



Santa Monica, California-based AIM Advisers, Inc. Wins 2014 Corporate INTL Magazine's Global Award for AIM Consulting Firm of the Year in the USA

Birmingham, England and Santa Monica, California

Corporate INTL Magazine named Santa Monica, California-based AIM Advisers, Inc. as the 2014 Winner of their Global Award in the category of AIM Consulting Firm of the Year in the USA.

The magazine's editorial and research teams conducted extensive reviews, drawing insight from business leaders throughout the world in order to identify firms in each category. Tens of thousands of nomination forms were assessed from sources such as the magazine's readership, partners at global law and accounting firms, CEOs, CFOs, in-house counsel, Directors of private and public SMEs and members of the financial community, including, Investment Bankers, Private Equity Investors, Investment and Hedge Fund Managers and HNWIs.

James Sweeney, Founder and Managing Director of Corporate INTL Magazine said: "We have known Mr. McGowan for over a dozen years as a consultant helping U.S. companies complete IPOs on the London Stock Exchange's AIM and as the CFO of U.S.-based, AIM-listed DDD Group and have followed the development of AIM Advisers with great interest."

Mark McGowan, Founder and Managing Director of AIM Advisers said: "It is an honor to be named Winner of the 2014 Global Award for AIM Consulting Firm of the Year in the USA by such a prestigious, high-quality publication. With the worst of the financial crisis behind us, the balance of this decade should be bright for U.S.-based SMEs that wish to access \$8 million - \$80 million of equity growth capital via IPOs on the London Stock Exchange's AIM."

IPO activity on AIM surged during the second half of 2013 to close the year with 62 IPOs, a 38% increase over 2012. Gross capital raised from AIM IPOs during 2013 amounted to £1.0 billion (\$1.6 billion), a 47% increase over 2012. The share of technology company IPOs on AIM has doubled each year since 2011 and consumer-facing businesses have been prolific given the sudden strengthening of the U.K. economy and the optimistic outlook. Financial companies have always been popular and a continuing trend.

AIM continued to move from strength-to-strength during the first five months of 2014 with a sharp increase in capital raised from IPOs, £1.7 billion (\$2.8 billion); 70% more than for all of 2013. Capital raised during the first five months of 2014 from AIM IPOs was 7.6x higher than the first five months of 2013 and represents the strongest performance during the first five months of any year since the London Stock Exchange established AIM 19 years ago, the only exceptions being 2006 and 2007.