

A blurred photograph of a crowd of people walking in a bright, outdoor setting, possibly a city square or a fair. The image is overlaid with a faint, white, geometric network pattern consisting of dots connected by thin lines, suggesting a digital or interconnected theme. The overall color palette is bright and airy, with a mix of blues, whites, and soft colors from the people's clothing.

# VALENTINE THOMAS

— & PARTNERS —

## People Moves | Investment Management EMEA

September 2025

# People Moves |

## Investment Management EMEA

Please see below a monthly update on the latest people moves within the EMEA investment management industry. Please do get in contact with the team if you would like to discuss any topics relating to talent in the investment or wealth management areas.

- **Aberdeen Equity Income Trust plc** has appointed **Alice Ryder** as an **Independent Non-Executive Director**.
- **Aberdeen** has appointed **Mark Hopcroft** as **Head of Investment Solutions**. Mark was formerly Head of Strategic Partners at Timeline.
- **AEW Europe** has promoted **Vanessa Roux-Collet** from General Secretary Europe to **CEO Europe**, succeeding **Rob Wilkinson**, who is **leaving** the firm.
- **AllianceBernstein** has appointed **Marcus Thom** as **Managing Director, Head of Institutional Business Germany & Austria**. Formerly, Marcus was Head of Institutional Distribution Germany at Nordea Asset Management.
- **Amundi** has appointed **Dominic Byrne** as **Global Head of Retirement Solutions**. Dominic was formerly Head of Investment Strategy for EMEA Retirement Solutions at BlackRock.
- **Antin Infrastructure Partners** has appointed **Walid Damou** as **Group Chief Financial Officer**. Formerly, Walid was Head of Business Development and Shareholder Relations at CVC Capital Partners.
- **Apollo Global Management** has appointed **Sophia Ferguson** as **Managing Director**. Previously, Sophia was a Managing Director at Goldman Sachs.
- **Aviva Investors** has appointed **Anna Chong** as **Sector Lead in the Global Fixed Income Team**, **Matt Bennison** as **Head of UK Active Equities**, **Michalis Ditsas** as **Senior Investment Director in the Global Fixed Income Team**, and **Nichollette MacDonald-Brown** as **Global Head of Active Equities**. Additionally, **James Edwards** has been named **Head of Institutional, UK**.
- **Aztec Group** has appointed **Sam Metland** as **Head of Product**. Formerly, Sam was Head of Solutions Engineering at The Citco Group Limited.
- **Baillie Gifford's** Partner and Co-Manager of the Monks Investment Trust, **Spencer Adair**, is **retiring** at the end of March 2026.
- **Berenberg Wealth and Asset Management's** Head of Investments and CIO Equities, **Matthias Born**, is **leaving** the firm.
- **Brookfield** has appointed **Gregory Benhamou** as **Head of France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Monaco, Institutional Clients Europe**. Formerly, Gregory was Head of Private Markets Business Development for France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Monaco at BlackRock.
- **Capital Dynamics** has appointed **William Nicholson** as **Director of Business Development**. William was formerly a Director of Business Development at Atrato Group.
- **Carne** has appointed **Francis Parisi** as **Head of Business Development (MD) Luxembourg**. Francis was formerly Managing Director at PwC.
- **Coller Capital** has appointed **James Peoples** as **Head of Distribution, UK & Northern Europe**. Formerly, James was Senior Alternatives Sales Specialist – EMEA at Franklin Templeton.
- **Ecofin Global Utilities and Infrastructure Trust plc** has appointed **David Benda** as an **Independent Non-Executive Director**.
- **Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management** has appointed **Bruno Taillardat** to **Lead an Active Management Quant Team**, with **Xavier Marconnet** and **Frédéric Girod** joining as **Senior Quant Portfolio Managers**.
- **Fidelity European Trust** has appointed **Rutger Koopmans** and **Victoria Hastings** as **Non-Executive Directors**.
- **First Sentier Group** has promoted **Harry Moore** from Chief Commercial Officer to **Chief Executive Officer**, as current CEO, **Mark Steinberg**, prepares to **step down** at the end of the year.
- **Franklin Templeton** has appointed **Daniel Gamba** as **Chief Commercial Officer**. Daniel was formerly President at Northern Trust.
- **GCP Infrastructure Investments Limited** has appointed **Heather Bestwick** as **Senior Independent Director**.
- **GIB Asset Management** has promoted **Aled Smith** from Investment Director to **Chief Investment Officer**.



