

Co-operative Financial Services



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News Release

All eyes on management buy out at The Surveillance Group

The UK's largest independent surveillance company has undergone a management buy out under the watchful eye of The Co-operative Bank's Birmingham Corporate Banking Centre.

The Surveillance Group employs an elite group of over 40 ex-special services personnel including Special Air Service (SAS), Special Boat Service (SBS) and The Royal Marines to provide personal injury surveillance, professional witness programmes and special project services.

The Surveillance Group undertakes the majority of its work within the insurance industry to uncover and secure evidence used to reduce or negate exaggerated or fraudulent claims.

Founder and managing director, Tim Young successfully bought out former shareholder Mike Parsons – advised by a team of professionals in Birmingham.

Tim Young plans to expand the company by offering advanced surveillance training under its recently developed Level 3 BTEC to various government bodies and personnel leaving the MOD.

Managing Director Tim Young said: "Levels of public awareness about how companies such as ours undertake surveillance is increasing and therefore our techniques and

methods have to become more sophisticated. Increasingly our operatives carry out surveillance from outside observation points, rather than being vehicle based. We actively encourage our squad team to utilise their military training, to either 'dig in' or undertake close surveillance assisted by innovative covert camera and transmitter technology."

Andy Smith Senior Business Development Manager at The Co-operative Bank's Birmingham Corporate Banking Centre said: "Tim Young and Mike Parsons founded the company seven years ago in 2001. Together they grew the business to become the largest independent surveillance company of its type in the UK and Tim has become very well known and respected within the industry. Expanding to offer a BTEC training qualification nationally is an exciting new opportunity and introduces a new dimension to the business."

Mark Asplin at Jasper Corporate Finance said: "This really is an exciting opportunity for Tim and his team, and just the kind of deal Jasper is good at spotting. The timescale to complete it was tight, but all the professionals worked closely together to pull off the deal within the required timescale."

Andy Smith at The Co-operative Bank and a team of Birmingham based professionals led the deal. Mark Asplin at Jasper Corporate Finance and Andy Lawton-Smith at Wragge and Co advised Tim Young. Elinor Nelson at PKF and Philip Alton at HBJ Gateley Wareing advised The Co-operative Bank.

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Picture captions:

L-R: Andy Smith, The Co-operative Bank, Tim Young, The Surveillance Group and Mark Asplin, Jasper Corporate Finance

For further information contact:

Adele Mandy, Justin Strong or Daniel Kennedy
SKV PR

Tel: 0161 838 7770

Fax: 0161 839 2904

adele.mandy@skvpr.co.uk

Duncan Bowker
Public Relations Manager
Co-operative Financial Services (CFS)
Tel: 0161 827 5617
Fax 0161 832 2751