|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Media Information |
|  | 18 April, 2013 |
|  |  |
|  | **BMW Group UK appoints new Hampshire dealer** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

BMW Group UK has announced that after eight successful years as Managing Director of BMW Park Lane, BMW Group UK’s wholly-owned dealership, Toby Partridge has acquired the Scotthall Hampshire BMW business from Jardine Motors Group. Following completion of the transaction on 12 April, all 100 staff at the Eastleigh-based dealership are transferring to the new company which will trade as Partridge of Hampshire.

Commenting on the acquisition, Tim Abbott, Managing Director of BMW Group UK, said: “Under Toby’s leadership, we not only achieved impressive growth in our Park Lane business but also completed a major redevelopment of our BMW and MINI showrooms together with the opening of the world’s first BMW i Store. I look forward to working with Toby as our latest ‘owner-driver’ franchise operator and a key dealer network partner.

“I am also keen to continue the development of a successful relationship with Mark Herbert as the recently appointed Chief Executive of Jardine Motors Group and his team at Milton Keynes.”

On completion of the deal, Toby Partridge said: “I am delighted to have acquired the dealership. I had eight fantastic years running the BMW Park Lane business but, with the support of my business partner Steve Soper who operates the BMW franchise in Lincoln, I now have the chance to inject my passion for BMW and MINI into my own dealership at a very exciting time for both brands. At the same time we will make sure our customers remain at the heart of everything we do.”

An announcement regarding Mr Partridge’s successor at BMW Park Lane will be made in due course.

**Ends**

For further information:

Angela Stangroom Group Communications Manager

Tel: 01344 480283 Email: [Angela.Stangroom@bmw.co.uk](mailto:Angela.Stangroom@bmw.co.uk)

Mob: 07740 740425

Graham Biggs Corporate Communications Director

Tel: 01344 480109 Email: [Graham.Biggs@bmw.co.uk](mailto:Graham.Biggs@bmw.co.uk)

Mob: 07771 976867

**The BMW Group**

The BMW Group is the leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles in the world with its BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce brands. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 28 production and assembly facilities in 13 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2012, the BMW Group sold about 1.85 million cars and more than 117,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2012 was euro 7.82 billion on revenues amounting to euro 76.85 billion. At 31 December 2012, the BMW Group had a workforce of 105,876 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been built on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy. As a result of its efforts, the BMW Group has been ranked industry leader in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes for the last eight years.

[www.bmwgroup.com](http://www.bmwgroup.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BMWGroup>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/BMWGroup>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/BMWGroupview>

Google+: <http://googleplus.bmwgroup.com>