

UK Structured Products Association joins the Joint Associations Committee

www.ukstructuredproductsassociation.co.uk

The UK Structured Products Association (“the UK SPA”) today announces its membership of the Joint Associations Committee (“the JAC”).

Additionally, following a recent campaign by the JAC to educate the market about its core principles, the UK SPA announces its support for the application of these principles and fully supports the JAC’s assessment that consumers should be properly informed and treated fairly by product providers.

James Harrington, chairman, UK Structured Products Association, says: “The UK Structured Products Association is pleased to become the newest sponsor of the work of the JAC, a committee which is comprised of 11 leading industry trade associations and more than 1,500 individual contacts globally from product originators, distributors and industry advisors. We believe that the JAC plays a crucial role in maintaining market confidence and ensuring a well-informed debate on structured products and we look forward to working with the JAC in the months and years ahead.”

Tim Hailes, chairman, Joint Associations Committee, says: “The addition of the UK SPA as a co-sponsor of the JAC comes at a critical juncture for the structured products markets in the UK and European Union. The advent of significant change in the UK next year with the creation of the successor organisations to the FSA, and the culmination of the Commission’s work on PRIPs and the MiFID review in the autumn, means that we are at a major regulatory inflection point for the market. The JAC can only be strengthened through the engagement of a broad alliance of industry participants and we warmly welcome the support of the UK SPA as part of that process.”

The JAC principles seek the following consumer outcomes:

- “The recipient of a financial service or product should be in a position to understand the service or product in all material respects including its risk-reward profile or be represented by an agent who can understand the service or product.
- The decision to buy a financial service or product should not be influenced by a material conflict of interest on the part of the provider or distributor/adviser.
- A recipient of personal recommendations should expect the provider to take reasonable care in the provision of that investment advice.”¹

The full JAC principles are available at www.ukstructuredproductsassociation.co.uk.

¹ Source: the JAC 23 May 2011

The UK Structured Products Association is an organisation established by companies that create and distribute structured products to the UK financial services market in order to provide a useful and responsive source of information, education and comment on structured products by promoting their contribution to effective financial planning.

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Notes to Editors

About the UK Structured Products Association

The UK Structured Products Association (UK SPA) is an organisation established by companies that create and distribute structured products to the UK financial services market in order to provide a useful and responsive source of information, education and comment on structured products by promoting their contribution to effective financial planning.

The Association's formation is a direct response to the members' belief that structured products are sometimes misunderstood and misrepresented and that this lack of understanding can prevent structured products forming an integral part of financial planning for investors.

The UK SPA is committed to publishing research, information and educational material about structured products and so create greater acceptance about their potential.

The UK SPA is not a commercial organisation and education and research are its core activities.

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