

press release

2 April 2010

The Share Centre's customers prefer an income but they're willing to make a quick profit

- BP top customer buy as investors continue the search for income
- Irish banks divide customer sentiment as they sell off assets to raise cash
 - The Share Centre's buy to sell ratio was 60:40 yesterday

Commenting on yesterday's trading activity at The Share Centre, Nick Raynor, investment adviser, said: "Customer buys outstripped sells with a ratio of 60:40. BP secured the top spot as the most popular buy thanks to oil remaining steady; oil is currently up at around \$1 per barrel. ISA season trading is also likely to have boosted BP's position as the end of the tax year beckons.

"The oil giant remains fashionable with our customers because of its quarterly dividend programme, an attractive offering given current cash interest rates. At present BP is paying around 8.5 pence a quarter, but this is dependent on the exchange rate because of the company's dollar denominated earnings.

"Fund manager Gartmore also came high on our top customer buy list yesterday, following the suspension of one of its top fund managers. Our customers are clearly hoping to make a quick profit given Gartmore's recent share price weakness. This strategy could well pay off considering its share price rose 15% in early morning trading today.

"The Irish banks divided investor sentiment yesterday as they continue to sell off assets in order to raise much needed cash. Allied Irish Banks featured in our top customer buys while the Bank of Ireland came top of our customer sells list. It appears our customers are speculating on government bail out plans and hoping the share prices will hold up."

Top Customer Buys	Top Customer Sells
1. BP	1. Banks of Ireland
2. Lloyds	2. Lloyds
3. Desire Petroleum	3. Rockhopper Exploration
4. Gartmore	4. Desire Petroleum
5. RBS	5. RBS
6. Allied Irish Banks	6. Nostra Terra Oil & Gas
7. Aviva	7. Vodafone
8. Intec Telecom Systems	8. Share
9. Victoria Oil & Gas	9. BP
10. Vodafone	10. Barclays

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Note to editors:

The Top Ten Buys and Sells should not be taken as a recommendation to buy or sell any particular stock.

For further information please contact:

The Share Centre
 Lisa-Marie Nelson
 PR Manager
 01296 439 426
Lisamarie.nelson@share.co.uk

Stephanie Reynolds
 PR Executive
 01296 439 256
Stephanie.reynolds@share.co.uk

Lansons Communications
 Inez de Koning / Neil Gregory / Rachel Cashmore
 0207 294 3623 / 0207 294 3611 / 0207 566 3663
inezd@lansons.com / neilg@lansons.com / rachelc@lansons.com

Risk Warnings:

Investing in general, and the products and services mentioned above may not be suitable for all: if in doubt, individuals should seek independent financial advice. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back their original investment. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The bases and levels of taxation relating to ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are subject to change and the value of these tax allowances may depend upon the circumstances of the individual.

About The Share Centre:

The Share Centre was established in 1990 to provide value-for-money share services for private investors. Its range of services includes buying and selling shares (by Internet, telephone and post) and a comprehensive share administration and safe custody service. Tax-efficient investment 'wrappers' including ISAs, CTFs and SIPP are also available.

The Share Centre's Advice team provides comment on market sectors, individual shares and funds on www.share.com. Access is available to customers and registered users of the site. Registration is free. To understand how our Advice team arrive at their views please read our [Investment Research Policy](#)

In addition, account customers can receive individual telephone advice on UK-listed shares and on funds traded via the CoFunds trading platform.

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