

6 March 2018

## **OAKFIELD CAPITAL PARTNERS ESTABLISHES THE EDWARD ALEXANDER GROUP TO BUILD LUXURY INTERIOR FURNISHING GROUP**

Oakfield Capital Partners is delighted to announce the creation of The Edward Alexander Group which has been established to acquire, integrate and grow a select number of highly-complementary luxury interior-furnishing brands that command a premium positioning, are manufactured by craftspeople in the UK, and are imbued with a rich heritage & history.

Initially the group will consist of The Gainsborough Silk Weaving Company and S McKinney & Co. Gainsborough, founded in 1903 and holder of a Royal Warrant to HM The Queen, dyes and weaves fabrics of enduring quality. McKinney & Co, founded in 1991, is a London based designer and manufacturer of beautiful bespoke curtain poles, finials and window furniture.

Gainsborough & McKinney grace the world's finest homes and prestigious buildings, including royal palaces, state buildings and grand residences; their clientele includes royalty, luxury hotels and couture designers. They will share a showroom in the Design Centre Chelsea Harbour and have complementary synergies in finance, sales and marketing.

Emerson Roberts, Managing Director of The Edward Alexander Group, said, "I am delighted to see McKinney join forces with Gainsborough. Curtains are the key use for Gainsborough's fabrics and the two business' product groups naturally sit very well together. The McKinney team have tremendous commitment and passion for their products and customers, they've been a delight to work with thus far, and we feel sure they will be outstanding partners in the future."

Shona Stopford Sackville, Managing Director of McKinney & Co. said, "I am thrilled about the collaboration with Gainsborough. Their fabrics are a perfect complement to our curtain poles and finials and we look forward to an exciting future."

Roy Merritt, partner of Oakfield Capital and Chairman of The Edward Alexander Group, said, "It is our intention to establish Edward Alexander & Co as a premier English interior furnishings group. We look forward to working closely with Emerson and Shona over the coming years."

For further details, contact Emerson Roberts  
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**About Gainsborough Silk Weaving Company**

**[www.gainsborough.co.uk](http://www.gainsborough.co.uk)**

Founded in 1903 by Reginald Warner, an enterprising weaver who went on several Grand Tours, Gainsborough embodies over a century of British craftsmanship. The entire production process – from design, to hand-dyeing yarns, to weaving the finished fabrics – still takes place on the same site they have occupied in Sudbury since 1924. Awarded the Royal Warrant in 1980, the company

has produced fabrics for numerous royal palaces and state buildings, and today continues the tradition of creating fabrics of enduring quality.

Contact: Neil Tomas; [neil@gainsborough.co.uk](mailto:neil@gainsborough.co.uk); +44 (0)1787 372 081

### **About S McKinney & Co**

[www.mckinney.co.uk](http://www.mckinney.co.uk)

Founded in London in 1991 by Shona McKinney, McKinney & Co has long been established as one of the UK's leading and most trusted designers of curtain poles & accessories. Gracing the world's finest homes and prestigious buildings including Buckingham Palace and 10 Downing Street, their clientele includes royalty and celebrities.

Contact: Shona Stopford Sackville; [shona@mckinney.co.uk](mailto:shona@mckinney.co.uk); +44 (0)20 7627 5077

### **About Oakfield Capital**

[www.oakfieldcapital.co.uk](http://www.oakfieldcapital.co.uk)

Oakfield Capital is a private equity firm that makes control investments in small- and medium-sized businesses in the UK with significant growth potential. We partner with management teams to make transformational impact on strategy and/or operations to grow successful businesses and deliver significant capital gains. Current portfolio companies include: Freedom Brewery, The Edward Alexander Group, London Doctors Clinic and Firstcom Europe.

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