

Biography

Paul Walker

Chief Executive, The Sage Group plc

Paul Walker is Chief Executive of **The Sage Group plc**, a worldwide leader in business solutions for small and medium-sized enterprises. Sage is an international business with over 9,000 employees, 4.5 million customers and a turnover in excess of £750m (over \$1bn).

Paul joined what was then a UK-based business in 1984, as financial controller, one of only seven members of staff. He became Finance Director in 1987, and two years later the company was floated on the London Stock Exchange, providing an important stimulus for growth.

He was appointed Chief Executive of the Sage Group plc in 1994, and has since led the organisation during a period of sustained expansion. Growth has been driven by the acquisition of companies in the United States, France and Germany and more recently in the Asian markets. In addition to extending its range of accounting and payroll software, Sage offers new customer-facing products and services including CRM and e-commerce. Its solutions are also increasingly industry-tailored.

Paul was appointed as a non-executive director of **Diageo plc** in June 2002.

Prior to Sage, Paul began his career as a chartered accountant and auditor with the international accountants Arthur Young (now Ernst & Young). He graduated in Economics at York University.

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