

**28 August 2007**

**ENTREPRENEURIAL EXCHANGE APPOINTS STRACHAN AS SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR**

The Entrepreneurial Exchange has appointed Aberdeen-based Murray Strachan to its board as special projects director.

Strachan, who succeeds Jimmy Milne of Balmoral Group, will be charged with promoting and furthering the objectives of the Entrepreneurial Exchange in the north east of Scotland as well as growing the membership in the region.

Strachan recently stepped down from the role of director and chief of staff at Petrofac Operations Services, a major international oil services business, to concentrate on other interests including Strachan & Partners, a specialist business advisory consultancy of which he is managing director, and the newly-created private business angel investment group, Albyn Ventures, of which he is chief executive.

Commenting on the appointment, Strachan said: "I'm thrilled to be taking up this position with the Entrepreneurial Exchange. In recent years, membership among entrepreneurs in the north east has dwindled slightly, so my aim is to make this community aware of the benefits and support offered by the Exchange and hopefully we can get more leading north east entrepreneurs involved."

Chris Gorman, chairman of the Entrepreneurial Exchange, added: "it's a pleasure to welcome Murray on board and we're sure he will do a great job of filling the shoes recently vacated by Jimmy Milne. We are particularly looking forward to developing a new series of events in the north east and to this end we have already scheduled a number of focus dinners in Aberdeen over the coming year."

Strachan is experienced in the development and delivery of acquisition, merger, joint venture and divestment strategies and dealings. He led the MBO of the RGIT Montrose Group of Companies in April 2003 and the subsequent sale to Petrofac in February 2004.

He remains a senior strategic advisor to Petrofac and now holds a number of non-executive director and adviser positions in a diverse range of companies throughout the UK.

**ENDS**

**Editors notes:**

1. Murray is a non executive director of &/or holds board positions with a number of charitable causes &/or organisations, including:

- CLAN a leading NE cancer charity - Vice Chairman & Director
- Robert Gordon University – Member of the International Advisory Board
- Royal Scottish National Orchestra – Member of the Development Board

2. The Entrepreneurial Exchange is Scotland's leading members' organisation for ambitious, growth-orientated entrepreneurs. Created in 1994 *'for entrepreneurs, by entrepreneurs'* the Exchange now has over 400 members heading-up companies employing more than 217,000 people, with a collective turnover of over £16.6 billion.

The underlying philosophy of the Exchange is that entrepreneurs learn most from fellow entrepreneurs – those who have been there and done it. At Exchange events, members hear the reality of running a high-growth business directly from fellow entrepreneurs.

The aim of the Exchange is to raise the profile of entrepreneurship in Scotland, increasing public awareness of the importance and value of entrepreneurs to the economy, to make Scotland a more entrepreneurial and confident society for the benefit of all.

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