



## **COFUNDS WELCOMES RIVER AND MERCANTILE TO ITS PLATFORM**

Cofunds, the UK's largest independent platform, have now been chosen by River and Mercantile Asset Management to help with the distribution of its first two recently launched retail funds.

Both the UK Equity High Alpha, managed by Hugh Sergeant, and UK Equity Smaller Companies Fund, managed by Dan Hanbury, are now available either directly, through the Cofunds ISA or via those SIPP platforms that use Cofunds as a sub-nominee.

These are the first two retail funds launched by River and Mercantile, the new fund management group which is backed by Sir John Beckwith's UK Equity Boutique vehicle which also supported the establishment of Liontrust and Thames River Capital.

This is the first platform deal into which River and Mercantile have entered.

Russell Lancaster, Director, Fund Manager relationships, said, " Hugh Sergeant, Dan Hanbury and Richard Staveley, the fund managers at River and Mercantile, are well known in the retail fund industry – as is Mark Thomas who joined from Credit Suisse as Managing Director. They seem to have created a considerable buzz among the advisers who use Cofunds so we are delighted to welcome them to the platform – just in time for the ISA season. This is yet another example of how platforms can accelerate the launch of exciting new investment companies by providing them instantly with product infrastructure, client servicing and extensive distribution reach."

Mark Thomas, Managing Director of River and Mercantile, commented, "We have been delighted by the interest that financial advisers have shown in our launch. By using Cofunds we can reach a lot more advisers much more quickly than used to be the case. We haven't had to recruit a lot of fund administrators and spend our capital on installing a full suite of retail administration systems. We simply leverage off Cofunds. So we can focus on what we believe we do best – managing assets for our clients."

**-ENDS-**

**For further information please call**

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**Notes To Editors**

**Cofunds:**

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