

## NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

02 June 2016

### Transatlantic partnership to provide new UK communication training services

- **Highbank Communications' Managing Director, Clive Hawkins, appointed Senior Associate Partner of USA's Spoken Word Communications**
  - **Clive Hawkins to develop new UK Spoken Word Communications office with former BP executive, Elodie Grant-Goodey**
  - **Focus on media, crisis and presentation training needs of oil and gas, chemical and utility industries**
- 

Highbank Communications Limited is pleased to announce that its Managing Director, Clive Hawkins, has been appointed Senior Associate Partner with USA's Spoken Word Communications. He will develop a new UK office for Spoken Word Communications with Saltus Consulting's former BP executive, Elodie Grant-Goodey, and provide media, crisis and presentation training services for the oil and gas, chemical, and utility industries.

Highbank Communications is a corporate communication services consultancy, established in 2015 by Clive Hawkins, former Global Head of Employee Communications and Media Relations and chief media spokesperson for National Grid plc. This latest development strengthens the breadth of Highbank Communications service offering on a national and international basis.

Highbank Communications' Clive Hawkins, said; "I am delighted to partner with Spoken Word Communications and Saltus Consulting, to enable prospective clients to benefit from global media, crisis and presentation training techniques. As the UK industrial landscape evolves and new technology is introduced to deliver essential public services, the need for organisations to communicate effectively and address increasing government, regulatory, media and public scrutiny has never been greater."

Spoken Word Communications was established in the Houston, Texas by founder, Dave Scallan, in 2013 and is a media, crisis communications and presentations training company specialising in the oil and gas, chemical, and utility industries. It has a network of trainers established in USA and Singapore to provide training techniques for communicating effectively in areas of corporate, operations, issue and reputation management, to build confidence and credibility and assure a favourable outcome in any type of interaction involving the spoken word.

Dave Scallan of Spoken Word Communications commented; "I am excited to be establishing a UK base for Spoken Word Communications. Our team brings a vast amount of experience in the key areas of media, crisis and presentation training services. Organisations will benefit first-hand from the collective global communication experience, knowledge and training techniques available within this new partnership."

- End -

For further information, please contact Clive Hawkins on +44 (0) 7469196030 / [clive.hawkins@highbankcommunications.com](mailto:clive.hawkins@highbankcommunications.com)

---

## Notes to Editors:

**1. Highbank Communications** [www.highbankcommunications.com](http://www.highbankcommunications.com) is a specialist communications consultancy that advises businesses on how to communicate effectively with their key audiences to strengthen delivery, protect brand and reputation, and maximise business performance. Highbank Communication's Director, Clive Hawkins, is an experienced FTSE20 communication leader and former Global Head of Employee Communication & Media Relations and Chief Media Spokesperson for National Grid plc. Clive has over 30 years' experience working in the field of corporate and operational communications and directed national and international communication programmes, under intense government, regulatory, media and public scrutiny.

**2. Spoken Word Communications** <http://spokenwordgroup.com/company/> is a media, crisis communications, and presentations training company that advises on how to communicate effectively, build confidence and credibility in any type of interaction involving the spoken word. Former journalist, Dave Scallan is the founder and president of Spoken Word Communications, a global media and crisis communications training firm located in Houston. He has provided counsel to executives in over 25 countries around the world and worked with 5 of the Top 10 Fortune 500 companies. Dave has also worked regularly with the CEO of the world's largest company, based in the Middle East. Spoken Word Communications has partners in Singapore, Brazil and U.A.E, to add regional support to its global training.

**3. Saltus Consulting Ltd** <http://www.saltusconsulting.co.uk/home.html> help clients manage risk and create business value by incorporating sustainable solutions and engagement with external stakeholders in their strategy. They provide advice and implementation support through business-relevant corporate responsibility programmes including strategic planning, sustainability reporting, social investment and impact investing strategy to help clients retain their license to operate, achieve better growth, anticipate long-term trends, improve their reputation, strengthen stakeholder relations, and boost their bottom line. Managing Director, Elodie Grant-Goodey, is a senior communications and external affairs professional with 20 years' international experience in external issues management, societal risk assessment, corporate responsibility, government and civil society relations, external and internal communications. Before founding Saltus Consulting Ltd, Elodie worked for BP where she specialised in social policy management, social risk assessment, advocacy, stakeholder engagement at its corporate headquarters and in North Africa. Previously, Elodie worked for the BBC World Service and volunteered for a number of human rights NGOs.