

## press release

30 November 2011

Increased dividend sees Sage become more appealing to income seekers

- Sage results in line with expectations
- Total dividend increased by 25%
- The Share Centre continues to recommend investors 'hold' Sage

**As accountancy software company, Sage, reports results for the 12 months to 30 September Nick Raynor, investment research analyst at The Share Centre, explains what they mean for investors.**

"Sage reported results in line with expectations with revenues for the period at £1.48bn and pre-tax profits rising by 8% to £352.6m. The company is focusing on longer term opportunities despite the increasing challenges facing the SMEs it services.

"Income seeking investors may be attracted by news that the total dividend has been increased by 25%. This now brings the yield to 3.5%, which although is still short of the FTSE average, it is an improvement and may see the stock become more appealing.

"Stability is key for Sage. Its good balance sheet and large international customer base has helped the company withstand the difficult economic conditions. Its share price has been holding up relatively well recently and has maintained value since November last year.

"We continue to recommend investors 'hold' Sage and income seekers will further benefit from the increased dividend. However, there are still higher yielding stocks available and those seeking growth will find better opportunities elsewhere in the market."

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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.

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