



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Olympic high jumper Steve Smith confirmed to 'jump start' the 9th Chambers of Commerce Business Week 2010

Steve Smith, Britain's most successful ever jumper having won a medal in every major championship including the Olympic Games, will be launching the Chambers of Commerce Business Week 2010, sponsored by the University of Glamorgan Business School at a breakfast and lunch.

The 9th Chambers of Commerce Business Week 2010 will kick off with a launch breakfast at Bluestone in West Wales (8am for 8.30am start), sponsored by the South West Wales Vocational Support Initiative, followed by a launch lunch at the International Sports Village in Newport (12noon for a 12.30pm start), sponsored by Newport City Council.

Recently voted the Academy of Chief Executives Speaker of the year, Steve Smith is one of the country's best and most sought after motivational speakers.

Despite being considered too short to be a world class high jumper, he is still Britain's most successful ever jumper and his British record has now stood untouched for an incredible 16 years.

Since retirement he has gone on to be a successful restaurateur and a broadcaster for Sky, Channel 4 and the BBC. He is now a director of Raise the Bar - one of the country's leading Training and Development companies.

Career highlights have included: 1996 Olympic Bronze 1994 European Championship Silver 1994 Commonwealth Games Silver 1993 World Championship Bronze

Sarah Kelley, project officer for the South West Wales Vocational Support Initiative, said: "The FE Colleges and Universities of South West Wales that make up the South West Wales Vocational Support Initiative are pleased to sponsor the Breakfast launch of the Chambers of Commerce Business Week. Join us at Bluestone to find out how the project can support your business with subsidised consultancy and management training"

Councillor Ed Townsend, cabinet member for economic development and regeneration at Newport City Council said: "Newport is pleased to be playing a key role in the Chambers of Commerce Business Week.

"Soon after this event, Newport will be launched into the global limelight as we play host to The Ryder Cup. We have also gained status as a major centre for sport and an Olympic training venue which makes the focus of this year's business week, the multi-million pound sporting industry, very pertinent for our city.

“We look forward to welcoming key speakers and guests to Newport International Sports Village and furthering our efforts to make Newport a key location for business and investment.”

For more details on the launch events, how to book and other events during Chambers of Commerce Business Week, visit:

www.businessweek.org.uk

Ends

Notes for editors

The South Wales Chamber of Commerce is the ultimate business network in South Wales and now incorporates the West Wales Chamber of Commerce. The chamber exists to provide a regional voice and offer support to businesses pan South Wales.

Since merging with the West Wales Chamber of Commerce, the South Wales Chamber of Commerce now represents over 1000 businesses and 100,000 employees.

For more press information please contact Laurian Corner at the South Wales Chamber on 01633 242715 or laurian.corner@southwaleschamber.co.uk