
For immediate release

Gissings Select Standard Life DC pension platform for clients

31 October 2008

Gissings Consultancy Services Ltd, a leading firm of pensions consultants, has appointed Standard Life to provide the Defined Contribution (DC) pension element of Gissings Select, a new technology based service. Gissings Select aims to target employers who are looking to reduce the costs of sponsoring a pension scheme through the innovative use of technology, while also providing improved service, advice and governance around DC pensions.

Alan Reid, Head of Business Development Corporate Benefits at Standard Life said: "We are delighted to be working with Gissings to help develop this proposition, which is built on our existing technology platform and capabilities. The deal offers a great opportunity to broaden our distribution reach. We will continue to look at ways of diversifying our distribution capability in the corporate market to help deliver our organic growth strategy."

Andrew Dawson, Director at Gissings commented: "For years we have had market leading governance, consulting and investment propositions for GPP arrangements. We are now making these services more readily available to the GPP market, in a user-friendly format. We expect this product to be of maximum interest to employers with existing GPPs and to those re-structuring pension schemes.

"At a time when the government is revealing more detail about Personal Accounts, and markets are behaving erratically, we are sure that many employers will see the benefit of Gissings Select as a long term solution to their needs, and those of their employees. We are delighted to be able to offer a very attractive product at a very keen price."

Ends

Standard Life Assurance Limited, registered in Scotland (SC286833), Standard Life House, 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2DH, authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. 0131 225 2552. Calls may be recorded/monitored.

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Notes to Editors

1. Gissings is a leading firm of pensions consultants, providing actuarial, advisory, investment and administration services for UK pension plans. Established in 1970 and independently owned, Gissings advises on all types of occupational and contract based pension plans, plus pension plan design, pension aspects of mergers and acquisitions and pension plan restructuring. Gissings is also a leading player in the advisory market for the buyout of pension liabilities.
2. Standard Life has approximately 7 million customers worldwide and provides an extensive range of products and services aimed at meeting the financial requirements of customers throughout their lives.