# Rank Group

# **News Release**

4<sup>th</sup> December 2008

### Rank appoints Mark Jones as managing director of Blue Square

The Rank Group Plc ("Rank" or "the Group") has appointed Mark Jones as managing director of Blue Square, the Group's interactive gaming business.

Jones, 44, is an experienced internet retailer, having been founder and chief executive of Online Travel Corporation plc and managing director of lastminute.com. In addition, he has held senior management positions at Travelocity and Harrods.

lan Burke, chief executive of Rank said: "I am delighted to welcome Mark to Rank and I look forward to working with him as we seek to unlock growth opportunities in the gaming market, both in the UK and overseas.

"One of the major opportunities for the Group is to harness the strengths of our online and land-based businesses, building trusted brands, developing enjoyable gaming experiences and delivering them to the customer in the way that he or she wants to receive them."

Mark Jones joins Rank with immediate effect and will become a member of the Group's executive committee.

#### **Ends**

#### **Contacts**

#### The Rank Group Plc

Dan Waugh, director of investor relations 01628 504053

#### **Financial Dynamics**

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#### **Notes**

#### Mark Jones, career chronology

- 2008: Harrods Limited director of Harrods Home Shopping
- 2004-2007: lastminute.com/Travelocity
  Group managing director, Travelocity B2B Europe
  UK managing director, lastminute.com
- 1998 to 2004 Online Travel Corporation plc (acquired by lastminute.com) chief executive
- 1994 to 1998: MJC Consulting principal
- 1985 to 1994: Morgan, Brown and Spofforth Chartered Accountants accountant

## **About The Rank Group Plc**

The Rank Group Plc ('Rank') is a leading European gaming and betting business, based in the UK and listed on the London Stock Exchange (RNK.L). Its principal activities are the operation of bingo clubs and casinos with complementary interactive gaming and bookmaking services.

Rank operates 32 casinos in Great Britain and two in Belgium. In addition, the Group holds a further 13 casino licences, which gives it scope for significant growth in this sector. A moratorium on the submission of applications for new casino licences in Great Britain was effected in April 2006.

For more information about The Rank Group, visit <a href="https://www.rank.com">www.rank.com</a>