

## Westwood Holdings Group, Inc. Reports Third Quarter 2014 Results

### Assets Under Management at \$19.8 Billion with Net Inflows for the Third Quarter

#### **Quarterly Dividend Increased 14%**

DALLAS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Westwood Holdings Group, Inc. (NYSE: WHG) today reported third quarter 2014 revenues of \$28.1 million, 22% higher than revenues of \$23.0 million in the third quarter of 2013. Non-GAAP Economic Earnings per share ("Economic EPS") were \$1.41 compared to \$0.97 in the same quarter of the prior year and \$1.52 in the second quarter of 2014. Diluted earnings per share were \$0.92 compared to \$0.57 in the same quarter of 2013 and \$1.12 in the second quarter of 2014. This year's second quarter included \$3.4 million in performance fees recognized following the annual performance period in our MLP strategy.

Highlights related to our third quarter 2014 results include:

- Revenues increased 22% to \$28.1 million compared to the same period last year.
- Our Emerging Markets strategy ranked in the top decile of its peer group year to date and received quarterly net inflows of \$470 million.
- Our Income Opportunity strategy attracted quarterly net inflows exceeding \$300 million.
- The Westwood SmallCap Fund received a high rating for 3 year, 5 year and overall performance.

Immediately following quarter end, Westwood added a third distinct team to its investment platform. The initial four-person Global Convertible Securities Team joined Westwood on October 1, 2014 and will operate out of a new Westwood office in Boston. The team has been hired to subadvise the Aviva Investors Global Convertibles Absolute Return Fund that it previously managed as Aviva employees. The fund started with approximately \$500 million in assets.

Brian Casey, Westwood's President & CEO, commented, "We are very pleased with our third quarter financial results. Despite a volatile quarter for financial markets, our asset management business experienced positive net inflows and essentially kept pace with this year's robust second quarter. Our Westwood Funds® continued to enjoy strong investor demand with \$165 million of quarterly net inflows, representing 20% in annualized organic growth. Westwood International Advisors reached \$3.4 billion in AUM at September 30, 2014, up 15% from June 30, 2014, and continues to attract new client prospects. We have seen some initial interest for our new Global Convertibles strategies and we are in the process of launching both UCITS and mutual fund vehicles which will be available to investors in the next 30 to 120 days subject to regulatory approval."

Total AUM of \$19.8 billion at September 30, 2014 declined 2% from June 30, 2014 primarily due to market depreciation partially offset by net asset inflows. Mutual fund assets, comprising ten Westwood Funds®, grew 4% to \$3.4 billion compared to the prior quarter end and climbed 44% compared to the third quarter end of the prior year.

Westwood's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.50 per common share, an increase of 14% from the previous quarterly dividend rate, payable on January 2, 2015 to stockholders of record on December 15, 2014. At quarter-end, Westwood had \$90 million in cash and investments, stockholders' equity of \$105 million, and no debt.

We recently discovered an understatement of non-cash stock-based compensation expense for restricted stock grants subject to service and performance conditions however this understatement had no net effect on total stockholders' equity as of June 30, 2014. The misstatement was not material to any prior period financial statements; however, prior period comparative financial statements have been revised due to the significance of the cumulative impact between 2006 and the second quarter of 2014 of the out-of-period correction to the third quarter of 2014. The non-cash net income impact for each of the first and second quarters of 2014 was an overstatement of approximately \$0.2 million for an overstatement of approximately \$0.4 million for the first half of 2014. The non-cash net income impact for each of the first, second and third quarters of 2013 was less than \$0.1 million, which represented less than \$0.1 million for the first nine months of 2013.

Economic Earnings and Economic EPS are non-GAAP performance measures and are explained and reconciled with the most

comparable GAAP numbers in the attached tables.

Westwood will host a conference call to discuss third quarter 2014 results and other business matters at 4:30 p.m. Eastern time today. To join the conference call, dial 877-303-6235 (domestic) or 631-291-4837 (international). The conference call can also be accessed via our Investor Relations page at <u>westwoodgroup.com</u> and will be available for replay through October 30, 2014 by dialing 855-859-2056 (domestic) or 404-537-3406 (international) and then entering the passcode 13993952.

