

press release

24 November 2010

Putting Compass back on the map

- Compass group offers a lower risk investment for income and growth
 - The year dividend has risen by 33% to 17.5p
- The Share Centre currently lists Compass Group as a 'buy' for investors

Nick Raynor, investment advisor at The Share Centre explains what Compass Groups profits means for the investor.

"This morning, Compass Group announced a profit of £913 million, equating to an 18% rise on the previous year. Growth has been spurred by acquisitions the company has made during the year – coupled with a good rise in organic growth.

"Looking ahead we see currency movements working in the Groups' favour, with the company set to gain £25m. Investors seeking growth should note the North American business is continuing to grow and there are good signs of improvement in Australia and Brazil. The recovery programme set in place by management appears to be very much on track and there are growing hopes that further steady progress can be achieved.

"As a company, Compass is looking strong. Over the year retention of contracts has improved slightly to 93.2%, reflecting fewer bankruptcies and corporate failures. The company could benefit further from the trend by companies to outsource catering in order to cut costs. We are also impressed with the 33% increase in the dividend, taking the total figure for the year to 17.5p.

"For the investor, Compass Groups results are encouraging, with hopeful yields and The Share Centre continues to list Compass Group as a 'Buy' for income and growth from the lower end of the risk spectrum. "

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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 SIPPs 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 SIPPs 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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