



PRESS RELEASE 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

### **Colt to Relocate within Hampshire**

Colt announces that it will be moving its offices to modern premises in Petersfield and Waterlooville, whilst maintaining its manufacturing capability in Havant.

The move supports the Company's strategy of growing its U.K. wide specialist contracting and service & maintenance businesses. It will maintain employment levels and is expecting all employees currently based in Havant to remain with the company.

The new locations have been selected due to their proximity to Havant, where its U.K. manufacturing activities will remain, the welfare for the existing workforce and good road/rail links to London where much of Colt's business takes place. The new office spaces offer more efficient layouts in a 21st century working environment which will support the company's continued growth and provide a better working environment for employees.

Managing Director of Colt International, Nick Buckingham, said "I am delighted that we are taking the next step in Colt's future in new premises and I look forward to successfully developing our business in the years ahead."

CEO of Colt Group, Mark Oliver, commented "Our UK business has a long history in Hampshire and I am delighted that the business remains committed to the area in new premises that both meet the needs of our employees and our business."

Colt's current premises at New Lane, Havant have been sold to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). Commenting on the sale the HCA's General Manager for the South West, Kevin Bourner said:

"We are delighted to have worked with the Colt Group to acquire this important development site in Havant, which has enabled the company to relocate its operations locally safeguarding around 100 jobs in the area. The site will be a fantastic opportunity for a new mixed-use development, providing much-needed housing, including starter homes, and employment opportunities for Havant and we wish Colt well with the move to their new premises."

### **Notes to Editors**

Colt Group and Colt International occupied the New Lane site in Havant in 1963, having re-located from London to expand the manufacturing footprint as the business grew into a global business exporting products to over 50 countries worldwide. Over the past decades the Group has added manufacturing sites in Germany, Netherlands, China & Australia. At the same time, the UK focused operation evolved into a specialist contractor with its Havant manufacturing facility now exclusively dedicated to serving the UK market. With these changes, the Havant office premises no longer fit the needs of the business and Colt has taken the decision to move its UK business offices to a building on the Ridgeway Office Park in Petersfield which will be named Colt House, whilst its manufacturing activities will remain in Havant at the Kenwood Business Park.

## **About Colt Group Limited and Colt International Limited**

**Colt Group Limited** is a £150m turnover, privately owned company founded in 1931, that is in the business of providing and servicing innovative solutions and products for smoke control, ventilation, solar shading and climate technology. It operates as a specialist design & build contractor with a service & maintenance business and also manufactures a proportion of the unique products and systems that it uses in its solutions. The Group has wholly owned subsidiaries in 16 countries and serves other selected markets via a network of distributors. It has manufacturing facilities in the U.K., Netherlands, Germany, China and Australia. The Company addresses the global growth markets for environmentally friendly and sustainable natural ventilation, evaporative cooling and solar shading as well as the growing international demand for the installation and servicing of smoke control solutions in buildings that is being driven both by regulation and the risk management requirements of building occupiers and owners.

**Colt International Limited** is Colt Group's U.K. subsidiary and a market leading specialist contractor for smoke control projects in industrial, commercial, retail, residential and public buildings that it also services and maintains. Its smoke control solutions include ventilators, fans, controls and smoke curtains for buildings and ventilation for underground car parks. Colt is the leading brand in the smoke control sector and is present on flagship projects including the Olympic Village and Wembley Stadium as well as locally at the Chichester Festival Theatre. Colt International is also a market leader in the supply and installation of louvre used for ventilation and decorative purposes including the pyramid at the top of the Canary Wharf tower and Terminal 5 at Heathrow. It also supplied and installed the solar shading at Portsmouth's Gunwharf Quays. Colt International services and maintains safety critical smoke control systems at Bluewater shopping centre, Wembley and Twickenham stadia as well as the West Quay shopping centre in Southampton and the Portsmouth Dockyard.

## **About the HCA**

The HCA is the Government's national housing and regeneration delivery agency for England and manages around 8,900ha of land.

In 2014/15 the HCA:

- Helped build more than 50,000 new homes in England through its investments and land
- Helped complete a further 27,785 homes through Help to Buy equity loans, designed to help people into home ownership
- Made enough public sector land available to create more than 8,000 new homes.