#### About Westwood

Westwood Holdings Group, Inc. provides investment management services to institutional investors, private wealth clients and financial intermediaries. Westwood manages a variety of investment strategies including U.S., Global, and Emerging Markets equities and convertible securities as well as income-oriented portfolios. These strategies are available through separate accounts, commingled funds, the Westwood Funds® family of U.S. mutual funds, and UCITS funds. Westwood has broad-based employee ownership and trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "WHG." Based in Dallas, Westwood also has offices in Omaha, Toronto and Boston.

For more information on Westwood, please visit <u>www.westwoodgroup.com</u>.

For more information on the Westwood Funds®, please visit www.westwoodfunds.com.

### **Forward-looking Statements**

Statements in this press release that are not purely historical facts, including, without limitation, statements about our expected future financial position, results of operations or cash flows, as well as other statements including without limitation, words such as "anticipate," "believe," "plan," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "should," "could," "goal," "may," "target," "designed," "on track," "comfortable with," "optimistic" and other similar expressions, constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Actual results and the timing of some events could differ materially from those projected in or contemplated by the forwardlooking statements due to a number of factors, including, without limitation: our ability to identify and successfully market services that appeal to our customers; the significant concentration of our revenues in a small number of our customers; our relationships with investment consulting firms; our relationships with current and potential customers; our ability to retain gualified personnel; our ability to successfully develop and market new investment strategies successfully; our ability to maintain our fee structure in light of competitive fee pressures; competition in the marketplace; downturns in the financial markets; new legislation adversely affecting the financial services industries; interest rates; changes in our effective tax rate; our ability to maintain an effective system of internal controls; and the other risks detailed from time to time in Westwood's SEC filings, including, but not limited to, its annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and its guarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2014, June 30, 2014 and September 30, 2014. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this press release. Except as required by law, Westwood is not obligated to publicly release any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this press release or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

### WESTWOOD HOLDINGS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (in thousands, except per share data and share amounts) (unaudited)

	Three Months Ended									
REVENUES:		tember 30, 2014	J	une 30, 2014	September 30 2013					
Advisory fees:										
Asset based	\$	22,857	\$	22,095	\$	17,956				
Performance based		-		3,443		26				
Trust fees		5,282		5,151		4,672				
Other, net		(17)		216		344				
Total revenues		28,122		30,905		22,998				
EXPENSES:										
Employee compensation and benefits		13,309		12,865		12,508				
Sales and marketing		430		375		326				
Westwood mutual funds		591		722		599				

Information technology	807		1,014	690
Professional services	983		1,189	887
General and administrative	1,410		1,384	1,250
Total expenses	17,530		17,549	 16,260
Income before income taxes	10,592		13,356	 6,738
Provision for income taxes	3,474		4,765	2,437
Net income	\$ 7,118	\$	8,591	\$ 4,301
Other comprehensive income (loss):	 			 
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(578)		332	104
Total comprehensive income	\$ 6,540	\$	8,923	\$ 4,405
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.95	\$	1.14	\$ 0.58
Diluted	\$ 0.92	\$	1.12	\$ 0.57
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	7,525,489	7	,523,347	7,374,600
Diluted	 7,734,309	7	,679,032	7,597,001
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Economic Earnings	\$ 10,881	\$	11,708	\$ 7,344
Economic EPS	\$ 1.41	\$	1.52	\$ 0.97
Dividends declared per share	\$ 0.44	\$	0.44	\$ 0.40

## WESTWOOD HOLDINGS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (in thousands, except per share data and share amounts) (unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,					
REVENUES:		2014		2013		
Advisory fees:						
Asset based	\$	65,341	\$	49,989		
Performance based		3,806		2,561		
Trust fees		15,461		13,463		
Other, net		368		560		
Total revenues		84,976		66,573		
EXPENSES:		00.000		00.400		
Employee compensation and benefits		39,026		36,163		
Sales and marketing		1,092		947		
Westwood mutual funds		1,965		1,465		
Information technology		2,536		2,024		
Professional services		3,554		2,966		
General and administrative		4,242		3,723		
Total expenses		52,415		47,288		
Income before income taxes		32,561		19,285		
Provision for income taxes		11,290		7,211		
Net income	\$	21,271	\$	12,074		
Other comprehensive loss:						
Foreign currency translation adjustments		(600)	·	(131)		
Total comprehensive income	\$	20,671	\$	11,943		

