

SCOTTISH WIDOWS ENHANCES DISTRIBUTION WITH SWIP MULTI MANAGER FUNDS

Scottish Widows has enhanced its fund offering to retail advisers with the addition of the Scottish Widows Investment Partnership (SWIP) Multi Manager funds. The initiative brings together the fund selection skills of SWIP's multi manager team and Scottish Widows' strength in the UK advisory market to make SWIP's two Multi Manager funds available through the Scottish Widows Intermediary Sales network.

The SWIP Multi Manager Diversity fund and SWIP Multi Manager Select Boutiques fund are managed by SWIP's highly regarded multi-manager team led by Mark Harries and Simon Wood. The funds provide investors with access to a wide range of specialist investment funds which are typically not available to the retail investor and the funds are managed with a bias towards capital preservation.

The SWIP Multi-Manager Diversity Fund aims to achieve long-term capital growth in excess of inflation through investment in a portfolio which gives exposure to a wide range of asset classes and geographic regions. Asset classes include equities, bonds, cash, property and a range of alternative assets including fund of hedge funds and commodities.

The SWIP Multi-Manager Select Boutiques Fund aims to achieve long-term capital growth through investment in a portfolio of funds with exposure to UK and international equity markets.

contd.../

Simon Wombwell, Head of Sales & Distribution at SWIP, comments:

“The SWIP Multi Manager team has a proven track record for delivering consistent returns with a focus on minimising volatility and we expect these funds to become a core part of SWIP’s retail proposition over the long term. This initiative is an important step forward and enables us to align the strengths of both SWIP and Scottish Widows to deliver a robust fund proposition to our intermediary clients.”

Andy Briggs, Managing Director of Marketing and Distribution at Scottish Widows, comments:

“The mutual fund market is large and growing and the market is seeing particular interest for fund of funds products. The SWIP team is one of the most experienced multi manager teams in the UK and the Scottish Widows Intermediary Sales team has strong relationships across the UK intermediary market. We see this as a natural partnership to build on our mutual strengths to provide a quality multi manager offering to the intermediary market.”

The SWIP Multi Manager Diversity fund and SWIP Multi Manager Select Boutiques fund are available to advisers through direct applications, telephone and via fund platforms including Cofunds, FundsNetwork and Transact. Further details on the SWIP Multi Manager range can be accessed at www.swip.com/multimanager.

-ends-

For further information, please contact:

Scottish Widows Press Office

Susan McDonald

Tel: 0131 655 6818

susan.mcdonald@scottishwidows.co.uk

SWIP Press Office

Paula Sutherland

Tel: 0131 655 8282

paula.sutherland@swip.com

Notes to Editors:

Scottish Widows was founded in 1815 as Scotland's first mutual life office. Becoming part of the Lloyds TSB Group in 2000, Scottish Widows has become one of the most recognised brands in the life, pensions and investment industry in the UK. The product range includes ordinary long term insurance, such as life assurance, pensions, annuities and permanent health insurance, and savings and investment products. Using a multi-sales network of Financial Advisers, Direct Sales, Direct Marketing, the Internet and via the branch network of Lloyds TSB, Scottish Widows currently employs about 4,000 people.

Scottish Widows news releases appear on our website at www.scottishwidows.co.uk/mediacentre

Scottish Widows Investment Partnership

- SWIP is one of the UK and Europe's largest fund managers with £97.6bn funds under management as at 31 December 2007. (Source: internal).
- SWIP currently manages £6.6bn in European equity assets as at 31 December 2007. (Source: internal).
- SWIP has a broad client base, managing assets for Pension Funds, Charities, Local Authorities, Life Funds, Unit Trusts, OEICs, Off-Shore Funds and Specialist Funds across all asset classes.
- It has a geographical diverse client base with alliances, joint ventures and clients in the UK, Europe, USA and Japan.
- SWIP is ranked 28th out of 100 European Money Managers (source Institutional Investment magazine November 2007)
- SWIP's ultimate parent is Lloyds TSB Group Plc, one of largest financial services groups in the UK.
- SWIP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and is entered on their register under number 193707 (www.fsa.gov.uk/register).