

## Press Release – 13 March 2008

### Thames Valley Investment Network announces Four New Sponsors

Thames Valley Investment Network (TVIN), a business angel investment network that specialises in helping growing companies to raise funding, has announced the signing of four new sponsors to the Network. The new sponsors are: Mathys & Squire, patent and trade mark attorneys; Maxim Corporate Finance LLP; Cresco Legal and software development experts, iMeta Technologies. The sponsorship announcement follows hard on the heels of the launch of TVIN's new Co-Investment Programme with Bank of Scotland Corporate.

Nicki Hattingh, TVIN Network Manager, announced the new sponsorship deals at a recent investment meeting that TVIN held in Reading, where an audience of investor members heard pitches from a number of high quality companies seeking business development funding.

Ms Hattingh said: "Thames Valley Investment Network has had great success in matching investors with companies that need crucial funding to develop their products and services. In addition, we are experiencing great interest in our new Co-Investment Programme, which enables companies to apply for matched funding from Bank of Scotland Corporate.

"We are delighted to welcome these professional firms on board as new sponsors of Thames Valley Investment Network. Their support, alongside our existing sponsors and members, will enable the Network to maintain a high quality service for both investors and companies."

Elisabeth Murray, Partner at Mathys & Squire, said: "Mathys & Squire is very pleased to be sponsoring TVIN and to support its investor members and companies using the Network. Obtaining good IP advice at the early stages of a new venture is vital to obtaining valuable patent, trade mark and design rights. We see a good fit with TVIN in view of our extensive experience of advising early-stage companies and SMEs."

Bhodi Sunth, Partner at Maxim Corporate Finance, said: "A significant number of fast growing SMEs in Britain are from the Thames Valley Area and TVIN performs an important support role in their equity investment and growth.

“We are proud to sponsor TVIN and will work closely with the Network in supporting SMEs and funding their growth. Maxim Corporate Finance LLP is authorised for the IPO listing of SMEs on the PLUS Market and I believe that this may provide an additional option for funding the growth of dynamic SMEs as well as an exit route for investors.”



L-R: Nicki Hattingh (TVIN Manager); Angus Phang & Francesca Lee (Cresco Legal); Elisabeth Murray (Mathys & Squire); Ben Marsh (iMeta) and Bhodi Sunth (Maxim Corporate Finance LLP).

Angus Phang, Partner at Cresco Legal, said: “TVIN offers a unique and compelling service to SME businesses. The combination of sponsors offering complementary services and investors provides these businesses with a stable platform for the next phase of their development. This mirrors our own approach as we believe in delivering integrated business solutions to our clients and acting as their partners in growth. We are looking forward to an exciting period with the Network.”

Ben Marsh, Managing Director at iMeta Technologies, said: “We are very excited to be involved with such a dynamic and growing network as TVIN and look forward to contributing to its further success.”

The professional services firms join TVIN’s existing sponsors who include: Thames Valley Economic Partnership SEEDA, Business Link, Momentum Web Solutions and TilleyMay.