



PRESS INFORMATION 27 July 2010

Colleys partners with Quest to deliver Home Reports in Scotland

Property software specialist, Quest, has today announced that property experts, Colleys, has selected Quest as its technology partner to support the launch of its new Home Report service. The service, which launched on 1st July 2010, is available to both Scottish property professionals and homeowners who wish to obtain a Home Report directly.

Quest's online Home Report system enables Colleys to quickly produce own-branded reports and eliminates the need for the firm to develop its own in-house system, potentially saving thousands of pounds. Colleys team of 10 surveyors can access the service online and can upload the mandatory contents including the Single Survey and the Energy Performance Certificate. The required property questionnaire can be edited online by the vendor or uploaded by email.

Chris Sharrad, Project Manager, Business Change at Colleys Surveyors said: "We are excited to be entering the Home Report market and have been delighted with the support we have received from Quest. Not only are they the proven technology leader in this space but the online tools integrate with our existing systems making the implementation very straight forward. It also has a familiar look and feel to Quest's other systems meaning our surveyors have been able to quickly get up to speed with using the Home Report solution, which is ideal. Quest has made this step into a new market very easy for us."

James Sherwood-Rogers, managing director, Quest said: "We have a good relationship with Colleys having worked with the firm for many years to provide their valuation and surveying IT systems. As a result, we were able to work closely with them to provide the new online tool that would support Colleys move into the Scottish Home Reports market. As well as providing the online solution, we also offer a high quality printing service, meaning Colleys have the choice of providing completed Home Reports as either a PDF or a booklet."

Commenting on the success of Home Reports in Scotland, Graeme Hartley, director of RICS Scotland said: "Over 130,000* Home Reports have now been completed since their introduction in December 2008. Our RICS members report that their clients like the Home Report and view it as a positive tool when buying and selling property in Scotland.

The Home Report was introduced primarily to improve the condition of the housing stock in Scotland and we have always viewed the Home Report as a positive concept. It has also been embraced by both Consumer Focus Scotland and Which?

It is important to recognise that HIPs were an entirely different product to the Home Report and the two should not be confused with each other. The HIP was nothing more than searches and an energy assessment. The Home Report is by contrast a 24-element condition rating survey; a valuation; a domestic energy assessment; a property questionnaire with an optional mortgage valuation report."

For further information, please telephone 0844 844 9969 or visit www.questuk.com.

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Notes to Editors:

- Colleys is the valuation and surveying arm of the Bank of Scotland and part of Lloyds Banking Group

- *Figure obtained from the Energy Savings Trust
- High resolution images of James Sherwood-Rogers are available on request.

About Quest

Established in 1982, Quest, which is part of Landmark Information Group, is the market leading provider of survey and mortgage valuation software in the UK. Quest has also developed Q-Guard, a fraud detection and prevention tool that supports the industry in detecting and preventing mortgage fraud.

In addition, Quest also specialises in delivering software applications that allow users to access, develop, collate and share the contents of Home Reports, the Energy Performance Certificate, Home Condition Report and Commercial Energy Reports in a secure electronic environment.

Its technology is integrated with a majority of the DEA accreditation schemes and Scottish Protocols, including RICS and BRE, providing access to the largest resource of assessors for an efficient turnaround.

For further information, telephone: 0844 844 9969, visit: <u>www.questuk.com</u> or follow Quest on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/questuk</u>.

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