



**12 December 2012**

**PETS AT HOME ACQUIRES EQUESTRIAN MULTI-CHANNEL SPECIALIST 'RIDE-AWAY'**

Pets at Home is delighted to announce the acquisition of Ride-Away, a leading Equestrian multi-channel business. Ride-Away's strong brand and loyal customer base in the fragmented £2.8bn equestrian market will significantly expand Pets at Home's specialist credentials.

Established in 1980, Ride-Away is a family-owned, multichannel retail business with extensive online and catalogue operations as well as a 15,000 sq ft store in Yorkshire. Turnover in 2011 was £6.7 m.

Nick Wood, CEO of Pets at Home commented:

"The acquisition of Ride-Away is a really exciting opportunity for Pets at Home where our equestrian offer is very limited at present. Stephen and Angela Clark have built Ride-Away into a significant multi-channel operation, specialising in the equestrian market. By deploying our wealth of experience and resources to support an accelerated growth plan we look forward to developing the business further over the coming years.

"The success of Pets at Home is built on a foundation of friendly expertise delivered by outstanding colleagues, authoritative ranges, product innovation and great service. We believe in Ride-Away we have bought a business that shares these attributes."

Stephen and Angela Clark commented:

"Having decided to sell our family business it was important to us that we found a buyer who shares the values that have underpinned the growth of Ride-Away to date. Given the experience and resources that Nick and his team have at their disposal we believe they can successfully build on the very strong foundation we are proud to have built over the last 32 years."

- ENDS -

**For further information:**

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**About Pets at Home:**

Pets at Home is the UK's leading specialist retailer of pet food, pet-related products and accessories; they also sell fish and small animals. The company was established in 1991 and currently operates from 334 stores, totalling 2.8m sq. ft. with 5,900 colleagues.

In addition, Pets at Home currently operates 106 in-store or stand-alone veterinary surgeries under the brand name 'Companion Care', and 77 in-store grooming salons under the brand name 'The Groom Room'.

Pets at Home was the subject of a KKR backed buyout in 2010.

[www.petsathome.com](http://www.petsathome.com)