his appointment, Andrew said: "I'm delighted to take on the position of Chairman and look forward to working with the rest of the team to ensure Cartesia fulfils its potential of becoming the leading provider of hedge-fund advisory services in the rapidly-growing global residential and commercial property derivative markets."

Paul Miron, who joins the Board as a non-executive Director, brings 20-years experience in developing sophisticated derivative trading systems for leading financial houses including County NatWest, UBS and Bank of America. Paul holds a PhD in theoretical physics from Oxford and is the co-author of a seminal textbook on interest rate swap pricing. On joining Cartesia, Paul commented: "I'm very excited to be involved with this new venture. The relative immaturity and high growth potential of the property derivatives markets offers exciting opportunities and the quantitative methodologies developed by the Cartesia will help us identify and exploit pricing inefficiencies."

Cartesia Investments Limited has proprietary statistical modelling technology derived from the know-how of academics at Oxford University and the Universite Libre de Bruxelles. The approach, known as spatiotemporal modelling, is used to identify patterns in time and space, and is being applied to regional property price movements. A joint venture between H2O and the academic founders was established to exploit opportunities in the property markets. Dr Paul Coleman, Managing Partner of H2O and Director of Cartesia commented: "It's wonderful to get the endorsement of Andrew and Paul. Their involvement with Cartesia means we have now assembled a team of leading figures from the property research, fund management and derivative sector, which coupled with the skills of the founder academics, positions Cartesia to deliver a unique and powerful offering in the burgeoning property derivatives sector."

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