

CollegeGroup

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For immediate release

College Hill wins Holmes Report European Corporate Consultancy of the Year



Alex Sandberg, Chairman (r), and Richard Nichols, CEO

The Holmes Report has awarded College Hill the European Corporate Consultancy of the Year accolade in its latest Agency of Year awards.

In its citation for the award, The Holmes Report said:

"The global economic crisis notwithstanding, it has been another busy year at expansion-minded College Hill, with significant enhancements of its capabilities in digital—taking a stake in Tonic, a 40-person digital design and branding firm—and public affairs, expanding its U.K. team with an investment in boutique consulting firm Precise and property and planning specialist Green Issues and then entering the EU market in the fall via a stake in Brussels-based Policy Action."

"Those moves mark a continuation of the aggressive growth strategy that began when College Hill founder and managing director Alex Sandberg named former Incepta chief executive Richard Nichols to the same role at his firm last year and has seen the firm grow from around £10 million in fee income three years ago to revenues of around £27 million today. Pure financial communications, once the lion's share of the firm's business, now accounts for about 25 percent, with public affairs and broad corporate communications work contributing a larger share."

"Just as important, about a quarter of the firm's clients are now using multiple practices, and a growing number are drawing on College Hill services in other EMEA markets (in addition to Germany and Brussels, the firm has a long-established office in South Africa and about a third of its people are now based outside the U.K.)"

Commenting on the award, Alex Sandberg, Chairman, and Richard Nichols, CEO, said: "We are very proud to be recognised by The Holmes Report, which is the only international survey of its kind. A lot has been going on at College Hill. Since 2006, we've nearly trebled our revenue from £10m to approaching £30m on a turnover of £35m. We are some 300 people, operating out of fourteen offices in Europe, Africa, Asia and the US, so this award recognises that College Hill is now in a different league. The credit for this award goes to each of our consultants, delivering exceptional work for their clients."

The Holmes Reports selects Agencies of the Year from among the participants in its PR Agency Report

Cards. The Holmes Report bases the decision on several factors including financial performance, success in various awards competitions, scores in our Best Agencies to Work For research, and feedback from peers, clients and industry experts.

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Notes for Editors:

About College Group

College Group is a growing international business communications consultancy with offices in Europe, China, India, South Africa and the United States. College Group's wide range of complementary practices provides advice to clients around the world on communicating with their principal stakeholders. Areas of expertise include financial public relations and investor relations, with specialist industry sector teams; corporate public relations; public affairs; branding; financial reporting and digital; risk and crisis management; employee engagement and strategic research consultancy. For more information, visit thecollegegroup.com