

ISIO GROUP LIMITED

Acquisition of Premier

Creates a unique pensions and investment advisory, employee benefits and wealth advisory business

First acquisition since launching as an independent business in 2020

London: 24 September 2021: Isio Group Limited (“Isio”), one of the UK’s leading pensions businesses, is delighted to announce the acquisition of Premier Pensions Management Ltd (“Premier”), subject to the required FCA approval. Premier is a complementary business which will enable the combined business to offer a broader spectrum of pensions and financial advisory services to companies and individuals.

Since launching in March 2020 with investment from Exponent, Isio has gone from strength to strength, achieving significant organic growth, and recruiting 130 new financial professionals and building a high-quality corporate function team.

Premier’s pensions administration business is highly respected, benefitting from many years of investment in technology and automation to become a market leader.

The acquisition of Premier will enhance Isio’s existing services of pensions administration, actuarial consulting and investment advisory whilst also expanding its services to include employee benefits and wealth management.

The enlarged Isio Group will comprise of 800 staff across nine locations in the UK (Birmingham, Bristol, Central London, Croydon, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Manchester and Reading), with estimated annual revenues of around £100 million.

Andrew Coles, Chief Executive of Isio Group Limited, commented: “Our independence has given us the ability to spread our wings, not only to grow organically but with the support of our investors, to invest in our core business and to identify and take the opportunity to acquire a complementary business that will accelerate our growth trajectory.

“The UK’s pensions industry is undergoing a significant revolution. Innovative thinking and new ways of managing employer pension responsibilities, employee benefits and individuals’ wealth are required for the future of the UK’s financial services industry.

“Acquiring Premier gives us the versatility to do this, by offering new and existing clients the full spectrum of employee benefits advice, actuarial consulting services, as well as wealth management and financial advisory and pension administration services.”

Alastair Aird, Chief Executive of Premier, added: “Isio’s ambition, its focus on people and culture, combined with its expertise and commitment to clients is very much aligned to our own business and the original proposition on which Dai Smith founded and has grown Premier. Together we see great opportunities to build a much stronger organisation.

“We look forward to working with the team at Isio to bring the two companies together and create a unique position in the market as an agile, fast paced and complete pension, employee benefit and wealth adviser able to service the whole of the market.”

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Notes to Editors

About Isio

Isio is a leading UK pensions advisory firm which combines actuarial expertise, third party administration, investment consulting and defined contribution specialism to deliver better outcomes for pension scheme sponsors, trustees and members. Isio, formerly KPMG’s UK pensions practice and backed by Exponent, was launched in March 2020 to apply our years of experience with a new approach and way of thinking. Isio aims to deliver clearer, simpler pensions and investment advice in a more personal way, backed by technical expertise and underpinned by proprietary technology.

www.isio.com

www.linkedin.com/company/isiogroup

About Premier Pensions Management Ltd

Founded in 2003 and with 200 current employees, Premier is a pensions and benefits consultancy providing advice and support to individuals, trustees and companies on pension, wealth and benefit matters. With a strong focus on excellent customer service provided through experienced staff and supported by some of the leading technologies, it has created a range of trustee and employer services, advising a range of clients, from FTSE100 organisations to regional-based companies. Its fast-growing financial services business provides high quality advice to individuals as well as managing the contract based pensions and benefit programmes for a range of companies.

www.premiercompanies.co.uk

About Exponent

Exponent is one of the UK's leading private equity firms, investing in companies headquartered across Europe with enterprise values between €150-500m. It is currently investing from its fourth fund.

The firm seeks to identify latent potential, navigate complexity, build positive relationships and deliver revenue driven profit growth for its portfolio companies and investors. To do so it focuses on primary situations, takes a sector approach and partners with industrialists.

A selection of Exponent's investments include category defining businesses such as TES, Trainline, Immediate Media, Pattonair, Loch Lomond, Moonpig, Ambassador Theatre Group, Planet, Quorn and BBI Group.