

Press Release

Arnaud Bamberger becomes President of the French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain

London, 9 July - The French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain (CCFGB) has announced the election of Arnaud Bamberger, Executive Chairman of Cartier UK Ltd, as its new President. Arnaud Bamberger, who has been a Board Director for 18 years, together with new Deputy President, Richard Brown CBE, who has been a Board Director for 8 years, were officially elected by the Board of Directors and members of the Chamber at the CCFGB's Annual General Meeting on Monday 8 July. The AGM, which took place at the offices of ReedSmith, was attended by more than 150 members and the French Ambassador, HE Bernard Emié. Arnaud Bamberger and Richard Brown succeed former President Arnaud Vaissié, Chairman and CEO of International SOS, and former Deputy President Peter Alfandary, Head of French Team at ReedSmith, who completed their six-year terms of office in accordance with the Chamber's Articles of Association. Arnaud Vaissié and Peter Alfandary will remain as Board members of the Chamber.

Commenting on his appointment as CCFGB President, Arnaud Bamberger said 'I am thrilled to have been appointed as the new President of the CCFGB and will do my utmost to further promote this wonderful institution in the spirit that has been successfully established over the past 130 years.' He added, 'I would like to pay a special tribute to Arnaud Vaissié and Peter Alfandary for the great work achieved under their leadership. I am pleased to be supported by Richard Brown who is an exceptional person. Finally, I want to highlight the amazing work done by Florence Gomez, the managing director, and her team'.

Since his arrival at the historic New Bond Street site in London in 1992 as Managing Director of Cartier UK Ltd, Arnaud Bamberger has become a well-known and respected figure on the social and sporting scene. Born into a branch of the famous Lumière family – inventor of cinema – Arnaud was brought up in France. It was in the mid-1970s, whilst working as Sales Promotion Director for Rothmans, that his cosmopolitan flair was noticed by Alain Dominique Perrin, the then President of Cartier. Arnaud spent several years as Cartier's Export Director, based in Paris, but his command of the English language prompted a move in the early 1980s to New York, where he took up the role of Vice President, Retail, and opened up an impressive 15 stores during his time there. In 1987, he moved back to his homeland to head up the retail operations worldwide. After five years in Paris, Arnaud was yet again attracted by a challenge overseas, so the position of Managing Director UK at the very nadir of the recession proved too alluring. Under his successful management this important market for Cartier has more than tripled its turnover and sales continue to thrive.

Arnaud Bamberger was awarded the highly prestigious Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur and Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite.

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Note to Editors:

About the French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain

The French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain is the largest foreign chamber in the UK in terms of both turnover and range of services offered. Our main aims are to provide a platform of exchange and networking at the service of the Franco-British firms in the UK, to promote our 600 members' interests to key decision makers and to help develop economic and commercial relations between France and the UK. Our Business Consultancy and Implantation departments provide both British and French companies with a large range of bespoke professional services. The 50 events we organise a year, with personalities from the British and French political and business worlds, offer great opportunities for our members to develop their business and expand their network of contacts. Additionally, the Forums and the Clubs we have launched over the past two years, focusing on issues or sectors such as Human Resources, Climate Change, Cross-Cultural Relations, Finance, Legal, Luxury and SMEs, offer our members dedicated platforms to exchange experiences at the highest level of management and to share best practice.