

ELITE welcomes eleven new UK companies to its unique high growth business programme

- **Brings total number of UK ELITE firms to over 130**
- **More than 800 companies from 34 countries make up the global ELITE community**
- **Demonstrates LSEG's commitment to supporting the most ambitious firms to prepare for the next stage of growth**

London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) today welcomes eleven new UK companies to its unique business support and capital raising programme for high growth companies, ELITE. This brings the total number of UK companies in the ELITE community to over 130.

Umerah Akram, Head of ELITE Growth UK & Licensing, welcomed CEOs from the new UK ELITE companies, and Alok Sharma MP, Minister of State for Employment, to open trading on London's markets this morning.

The companies operate across the UK: from the South of England to the North East and Midlands. Sectors range from industrials to health care and technology. Firms include engineering and manufacturing company Arlington Industries Group; life science incubator BioCity; and educational technology company pi-top.

The new UK ELITE group brings the total number of businesses in the community to over 800, from across 34 countries and 35 sectors, generating over £50 billion in combined revenues and accounting for approximately 300,000 jobs across Europe and beyond. ELITE is working on a series of added value services across different areas from open innovation to talent and skills management to international exposure for its companies.

Through ELITE's online private placement platform companies can now connect with professional investors, such as big pension funds, venture capital firms and private equity houses, to secure financing in a safe and efficient environment.

Luca Peyrano, CEO, ELITE:

"I am delighted to welcome the latest group of UK companies to ELITE. Eleven fast growing, innovative and inspiring UK businesses will be joining ELITE's international network of over 800 firms, from across the globe. ELITE brings growing businesses together and gives them the opportunity to inspire each other, exchange ideas, share best practices and identify mutual business opportunities. The programme is designed to help boosting SMEs confidence in their future prospects and access the right information and finance to grow."

Alok Sharma, MP Minister of State for Employment:

"I want to congratulate the dynamic high growth SMEs that are joining London Stock Exchange Group's ELITE growth programme. Backing small businesses are key to driving productivity, economic growth and well paid high quality jobs across the country."

New UK companies joining ELITE:

Name	Region	Sector
Arlington Industries Group	Midlands	Industrial Goods & Services
BioCity	Midlands	Health Care
Connexin	North East	Technology
DigitalGenius	London	Technology
Freschfield	North East	Technology
Kortext	South of England	Technology
LMX	London	Financial Services
pi-top	London	Technology
Redu	North East	Retail
Pooch and Mutt	London	Consumer goods
SafeToNet	London	Technology

- Ends -

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Notes to editors:**About ELITE**

ELITE offers businesses a full programme to help them grow, including education, business support and direct contact with Europe's financial and advisory community. In the UK, Imperial College Business School helps deliver the programme. Management teams are guided on how best to fast-track their development and capital raising processes, how to access the most suitable funding for their needs, whether private equity, venture capital or the bond or equity markets, and given advice on building their profile and reach.

ELITE also allows its vibrant international advisor and investor community the opportunity to engage with a pool of high quality, dynamic companies and entrepreneurs, all of whom are open to the advice, opportunities and connections that the programme offers.



There are over 800 businesses from across 34 countries in the ELITE community. They are generating over £50 billion in combined revenues and employ approximately 300,000 people across Europe and internationally.

For further information on the programme, companies and the full list of partners, please go to: www.elite-growth.com

About London Stock Exchange Group:

London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) is an international markets infrastructure business. Its diversified global business focuses on capital formation, intellectual property and risk and balance sheet management. LSEG operates an open access model, offering choice and partnership to customers across all of its businesses. The Group can trace its history back to 1698.

The Group operates a broad range of international equity, ETF, bond and derivatives markets, including London Stock Exchange; Borsa Italiana; MTS (a European fixed income market); and Turquoise (a pan-European equities MTF). Through its platforms, LSEG offers market participants, unrivalled access to Europe's capital markets. The Group also plays a vital economic and social role, enabling companies, including SMEs, to access funds for growth and development.

Through FTSE Russell, the Group is a global leader in financial indexing, benchmarking and analytic services with approximately \$15 trillion benchmarked to its indexes. The Group also provides customers with an extensive range of data services, research and analytics through The Yield Book, Mergent, SEDOL, UnaVista, XTF and RNS.

Post trade and risk management services are a significant part of the Group's business operations. In addition to majority ownership of LCH, a multi-asset global CCP operator, LSEG owns CC&G, the Italian clearing house and Monte Titoli, a leading European custody and settlement business.

LSEG Technology develops and operates high performance technology solutions, including trading, market surveillance and post trade systems for over 40 organisations and exchanges, including the Group's own markets.

Headquartered in the United Kingdom, with significant operations in North America, Italy, France and Sri Lanka, the Group employs approximately 4,500 people.

Further information on London Stock Exchange Group can be found at www.lseg.com. The Group's ticker symbol is LSE.L