



IRISH FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Údarás Rialála Seirbhísí Airgeadais na hÉireann

Pursuant to Section 9(3)(a) of the Investment Intermediaries Act, 1995, ('the Act') the Irish Financial Services Regulatory Authority hereby advises that:

**Whittman Wright & Associates
(Canada)**

is not authorised to provide investment business services and/or investment advice in Ireland.

Any person with information about the above firm or who wishes to make enquiries about any other investment business firm, whether authorised or not, should contact the Irish Financial Services Regulatory Authority enquiry line at:

Locall 1890 200 469

A list of warning notices issued to date under section 9(3)(a) of the Act is available on the following website:

www.ifsra.ie

9 June 2004



Financial Services Regulator Issues Warning on Investment Firm

The Irish Financial Services Regulatory Authority today (Wednesday 9 June 2004) publishes a warning notice on Whittman Wright & Associates (Canada). This firm has been offering investment advice and/or investment business services to members of the Irish public. The notice is published today in Irish daily newspapers under the Investment Intermediaries Act, 1995.

It is a criminal offence for an investment firm to operate in Ireland unless it has an authorisation from the Financial Services Regulator. Clients of unauthorised firms are not eligible for compensation from the Investor Compensation Scheme.

Consumer Director, Mary O’Dea said “ If you receive an approach from a firm check whether they are authorised to sell investment services in Ireland. Never give your bank account number and personal finance details over the phone.”

Any person wishing to contact the Financial Services Regulator with information regarding such firms may telephone **1890-200-469**. This line is also available to the public to check if an investment firm is authorised. Since obtaining the necessary legal powers in August 1998, 59 warnings naming 117 firms have been issued. A list of all warning notices issued to date is available on the website www.ifsra.ie

The Financial Services Regulator has published an Independent Guide to Savings and Investments which provides information in plain English about savings and investments products. A fact sheet on Boiler-Room operations also details the steps to take if you receive an approach from an unauthorised firm. Both publications are available from lo-call 1890 77 77 77, or www.itsyourmoney.ie . Copies are also available from the Financial Services Regulator’s Information Centre which is located at 6-8 College Green, Dublin 2.

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Further information: Jill Forde, Press Office (01) 4104096 (086) 2393313

Note for Editors:

The Irish Financial Services Regulatory Authority was established on 1 May 2003. It is the single regulator for all financial services in Ireland. Its overall mandate is to:

- ?? Help consumers make informed decisions on their financial affairs in a safe and fair market; and
- ?? Foster sound, growing and solvent financial institutions which give consumers confidence that their deposits and investments are secure.
- ?? The Financial Services Regulator's consumer Information Centre is located on 6-8 College Green, Dublin 2. All publications available in the Information Centre can be downloaded from the Regulator's website at www.itsyourmoney.ie / www.ifsra.ie or requested from the consumer help-line on lo-call 1890 77 77 77.