

PRESS RELEASE

2nd June 2015

Validus Risk Management Opens New Office in Toronto

Validus, a specialist financial risk advisor to Alternative Investment Funds and Corporates across the globe continues to expand its activities in North America. The new office in Toronto will serve to reinforce Validus' longstanding relationships with existing clients as well as expand the service offering in both Canada and the USA.

First hire Josh Macdonald (previously at Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan) has joined in the capacity of Financial Risk Management Analyst, working closely with the London team in assessing currency exposures for new clients as well as taking an active role in hedging strategy design. Three more employees are expected to join him shortly. Board advisor John Glover will continue to add valuable insight armed with more than two decades of experience in financial markets in both Canada and the UK. Directors Kevin Lester, Francois Scheepers, and Haakon Blakstad will for the time being directly oversee the expansion of the North American office.

"A significant increase in volatility in both currencies and commodities over the past nine months has led to high demand for independent market risk advice from funds and corporates in both Canada and the US," says Haakon Blakstad, Director and Head of Commercial Development at Validus. "We decided to increase our presence in the region to better meet these demands, and this also constitutes a natural expansion of our fast-growing business. Due to the exceptional talent of our people we are already seeing that new clients in North America are echoing the sentiment we have from our existing and longstanding customer base; that we add real and tangible value to their business in terms of structured and transformational risk management".

About Validus Risk Management

Validus Risk Management is a specialist independent provider of financial risk advisory, helping clients quantify market risk exposures, design and implement robust hedging strategies, and deploy processes and technology solutions for managing, monitoring, and reporting market risk across their business. Validus' main expertise covers currency, interest rate, and commodity price risk.

With offices in the UK and North America, Validus works with a range of companies and institutions across the globe, from SMEs to multinational corporations, as well as pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, and leading alternative investment funds (Private Equity, Secondaries, Private Debt, Real Estate) with a combined AUM in excess of \$700bn. Validus arranges and advises on over \$60 billion in hedging transactions annually.

For further information, please contact:

Haakon Blakstad, Director

Haakon.Blakstad@ValidusRM.com

+44 1753 38 65 71