



The Quoted
Companies Alliance

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HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO YOUR INVESTORS LATELY? New QCA guide reinforces the need for better communications between small companies and big investors

The Quoted Companies Alliance (QCA) will launch on Monday 13 October a new guide encouraging small and mid-cap companies to communicate better with their major shareholders and vice versa. The guide has been compiled following consultation with the Association of British Insurers (ABI).

The guide is aimed at making the comply-or-explain principle set out in the Combined Code work better. It reminds small and mid-cap companies' directors of the importance of acting responsibly and keeping in regular contact with their key shareholders, helping them to fulfill their role as responsible owners. It also provides guidance on how companies can engage effectively with their shareholders.

Andy Brough, Co-Head of Pan European Small Companies at Schroder Investment Management said: "As the uncertainty in world markets seems to be increasing by the day it is crucial that investors have a clear idea of how companies are dealing with all the challenges which are being thrown at them. There has never been a more important time to talk to your shareholders".

John Pierce, Chief Executive of the QCA said: "This is an important and timely addition to our range of guides for smaller quoted companies and we are grateful to the ABI for their help in its preparation. It is now up to companies to put in place policies and procedures to deal with the 'how' and 'who'".

Peter Montagnon, Director of Investment Affairs, ABI added: "Our door is open. Good two-way communication with shareholders should be central to how companies run, regardless of their size. It allows them to be aware of concerns before they turn into bigger problems and gives companies an opportunity to ensure their shareholders are aware of relevant information."

Members of the QCA receive a complimentary copy of the guide. To order a copy of the guide please contact the QCA on 020 7600 3745 or visit www.quotedcompaniesalliance.co.uk

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Notes to editors

The Quoted Companies Alliance (QCA) represents the UK's Smaller Quoted Companies (SQC). The SQC sector is defined as those 2,000 companies that are listed on the London Stock Exchange outside the FTSE 350, plus those quoted on AIM and PLUS.

The QCA was founded in 1992 and has been consistently successful in campaigning among City, UK Government and EU circles on a range of issues affecting the sector, including corporate governance, taxation and market regulations.

The QCA was instrumental in the establishment of AIM and continues to fight for a regime of lighter touch regulation to assist growing companies and to represent them to Westminster, Whitehall and Brussels.

The QCA represents smaller quoted companies and is their advocate in all issues that affect them.