Britain's Most Admired Companies Study Highlights Resilience and Sustainable Success

London, March 12th 2024. For over three decades, Britain's leading companies have distinguished themselves by their ability to thrive and excel amidst competition. The latest edition of the Britain's Most Admired Companies study underscores the significance of resilience and sustainable growth in today's dynamic landscape.

Sponsored by the London Stock Exchange, the 2023 study analysed 251 firms spanning 28 sectors. Feedback from 300 C-suite peers, financial analysts, and industry experts inform rankings on 13 criteria, illuminating the nation's top companies across core reputational dimensions.

(Click here for infographic of 2023 winners)

(Click here for the full list of companies included in the study)

For the second year in a row, financial services group, **Legal & General**, claimed the coveted title of Britain's Most Admired Company. The top ten also featured stalwarts such as **AstraZeneca**, **ARUP**, **Total SE**, **Ashtead Group**, **Diageo**, **Intermediate Capital Group**, **Equinor**, **Man Group**, and **Next**.

António Simões, CEO of Legal & General said "it is an honour to be recognised as Britain's Most Admired Company for the second consecutive year. Since I joined the business in January, I have been impressed by our authentic sense of purpose, talented people and performance track record. This award is testament to the vision and commitment of our teams to delivering positive outcomes for society, our customers and our shareholders, and it is great to see them recognised by peers and other close observers of our business. My congratulations also to the other category winners, who are each making a strong contribution to building the reputation and role of business as a force for good."

Noteworthy advancements include **Octopus Energy**, which soared 209 places to lead its sector, alongside marked improvements for **SSE**, **M&G**, **Centrica**, **Iberdrola**

(Scottish Power), Elementis, Fever-Tree Drinks, Tritax Big Box, Compass Group, and J Sainsbury.

Among the key attributes that shape the rankings of firms, 'quality of products' continues to top the list as critical to success, along with 'financial soundness' and 'quality of management'.

"For the first time, we see that the broader perspective of 'long-term value potential' comes into this magic circle of critical success factors. This should be no surprise given the current geopolitical and economic uncertainties companies face. To these challenges, our CEOs also cite the importance of talent," says Sandra Macleod, Chief Executive of Echo Research, the firm behind the study.

The study delved into the essential factors that UK businesses prioritise to foster resilience amid evolving market dynamics, technological advancements, and regulatory landscapes. The study highlights the significance of leadership, strategy, and a resilient organisational culture.

Julia Hoggett, CEO of London Stock Exchange plc, added "We are incredibly proud to be supporting Britain's Most Admired Companies this year. These awards share the London Stock Exchange's commitment to recognising excellence and driving forward innovation within the country's business community. The depth of talent at companies listed in the UK shines through in this year's nominees. We are pleased to honour the forward-looking leaders who have successfully built resilient organisational cultures whilst fostering growth in a rapidly changing environment. Congratulations to all the winners announced today."

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About Britain's Most Admired Companies - Britain's Most Admired Companies study is the longest-running annual survey of corporate reputation in the UK with data going back 30+ years. Find out more at britainsmostadmired.com

About The London Stock Exchange - The London Stock Exchange is the proud sponsor of Britain's Most Admired Companies awards for 2023. This partnership

exemplifies a shared commitment to recognising excellence and driving forward innovation within the country's leading business community.

About Echo Research - Echo is the global independent market research agency providing evidence and board-ready insights to improve performance and support change for the better, serving over 700 clients spanning all sectors since its inception in 1990. Find out more at **echoresearch.com**

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