Plusnet Announces Business Relocation Into The Heart Of Sheffield



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Plusnet, the Sheffield-based broadband and home phone supplier, has announced plans to occupy a centrally-based location in the heart of the City next year.

During the spring of 2012, Plusnet will begin moving all operations into grade-A office space at 'The Balance' on Pinfold Street, S1. The occupancy will be the biggest office let within Sheffield for the last five years, taking over 53,000 square feet.

Jamie Ford, CEO at Plusnet said: "This is an incredibly exciting time for our business and signals another milestone in our amazing story. With such rapid expansion over the last two years this move will enable all business operations including our customer services, to remain together under one roof. This is something incredibly unique for a telecoms provider in the UK.

"At the same time, the move gives us the space to necessitate further expansion as we continue to grow at pace and cements our commitment to Sheffield for the foreseeable future."

Plusnet, set to celebrate its 15th birthday in February 2012, currently employs close to 700 staff. Throughout its history it has been based in Sheffield and in 2010 took the decision to move off-shore service

teams in South Africa back to the city. Since this time, Plusnet has been one of few business broadband) service providers to operate a UK based 24/7 customer service team and in 2011 alone won six awards and has been highly commended 13 times across the broadband industry*. In September, 2011 Plusnet also became officially Which? Recommended.

Jamie Ford continued: "Our staff have worked incredibly hard to achieve this success and I am delighted that we are in a position to reward them with a state-of-the-art working environment. As we continue to grow, I hope the new building acts as another factor to attract local talent to our business."

Tim Bottrill, partner at Knight Frank and Plusnet's Adviser and procurer for this deal said: "This is the biggest office let within Sheffield for the last five years and something that we are proud of at our office in Sheffield. The Balance provides Plusnet with an excellent, new HQ facility in the heart of Sheffield. The building benefits from airconditioned offices which include better meeting facilities; reception area; 24 hour security; landscaped recreational space; staff restaurant; cafe bar and parking. The building also provides excellent access to Sheffield's extensive network of public transport trams and buses."

Plusnet is refurbishing four floors in the building and will neighbour current occupants including HSBC and Hill Dickinson. Currently operating from two sites in the city in Tenter Street and Victoria Quays, Plusnet anticipates the move to be complete by the end of May 2012.

-Ends-

Notes to Editors:

*Several accolades in the 2011 uSwitch Broadband Satisfaction Survey including; "Best Overall Customer Satisfaction", "Most Likely to be Recommended", "Best Customer Service", and "Best Quality of Connection". JD Power award for "Best Fixed ISP", Best Budget Broadband" at the Broadband Genie Home Broadband Awards 2011 & Broadband Choices 2011 "Highly Commended" all providers quality and reliability.

About Plusnet

Plusnet offers broadband and phone packages, including Plusnet Value

and Plusnet Extra broadband, both available to purchase with home phone, <u>fibre optic broadband</u> and a prioritisation service, Plusnet Pro.

Plusnet Value offers speeds of up to 20Mb with a monthly usage limit of 10GB. Plusnet Extra offers speeds of up to 20Mb with a monthly usage limit of 60GB and free McAfee security.

Despite usage limits on its broadband products, Plusnet offers unlimited downloads between midnight and 8am every day. This does not count towards a customer's monthly usage allowance.

Plusnet helps fix problems and talk about pretty much anything related to broadband over on its community site, blogs and forums.

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