

**UNICOM
PRESS RELEASE**

August 2, 2007.

UNICOM APPOINTS NEW FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

**Tony Eagleton Joins the Board of Universal Utilities PLC
Photograph available**

The Board of Universal Utilities PLC, trading as Unicom, a telecoms provider to small businesses, has appointment Tony Eagleton as Financial Director with immediate effect.

Tony has a wide variety of experience in the professional and commercial sectors. After graduating from Leeds University, he qualified as a Chartered Accountant during a 10 year spell with Deloitte & Touche, before becoming the first Executive Finance Director of the Rugby Football League.

He later spent a period of time with a PLC motor dealership, prior to taking up a position with Parkhouse Recruitment, firstly as Finance Director and later as Managing Director. His most recent role was that of Commercial Director with Connaught Compliance Limited.

“I am delighted to have been invited to work with the largest independent provider of telecommunication services, and one of the fastest growing companies in the UK,” said Tony.

“It is a tremendous personal opportunity and I look forward to making my contribution to the further development of the business as it continues to go from strength to strength.”

Unicom has 70,000 customers, primarily small or owner-managed businesses with telephone bills of approximately £1,000 a year. The specialised nature of the telephony and broadband products offered by Unicom provides significant savings for its business users.

Ends

About Unicom

Unicom, part of Universal Utilities PLC, is a telecommunications service provider specialising in the small business market. It currently provides telecom, broadband and website services to 70,000 small businesses throughout the UK. Unicom has an annual turnover of over £40m, with 10 regional offices situated around the UK.

Unicom has attracted its small business customers by offering discounts of up to 60% off BT Retail's prices, at the same time as keeping customers on the BT network. Unicom currently supplies in excess of 450 million minutes of call time to its small business customers each year.

Unicom differentiates itself by offering a high standard of personal customer service, with no premium rate 0845 or 0870 numbers, no recorded messages or menus, and no overseas call centres. Unicom boasts one of the highest customer retention rates in the industry.

Unicom was ranked 26th in the Sunday Times Profit Track 100 listings in April 2006, 89th in the Fast Track 100 index in December 2006 and 96th in the Profit Track 100 listings in April 2007. The company employs nearly 500 people.

Further information:

Megan Codling or Iain Macauley

mc@pressrelations.co.uk / im@pressrelations.co.uk

07795 848586 / 07788 978800 www.switchingon.com