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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Richard Mayhew Joins R.J. O'Brien (UK) Limited to Build Grains Team in EMEA**

LONDON, April 14, 2015 – Chicago-based R.J. O'Brien & Associates (RJO), the oldest and largest independent futures brokerage and clearing firm in the United States, today announced that veteran institutional grains broker Richard Mayhew has joined its affiliate R.J. O'Brien (UK) Limited as Senior Vice President, Head of Grains & Oilseeds, EMEA. With more than 35 years of experience in grains in both the physical and futures markets, Mayhew will build a team focused on all aspects of futures related to grains and serve commercial clients throughout the Europe, Middle East and Africa region.

David Mudie, Chief Executive Officer of RJO UK, said: "This is a strategic hire for RJO UK, enabling us to build on RJO's unparalleled institutional grain business in North America with our first dedicated initiative in grains out of Europe. Richard's stellar experience, breadth of knowledge in every facet of the grains business and fantastic reputation make him an ideal leader for this effort."

Mayhew's former colleague Hui Zhao is also part of the new RJO team, having just joined as Vice President, Commodity Broker.

Mayhew said: "I have known R.J. O'Brien for my entire career and have only had a positive impression of the firm. I am thrilled to be part of this independent and highly respected company, with its strong focus on service, risk management and insights that benefit its clients. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to team up with the firm's seasoned professionals in Chicago and build out the global offering in the EMEA region, which has tremendous untapped potential. We intend to offer a complete service to our clients across everything related to grains and oilseeds, including freight, energy and foreign exchange components."

Mayhew served since 1999 as Head of International Grain & Oilseed Futures Broking for ADM Investor Services International Limited and has spent his entire career in grains. Each summer, he visits the United States to conduct crop tours.

Born and raised in London, where his father was in the commercial grain business, Mayhew came to Chicago at the age of 21 to work on the floor of the Chicago Board of Trade. He spent 10 years in the United States, including on the commercial side as a physical trader of soybean barges and as an Account Executive with Prudential Bache in New Orleans.

Mayhew returned to London in 1990 as a Grain & Oilseed futures broker for Refco Overseas Ltd. In 1996, he took on that role for GNI Limited in London before joining ADM in 1999.

He has been a member of the Baltic Exchange, the world's only independent source of maritime market information for the trading and settlement of physical and derivative shipping contracts.

### **About R.J. O'Brien**

Founded in 1914, [R.J. O'Brien & Associates](#) is the largest independent futures brokerage firm in the United States, serving institutional, commercial and individual clients globally, in addition to a network of 400 introducing brokers (IBs). Clearing more than 100,000 client accounts, RJO services the industry's most expansive global network of IBs, a vast array of middle market firms and many of the world's largest financial, industrial and agricultural institutions. The firm offers state-of-the-art electronic trading and 24-hour trade execution on every major futures exchange worldwide.