

News Release

19th July 2010

AI CLAIMS EXPANDS WITH WORKING CAPITAL FACILITY

FAST-expanding claims management company Ai Claims Solutions plc is set for further growth after securing a significantly increased working capital facility from Yorkshire Bank.

Yorkshire Bank's Preston Financial Solutions Centre (FSC) has provided an additional £15million of working capital to enable Ai Claims Solutions to service growth, following the award of a significant new contract with a major motor insurance claims intermediary.

The Blackpool-based company manages motor claims on behalf of some of the UK's largest insurers, brokers and automotive businesses. Analysts anticipate turnover of around £85million this year, a 52% increase, and around £120million next year. The company has 450 employees and is one of the largest private sector employers on the Fylde coast.

Peter Harrison, CFO at Ai Claims Solutions, said: "we have expanded rapidly over the last couple of years and made substantial investment in our systems and infrastructure, including the completion of a £4m investment in our claims administration system. Our new working capital facility enables us to continue our expansion."

Andy Nurse, business partner at Yorkshire Bank's Preston FSC, said: "Ai Claims Solutions is a solid business with clear growth plans and an ambitious and focused management team. We are very pleased to be able to support the company's organic growth with this significant working capital facility."

Ai Claims Solutions manages motor claims from the initial incident through to final resolution, including replacement vehicles and repairs, for several of the leading insurance companies, brokers, and automotive businesses across the UK.

In May, Yorkshire Bank introduced its Investing for Growth package which offers a dedicated business planning service and flexible approach to investment finance to enable businesses to invest in quality growth opportunities.

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Notes to Editors

Financial Solutions Centres:

Yorkshire Bank Financial Solutions Centres (FSC) offer Members a tailored range of business and private banking services under one roof. A team of specialist partners, each with considerable local experience, work together to provide Members with end to end solutions for their business and private banking needs. In addition to banking services, the FSCs also operate as a hub for local business, with a range of networking opportunities and meeting facilities available as a benefit of membership.

Over 70 FSCs are located around the UK and in 2006 represented over half of the National Australia Bank Group's UK income.

Yorkshire Bank:

Yorkshire Bank was founded in 1859 in Halifax, West Yorkshire. Today, the Bank has more than 190 branches, a strong personal customer base and a growing business capability in the North of England and the Midlands.

Yorkshire Bank is a trading name of Clydesdale Bank plc, which is a subsidiary of the National Australia Bank Group of companies. Yorkshire Bank joined the Group in 1990. In 2006, Yorkshire Bank was voted the UK's 'Best Business Bank' by the Forum of Private Business.