



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

SIX IN A ROW FOR STANDARD LIFE

Standard Life, Europe's largest mutual life assurance company, has won "Company of the Year" for the sixth time in succession at the annual Financial Adviser Provider Awards 2002. Recently retired Group Managing Director Scott Bell was named Chief Executive of the Year for the second year in a row.

In a ceremony held at Quaglino's in London last night, Standard Life won the Company of the Year award after Independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) voted Standard Life 'Gold' provider of pensions, protection products, mortgages and investments. For each of these categories, the IFAs were asked to rate companies on: design and innovation, competitiveness and performance, support of the IFA sector, and effective marketing and advertising. Standard Life won the Company of the Year award by achieving the best overall score.

Paul Matthews, Sales Director, IFA Sales commented: "We are delighted to have been named Company of the Year once again and it's an honour to be nominated once again by so many IFAs. Everyone at Standard Life is committed to providing the best value products and the highest quality of service possible to support Independent Financial Adviser's in adding value to their customers. I would like to thank the Independent Financial Advisers for their continued support, and assure them that Standard Life remains focused on continuing to assist its customers in the future."

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NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Standard Life's worldwide assets under management exceed the total stock market value of Sainsbury's, Boots, Tesco, Cadbury-Schweppes and British Airways combined. We are one of only six life assurance groups worldwide to have been awarded a 'Triple A' classification – the highest possible – for financial strength by leading independent international rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Moody's.
2. Standard Life is Europe's largest mutual life assurance company.
3. List of Financial Adviser Provider Awards won:

Company of the Year;

Chief Executive of the Year;

Pensions Provider – Gold Award;

Protection Provider – Gold Award;

Investment Provider – Gold Award;

Mortgages Provider – Gold Award.