

press release

6 July 2011

Short term investors recommended to take the profits on Axis-Shield

- Axis-Shield rejects a bid from Alere Inc
- The share price soared 40% from yesterday's closing price
- The Share Centre recommends short term investors 'sell' Axis-Shield

As Axis-Shield's share price soars in early morning trading The Share Centre downgrades the company to a 'sell'. Nick Raynor, investment adviser at The Share Centre, explains why:

"Just a day after Axis-Shield issued a trading update revealing it was on target to meet forecasts for the year it has turned down a bid from US listed company Alere Inc. The offer of 460p in cash was immediately rejected as Axis-Shield believed this offer did not reflect the true value of the company.

"The share price increased by 136p to 472p this morning and is now at a 40% premium from the closing price yesterday. We are recommending short term investors take the profits and 'sell' Axis-Shield. Those investors who bought into the company on our initial recommendation in December 2010 will now be sat on profits of almost 90%.

"The trading update yesterday reported no concerns and showed profits this year have increased by more than 20%. We believe emerging markets will be a key player in 2011 and we expect sales to come through from this region later in the year. Despite its strengths we have downgraded Axis-Shield as we feel the current profits available should be taken by shorter term investors."

---Ends---

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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's are also available.

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