

MEDIA RELEASE

26th April 2011

First State appoints Kanesh Lakhani to lead distribution across EMEA

First State Investments (UK) Limited ('First State') has announced the appointment of Kanesh Lakhani as Managing Director in charge of Distribution across EMEA. The creation of this new role reflects First State's increasing focus on growing its distribution and sales capabilities across the UK and Continental Europe.

Lakhani has over 25 years of experience in the investment industry and joins from State Street Global Advisors, where most recently he was Senior Managing Director of its UK business.

Prior to 1997, when he started at State Street, he was Director of Sales and Marketing at Wells Fargo and, after the company was acquired by Barclays Global Investors, Director of UK Business Development focusing on both index and active investment strategies. Before joining Wells Fargo, he was at Frank Russell, Premium Management and NatWest.

Lakhani will report to Gary Withers, Regional Managing Director for EMEA at First State Investments, who comments:

'We are delighted to welcome Kanesh to First State. We have had a particularly successful period in the history of our company, marked by significant growth, and we are determined to build on that success. Kanesh is a very experienced professional and he will lead our client servicing and sales teams and oversee the future development of our institutional and consultant relationships. He will play a key role in taking First State forward.'

Kanesh Lakhani, who is commencing his role at First State in London at the end of May, holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics, Banking and Finance from the University of Cardiff and an MBA in Finance from Cass Business School in London. He also has a Diploma in Marketing from the Chartered Institute of Marketing.

-Ends-

For further information please contact:

Name	Telephone	Email
Sergei Cristo, Media Relations Associate First State Investments	+44 (0)207 332 6545	sergei.cristo@firststate.co.uk
Eoin Brophy, Partner Hume Brophy	+44 (0)20 3440 5660	eoin.brophy@humbrophy.com
Belinda Marks, Account Manager Hume Brophy	+44 (0)20 3440 5655	belinda.marks@humbrophy.com

Notes to editors:

About First State Investments

First State Investments provides specialist asset management services to wholesale and institutional investors across a diverse range of asset classes, including Asia Pacific and global emerging market equities, global equities, property securities, infrastructure and global natural resources. First State has more than 190 staff in London and Edinburgh and provides a range of specialist investment products to investors. First State is part of Colonial First State Global Asset Management, the consolidated asset management business of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. Colonial First State Global Asset Management is Australia's largest fund manager. It employs investment professionals in Sydney, London, Edinburgh, Hong Kong, Singapore, Jakarta and Tokyo. Colonial First State Global Asset Management is a signatory to the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment, a voluntary program which encourages best practice in environmental, social and corporate governance issues.

Important Information

This press release is intended for information only, aimed solely at the media and should not be relied upon by private investors or Advisers. This document does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy securities in the United States or in any jurisdiction where such an offer or solicitation would be unlawful. The content of this document should not be construed as a financial promotion under the FSA Conduct of Business rules.