- **Goldman Sachs Asset Management International's** Co-CEO, **Fadi Abuali**, is **leaving** the business. Additionally, Goldman Sachs has appointed **Charlotte Frémont** as **Consultant Relations Associate** from RBC BlueBay Asset Management, where she was Senior Associate, UK, Ireland and Middle East.
- **HarbourVest Partners** has appointed **Michelle Han** as **Head of Global ex-US Marketing**. Formerly, Michelle was Global Head of Growth & Digital Marketing at Schroders.
- **HSBC** has appointed **Brendan Nelson** as **Interim Group Chair**.
- **ICG Client Solutions Group** has appointed **Richard Young** as **Managing Director, succeeding Rob Reynolds**. Richard was formerly Managing Director at Oaktree Capital Management.
- **iM Global Partner** has appointed **Luc Dumontier** as **Managing Director – Chief Investment Officer Global Asset Management**. Luc was previously Managing Director, Partner, Head of Investments and Operations at OSSIAM.
- **Invesco** has promoted **Freddy Wong** from Managing Director, Head of Asia Pacific, Fixed Income to **Managing Director, Head of Product Asia Pacific**.
- **Investec** has appointed **William Boddy** as **Head of Fixed Income and ETFs** and **Ben Goodchild** as **Deputy Head of Fixed Income Trading and ETFs**. Both join from Winterflood Securities, where William was Head of Fixed Income Trading and Ben was Deputy Head of Fixed Income.
- **Investment Association** has appointed M&G's CEO, **Joseph Pinto**, and Aviva Investors' CEO, **Mark Versey**, as **Deputy Chairs of the Board**.
- **JO Hambro Capital Management** has appointed **Bill Street** as **CEO, succeeding Clare Forster**. Bill was formerly a Senior Advisor at PwC.
- **JP Morgan Asset Management** has appointed **Lilia Peytavin** as **Executive Director and Global Market Strategist in the Market Insight Team**. Lilia was formerly a Macro Portfolio Strategist in the Global Investment team at Goldman Sachs.
- **Jupiter** has appointed former RLAM CIO, **Piers Hillier**, as **Chief Investment Officer**, whilst Head of Equities, **Kiran Nandra-Koehrer**, and Head of Fixed Income, **Matthew Morgan**, **depart**.
- **Lazard Asset Management** has appointed **Christopher Hogbin** as **Chief Executive Officer**, effective December 2025. Christopher was formerly Global Head of Investments at AllianceBernstein.
- **Legal & General's** Managing Director of Alternative Finance, Head of GP Stakes, **Hannah Gore-Randall**, is **leaving** the firm.
- **M&G Real Estate's** Director, Head of UK Portfolio Asset Management, **John Duxbury**, is **leaving** the firm in March 2026.
- **Mirastar's** CIO, **Anthony Butler**, has stepped down to his new position as a **Non-Executive Director**.
- **Muzinich & Co** has appointed **Annika Milz** as **Head of Institutional, Northern and Central Europe**. Previously, Annika was Head of Institutional Asset Management Germany at Fidelity International.
- **Nedgroup Investments** has appointed **Denis Skeate** as **Head of Client Solutions**. Denis was formerly a Sales Director at Ninety-One.
- **Nomura Asset Management** has promoted **Benedictus Sackitey** from Business Development Director – UK Wealth to **Head of Intermediary Distribution, UK and Ireland**.
- **Northern Trust Asset Management** has promoted **Anwiti Bahuguna** from Deputy CIO to **Global Co-Chief Investment Officer**, whilst **Michael Hunstad** has been named as **President**.
- **Octopus Apollo VCT plc** has appointed **Lindsay Dodsworth** and **Graeme Gunn** as **Independent Non-Executive Directors**.
- **Octopus Investments** has appointed **Erin Platts** as **Chief Executive Officer**, subject to approval from the Financial Conduct Authority. Erin Platts was formerly CEO at Octopus Ventures.
- **Qatar Investment Authority** has appointed **Ben Dunn** as **Associate Director, Managed Portfolios**. Formerly, Ben was Head of Quantitative Strategies at Eastspring Investments.
- **Railpen** has promoted **Lewis Vanstone** to **Head of Infrastructure**. Additionally, **Neil Crawford** has been named as **Senior Development Manager**, and **Julia Diez** has joined as **Head of UK Productive Assets**.
- **RBC BlueBay Asset Management** has appointed **Russell Evans** as **Director, Financial Institutions Business Development**, **Doris Santillana** as **Head of France Business Development**, and **Swetha Ramachandran** as **Portfolio Manager within its Global Equity Team**.
- **Robeco** has appointed **Michael Booth** as **Senior Global Investment Grade Portfolio Manager**, effective November 2025. Michael was formerly Portfolio Manager at Invesco. Additionally, Robeco has promoted **Ben Taylor** from an Analyst to **Junior Euro investment Grade Portfolio Manager**.

- **Royal London Asset Management** has appointed **Davina Goodall-Smith** as **Chief Operating Officer**, **Wolfgang Bauer** as **Fund Manager** within the global credit team, and **Will Nicoll** as **Chief Investment Officer**.
- **Ruffer** co-founder, **Jonathan Ruffer**, is **retiring** as Chair at the end of 2025, with **Henry Maxey** succeeding as **Chair** in January 2026.
- **Schroders** has appointed **Ed Mitchell** as **Head of Client Group Strategy Execution and Delivery**. Ed was formerly Managing Director and Global Head of Distribution Business Operations at BNY Investments.
- **Shannon River Capital Management** has appointed **Bill Kelsey** as **Head of Business Management**. Bill was formerly Co-Head of US Capital Formation at Fasanara Capital.
- **Silvercrest Asset Management** has appointed **Nitish Sharma** as **Managing Director, Head of International Consultant Relations**. Formerly, Nitish was Head of UK Institutional Client Group and Managing Director – Consultant Relations at AllianceBernstein.
- **Smart Pension** has appointed **Taryn Leibbrandt** as **Business Development Director**. Taryn was formerly DC Investment Director at Legal & General.
- **Spring Capital Partners** has appointed **Anna O'Donoghue** as **Chief Operating Officer and Director**. Formerly, Anna was Global Head of Product Development and Governance at Schroders.
- **UBP** has appointed **Teri Baker** as **Senior Portfolio Manager** within its Emerging Markets Fixed Income Team. Formerly, Teri was Portfolio Manager, External Debt at Ashmore.
- **Vanguard's** UK Distribution, Wholesale Channel, **Matthew Abouzeid** has **left** the firm to set up his own financial planning firm, whilst **Gillian Hepburn** has joined as **UK Head of Adviser Solutions**.



# The Team

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*Valentine Thomas & Partners is a leading investment and wealth management executive search firm covering the EMEA markets.*