

PRESS RELEASE

26 May 2009

INNOVATIVE INVESTMENT STRENGTHENS LEADING SHARED SERVICES PROVIDER

Leading shared services providers to the charity sector, Charity Business, have successfully finalised a capital investment of £320,000 to assist with new client acquisition from social finance specialists, Triodos Bank. This is the first investment through the Triodos Opportunities Fund, a ground breaking venture capital fund for social enterprises with a proven business model.

As charities face the pressures of recession, there are opportunities to improve their efficiency and effectiveness which is why Charity Business was developed. Recent research by Cass Business School's Centre for Charitable Giving and Philanthropy (CGAP) also found that the use of third parties could release in the region of £136 million annually to be reinvested back into charitable activities. Charity Business offers an alternative way of supporting charities through the outsourcing of non service-delivery activities such as the finance function, and the Triodos investment will help expand this capability. Charity Business currently saves organizations annually approximately £2 million through its services.

“We are delighted that the Triodos Opportunities Fund has decided to invest in the business as it is a partner that understands the pressures that the charity sector is under whilst at the same time wanting to have a positive impact on the sector. This investment allows Charity Business to grow and expand its offering to the charity and social enterprise sectors” says Chief Executive, Mark Freeman. Mr Freeman went on to say “With Triodos and Charity Business focused towards a matching vision, the investment was seen as an opportunity to expand the business whilst engaging with an ethical organisation that enables money to work for positive social, environmental and cultural change. “

Recently Charity Business expanded its Board through the appointments of Tracey Reddings, Head of UK Private Banking for SG Hambros and Professor Paul Palmer, Professor of Voluntary Management at Cass Business School. “The combination of this investment and the introduction of new Non-Executive Board members will allow Charity Business to have a wider impact on the charity sector” says Mr Freeman.

For more information about Charity Business and its services visit www.charitybusiness.com or call Susan Gordon on 01793 554204 or susan.gordon@charitybusiness.com.

Continued...

ENDS

Notes for Editors:

Charity Business is a trading name of CBusiness Holdings Limited. Charity Business was formed in 1999 as a direct result of a study undertaken by seven large charities, Mark Freeman and Arthur Andersen that indicated the potential savings that the sector could achieve by operating in a shared services or outsourced environment. Charity Business has expanded since its formation in 1999 and now supports over 100 organisations in the not for profit sector. Charity Business has brought further efficiency and cost savings through an improved range of financial shared services including debit card processing facilities and automated reporting solutions.

For more information on Charity Business please call Susan Gordon on 01793 554204 or email susan.gordon@charitybusiness.com.

Triodos Bank only finances enterprises creating social, environmental or cultural added value - ranging from large ethical enterprises to smaller, innovative organisations meeting local needs. Key sectors include organic food and farming, renewable energy, social housing and fair trade. Transparency is a core value: customers are informed about the bank's lending and can target their savings to particular areas of investment. A range of personal savings accounts is offered and full banking services are available for businesses and charities.

For more information on Triodos please call Will Ferguson on 0117 980 9770 or e-mail william.ferguson@triodos.co.uk.