

## EO OFFERS 1.5% CASHBACK ON VENTURE CAPITAL TRUSTS

Submitted by: Finsbury Group

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London 6 March 2001 - EO plc, the online equity distribution platform for retail investors, today announced that it is offering consumers a 1.5% Cashback on Venture Capital Trust investments, made through EO. This offer is open until 4th April 2001.

At EO, applications may be made online or an application form may be printed from the website and sent in by post. VCT investments have a number of benefits including the opportunity to obtain tax free capital growth, Income Tax reliefs, and Capital Gains Tax deferral under VCT tax legislation in force.

Commenting on the offer, Mark Stacpoole, CEO of EO UK, said:

"Since the inception of Venture Capital Trusts in 1995, the size and number of VCTs available has grown dramatically. Today someone contemplating a VCT investment has a huge choice of Investment Manager and sector focus. Increasingly the big names in fund management are introducing VCT products. This means that with an investment in new-issue VCT shares, as small as £2,500 for some trusts, UK taxpayers can access a product that can be far more tax efficient than an ISA. Historically, VCT's have been viewed as complex investments for a sophisticated investor and they have been sold through IFA's, but as the VCT product comes of age, investors who have previously bought them will value the access and choice of Trusts available at EO. In the coming weeks EO will be adding a number of Hedge Funds to the offers available online. Hedge Funds are expected to become increasingly attractive to retail investors looking for products with a performance which is not correlated to the wider equity markets."

Investors can benefit from this offer by visiting <http://www.eo.net>

For information on Venture Capital Trusts forthcoming at EO and related tabulated data, please contact Finsbury.

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Notes to editors

EO plc

\* EO plc, which is regulated by the SFA, is an on-line share distribution platform . EO works in partnership with investment banks and venture capital firms to distribute equity product to retail investors on a pan-European basis.

\* EO agreed to acquire EPO.com on 13th December 2000. . Through its networks and partnership arrangements, EO now reaches an audience of almost 20 million online users throughout the UK and Europe.

\* Distribution partners include:

Online brokers: Charles Schwab Europe, Barclays Stockbrokers, Sharepeople, Stockacademy, Stocktrade

Portals: Yahoo!, GlobalNetFinancial.com, Tiscali  
and  
Ciaoweb

Retail investment sites: ADVFN and moneyextra.com

Other: OM Stockholm Stock Exchange

\* EO has established a joint venture with more-IPO.de in Germany, through which EO's reach encompasses users of both web.de and freenet.de. EO also has a partnership with online IPO provider EuropeOffering.com in France.

\* EO has established partnerships with UBS Warburg and Noble & Co. Under the terms of these partnerships, the investment banks will make appropriate equity product offerings available to retail investors via <http://www.eo.net>

\* EO also benefits from exclusive deal flow from its founding shareholder NewMedia SPARK, Europe's leading quoted early stage technology investor.

\* EO now has operations in UK, Germany, France, Sweden and Finland.

\* Investors should register free and without obligation at <http://www.eo.net>

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