

18 May 2009

Rank announces management change at Mecca Bingo

The Rank Group ("Rank" or "the Group") announces that Simon Wykes, managing director of Mecca Bingo has left Rank. The Group has begun a process to select a new managing director for the business, which operates 103 licensed bingo clubs across Great Britain.

In the interim, Rank's chief executive Ian Burke has assumed direct operational management of the business.

Ian Burke said: "Simon has worked hard to stabilise Mecca Bingo during a period in which the industry has had to adapt to the effects of the smoking ban, the loss of Section 21 gaming machines and rising taxation. We have entered a new phase in our strategy, as we look to move beyond stabilisation to rebuilding Mecca Bingo's profits. On behalf of the board I would like to thank Simon for his hard work and to wish him well for the future."

At the time of the publication of its interim management statement on 22 April 2009, Rank reported 1% revenue growth at Mecca Bingo for the first 16 weeks of the financial year.

Ends

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