

## press release

1 August 2011

Share of the week from The Share Centre

**As The Share Centre upgrades telecommunications business BT to a 'buy' Nick Raynor, investment adviser at The Share Centre, explains why it is the share of the week:**

"In May we highlighted that BT shares were worth watching due to good performance and the company has once again come out with a strong set of figures, hence our decision to change our stance to a 'buy'. The company's pre-tax profits increased by 20% and in just six months it has trebled its customer base. During Q1 BT added a further 141,000 users to its broadband services, a market that is gaining numbers quickly.

"Revenues fell during the period as more users switched from landline calls to mobiles however the strength in the company's Global Services division, which grew by 30%, helped to offset this. Investors will be pleased to see BT also managed to secure its largest ever contract in Latin America during the quarter - a good market to progress well in. This performance has increased the confidence that the company will meet its predicted targets for 2011.

"Margins are improving and the company's efficiency drive appears to be reaping rewards as operating costs are almost 6% lower than last year. The dividend is also attractive for investors at the moment with the full year dividend increasing by 7% and a yield of just over 4%, which looks set to rise. We feel there are attractions for both growth and income seeking investors with BT."

---Ends---

**Note to editors:**

The Share Centre is now on Facebook and Twitter.



Join us on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter

**For further information please contact:**

The Share Centre

Rebecca Kempzell

PR Executive

01296 439 426

[Rebecca.kempzell@share.co.uk](mailto:Rebecca.kempzell@share.co.uk)

Stephanie Reynolds

PR Manager

01296 439 256

[Stephanie.reynolds@share.co.uk](mailto:Stephanie.reynolds@share.co.uk)

Lansons Communications

Inez de Koning / Lisa Grando / Sarah Waterson

0207 294 3623 / 0207 294 3669 / 0207 294 3649

[inezd@lansons.com](mailto:inezd@lansons.com) / [Lisag@lansons.com](mailto:Lisag@lansons.com) / [SarahW@lansons.com](mailto:SarahW@lansons.com)

To view all our press releases and more from our investment advisers please go to [blog.share.com](http://blog.share.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's are also available.

The Share Centre's Advice team provides comment on market sectors, individual shares and funds on [www.share.com](http://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](#). The Share Centre blog is also available at <http://blog.share.com>.

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

The Share Centre Limited is a member of the London Stock Exchange and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority under reference 146768.

Registered in England No. 2461949. Registered office: Oxford House, Oxford Road, Aylesbury,  
Bucks. HP21 8SZ.