



## ***‘AAA’ rated fund manager for New Star European Growth***

Richard Pease, head of European equities at New Star and the manager of the Dublin OEIC New Star European Growth Fund recently been awarded the highest possible rating, ‘AAA’, by Citywire, for his management of the UK based Open Ended Investment Company equivalent. Richard Pease has delivered top quartile performance for the Dublin OEIC New Star European Growth fund since it launched in August 2002.

Richard was formerly head of European equities at Jupiter Asset Management, where he was manager of the top performing European UK mutual fund between 1990 and 2000. In total, he has more than fifteen years' experience in managing European equities.

Citywire Fund Manager Ratings identifies the individual managers who have the best risk adjusted personal performance track records over 3 years and highlights the funds they are currently managing. Of the 1,000+ active fund managers in Citywire’s UK database, less than 5% receive an ‘AAA’ rating.

New Star Global Investment Funds PLC, represented in Malta by Jesmond Mizzi Financial Services Limited, is a Dublin-based open-ended investment company designed, with its selection of funds, to provide investors with access to the world’s financial markets. It employs a number of fund management performers such as Mr. Richard Pease, fund manager of New Star European Growth Fund.

New Star European Growth Fund invests in between a vast amount of companies with around two thirds of the portfolio invested in small and medium-sized companies. These are the companies that Richard Pease believes will provide the greatest long-term growth opportunities in continental Europe.

The New Star European Growth Fund aims to provide investors with long-term capital growth principally through investment in the securities of European companies (excluding the United Kingdom).

Richard looks for companies that ideally can grow at 15% per annum. Because of Richard's performance record, you could be forgiven for believing that he adopts a high-risk investment approach but this is not the case and he has been described as "an innately cautious fund manager" by Standard and Poor's, a leading independent fund-rating agency.

This latest accolade comes hot on the heels of the New Star European Growth Fund (UK OEIC) receiving an 'AAA' rating from Forsyth OBSR. The Forsyth-OBSR 'AAA' rating is awarded to a fund which demonstrates a disciplined investment process which it is believed will translate into exceptional long-term performance. The Forsyth-OBSR 'AAA' rating is an indication of excellence.

Since 16<sup>th</sup> August 2002 till 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005, the fund has returned 47.1% (EUR€ class)( annualised performance 16.40%), compared with a rise of 23.1% in the FTSE World Europe ex-UK Index (EUR€) (source: Datastream at 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2005). The Fund which has a primary listing on the Malta Stock Exchange, is authorised pursuant to the EC (UCITS) regulations and can be marketed in Malta.

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