



P R E S S R E L E A S E

GROWTHINVEST ADDS VCTs TO ITS PLATFORM OFFERING

GrowthInvest, the independent platform for advisers and their clients in the tax efficient investment arena, announces the launch of a dedicated VCT area on the platform, to sit alongside the existing investments in EIS and SEIS funds, portfolios and single companies.

The service will include new VCT offers, alongside key data on existing VCTs and links to 3rd party information and research, and can facilitate both execution only and advised investments. This strengthens an already compelling solution for investors and advisers looking to find an intelligent single option for their tax efficient portfolios, and goes live at the same time that many of the VCTs have begun to announce their latest offers. This year promises to be one of the largest years for funds raised through Venture Capital Trusts, with some commentators already suggesting that funds could pass the £542 million raised in 2016/17.

Daniel Rodwell, Managing Director of GrowthInvest said:

"We are delighted to be expanding out our offering, and have received great support and feedback from both advisers and their clients. The addition of VCTs to the platform is something that has been planned since our relaunch in 2016. VCTs and EIS go hand in hand for many advisers, and they play a slightly different role in a client's tax efficient portfolio. As well as the obvious attractions of the tax incentives and growth potential of these exciting British investments, our long-held view that VCTs and EIS can play an important element in long term retirement planning, has been absolutely backed up by our work and conversations with advisers over the last 12 months"

A unique focus of the GrowthInvest platform is its Asset Consolidation service, which allows clients to consolidate their existing investments onto a single platform. This has always included VCTs and other alternative assets. David Lovell, Operations Director at GrowthInvest explains:

"Advisers and their clients have given us a clear message that they wanted to see new VCT offerings up on the platform, and that they wanted to make the investment process as smooth and straightforward as possible. Subject to the specific requirements and agreement of each Venture Capital Trust, we are now able to offer an online VCT investment service which sits very well alongside the existing range of EIS/SEIS investments. We believe that a single consolidated tax efficient portfolio has a number of clear benefits in both the short and long terms, and is the logical step for the vast majority of tax efficient investors."

Jack Rose, Head of the tax-efficient division at LGBR Capital comments "Advisers are always keen to look for effective tools and technology that can help their clients, and bringing VCTs into line with EIS portfolios on a single online platform will make a lot of sense for many advisers."

GrowthInvest will be actively promoting the service across its co-ordinated programme of pitch presentations, round-table lunches and regular adviser email communication channels.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

GrowthInvest www.growthinvest.com

GrowthInvest is a unique, independent platform which provides access to tax efficient investments for a growing network of UK financial advisers, wealth managers and investors. The Platform aims to bring the advantages of early stage investing to a wider audience of investors and advisers, who are in a position to benefit from the higher returns these companies potentially offer and tax efficiency via government sponsored schemes. The purpose built technology allows clients to consolidate, control and enhance their investment portfolio within a single, secure online portal. Originally founded by financial advisers in 2012 as the Seed EIS Platform, the company rebranded as GrowthInvest in October 2016 in order to better reflect the wider range of products and services available.

Daniel Rodwell, Managing Director, GrowthInvest

Daniel was a founding investor in GrowthInvest (originally Seed EIS Platform) and has been Chairman of the Investment Committee since June 2012. He became Managing Director in late 2014. During his tenure, he has overseen numerous investment rounds into SEIS and EIS qualifying companies. Prior to this he worked in finance for nearly 20 years, managing institutional and private funds focusing on equities and derivatives. Daniel managed the UK division of Van der Moolen Equities AG and more recently founded the equity derivatives boutique Ten Derivatives LLP.

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