

MICHAEL PAGE INTERNATIONAL FIRST QUARTER 2008 INTERIM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Michael Page International plc is today publishing its Interim Management Statement relating to the period from 1 January to 31 March 2008, the first quarter of the financial year ended 31 December 2008.

For the first quarter of 2008, Michael Page International plc, the specialist recruitment consultancy, reports a record quarterly Group gross profit of £140.3m, an increase of 33.0% (23.8%*) over the £105.5m recorded in the first quarter of 2007. Group headcount at 31 March 2008 was 5,425 (31 December 2007: 5,052).

In our largest region, Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) representing 46% of Group gross profit, first quarter gross profit was £65.2m, an increase of 55.3% (37.7%*) over the £42.0m recorded in the first quarter of 2007. With good activity levels, we continue to experience strong demand for talent across all countries and disciplines, with the exception of banking. In France, our largest business in the region representing 33% of EMEA gross profits, the first quarter growth rate was 33%*, while the remaining EMEA countries grew at a combined rate of 40.2%*. Headcount in EMEA at 31 March 2008 was 2,255 (31 December 2007: 2,078). During the first quarter we opened in a new country, Austria (Vienna) and new offices in Stuttgart, Seville, Massy, Breda and Gothenburg.

In the UK, representing 34% of Group gross profit, first quarter gross profit was £47.1m, an increase of 6.7% over the £44.1m recorded in the first quarter of 2007. UK headcount at 31 March 2008 was 1,872 (31 December 2007: 1,799). While it is not possible to quantify, our first quarter growth rate was affected by the early Easter break and a further weakening of the banking sector, which is also impacting some of our other disciplines that service banking clients. Outside of these banking related areas we continue to see good activity in job and candidate flow. During the first quarter we opened new offices in Newcastle and Cardiff.

In Asia Pacific, first quarter gross profit was £16.4m, an increase of 33.8% (22.0%*) over the £12.2m recorded in the first quarter of 2007. In Australia, first quarter gross profit growth increased to 30%* benefitting from the increased investment in headcount in the latter part of 2007. In Asia, our businesses grew gross profit at 11%*, with China, including Hong Kong, continuing to grow strongly, offset by a slowing in our Tokyo business, where banking represents a higher proportion of the business. Headcount in the region at 31 March was 701 (31 December 2007: 632). During the first quarter we opened in a new country, New Zealand (Auckland) and a new office in Beijing.

In the Americas, first quarter gross profit was £11.6m, an increase of 62.4% (51.1%*) over the £7.2m recorded in the first quarter of 2007. We continue to achieve strong growth in the USA, despite increasing concerns over the economy, reflecting our relative share to the total potential market. Headcount at 31 March was 597 (31 December 2007: 543). During the first quarter we opened our second office in Canada in Montreal.

Apart from the effect of the trading described above, there have been no significant changes in the financial position of the Group since the publication of the results for the year ended 31 December 2007.

Commenting on the first quarter trading, Steve Ingham, Chief Executive said:

“Our strong first quarter performance clearly demonstrates the benefits of our strategy to diversify the Group’s activities by geography and by discipline. Given the increasing concerns of economic slowdown, we are pleased with our first quarter growth in gross profit of 33% to £140m, particularly given the effect of an early Easter.

“Whilst we continue to experience strong activity levels and demand for talent, in certain areas there are signs of more cautionary behaviour. Consequently, we are taking a similar approach to adding headcount in those areas most likely to be affected, particularly in the UK. However we will continue to invest where we are experiencing strong demand and to exploit strategic longer term opportunities.”

* Denotes where overseas results denominated in foreign currencies have been translated at constant rates of exchange for constant currency illustrative purposes.

The company will host a conference call for analysts and investors at 9.00am today, the details of which are below.

Link:

<http://w.on24.com/r.htm?e=106722&s=1&k=DBB9BC115C34B956E8D3FE7673923BAD>

Dial-In: +44 (0)20 7162 0125

Conference ID: 789821

Please quote “Michael Page Quarter 1 Trading Update” to gain access to the call.

A presentation and recording to accompany the call will be posted on the company’s website during the course of the morning at:

<http://investors.michaelpage.co.uk/ir/mpi/ir.jsp?page=presentations>

Enquiries:

Michael Page International plc

Steve Ingham	Chief Executive	01932 264144
Stephen Puckett	Finance Director	01932 264144

Financial Dynamics

Richard Mountain	Managing Director	020 7269 7121
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