#### Earnings per share:

Basic	\$ 2.83	\$ 1.64
Diluted	\$ 2.73	\$ 1.57
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	 7,507,937	 7,347,376
Diluted	 7,801,073	7,667,851
Economic Earnings	\$ 31,758	\$ 20,970
Economic EPS	\$ 4.07	\$ 2.73
Dividends declared per share	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.20

### WESTWOOD HOLDINGS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013 (in thousands, except par value and share amounts)

Accumulated other comprehensive loss

Retained earnings

		September 30, 2014 (unaudited)		ember 31, 2013
ASSETS				
Current Assets:	•	40.405	•	40.004
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	16,485	\$	10,864
Accounts receivable		13,784		14,468
Investments, at fair value		73,099		64,554
Deferred income taxes		4,161		3,812
Other current assets		1,948		2,521
Total current assets		109,477		96,219
Goodwill		11,255		11,255
Deferred income taxes		5,740		2,041
Intangible assets, net		3,520		3,789
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$2,585 and \$2,155		2,623		2,746
Total assets	\$	132,615	\$	116,050
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY Current Liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	2,098	\$	2,082
Dividends payable		4,272		3,935
Compensation and benefits payable		13,551		17,805
Income taxes payable		5,433		1,031
Total current liabilities		25,354		24,853
Accrued dividends		1,204		1,266
Deferred rent		1,157		1,268
Total long-term liabilities		2,361		2,534
Total liabilities		27,715		27,387
Stockholders' Equity: Common stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 25,000,000 shares, issued 8,989,877 and outstanding 8,288,082 shares at September 30, 2014; issued 8,778,613 and outstanding				
8,176,417 shares at December 31, 2013		90		88
Additional paid-in capital		116,189		103,853
Treasury stock, at cost - 701,795 shares at September 30, 2014; 602,196 shares at December 31, 2013		(29,028)		(23,169)

(857)

18,506

(257) 8,148

Total stockholders' equity	104,900	88,663
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 132,615	\$ 116,050

## WESTWOOD HOLDINGS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (in thousands)

(unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended Septembe				
		2014	-	2013	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:					
Net income	\$	21,271	\$	12,074	
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation		436		288	
Amortization of intangible assets		270		270	
Unrealized (gains) losses on trading investments		(29)		430	
Stock based compensation expense		10,103		8,512	
Deferred income taxes		(4,227)		75	
Excess tax benefits from stock based compensation		(1,850)		(696)	
Net purchases of investments - trading securities		(8,528)		4,202	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:					
Accounts receivable		478		(3,241)	
Other current assets		367		(480)	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		10		369	
Compensation and benefits payable		(3,887)		(668)	
Income taxes payable and prepaid income taxes		6,496		(1,922)	
Other liabilities		(42)		20	
Net cash provided by operating activities		20,868		19,233	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:					
Purchases of property and equipment		(337)		(651)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(337)		(651)	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Purchases of treasury stock		(669)		(878)	
Restricted stock returned for payment of taxes		(5,190)		(3,789)	
Excess tax benefits from stock based compensation		1,850		696	
Cash dividends		(10,637)		(6,346)	
Net cash used in financing activities		(14,646)		(10,317)	
Effect of currency rate changes on cash		(264)		(73)	
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		5,621		8,192	
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		10,864		3,817	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	16,485	\$	12,009	
Supplemental cash flow information:					
Cash paid during the period for income taxes	\$	9,073	\$	9,093	
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# WESTWOOD HOLDINGS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

**Reconciliation of Net Income to Economic Earnings** 

(in thousands, except per share data and share amounts)

(unaudited)

Three Months Ended

	Sep	otember 30, 2014	June 30, 2014		, I		
Net Income	\$	7,118	\$	8,591	\$	4,301	
Add: Stock based compensation expense		3,635		2,989		2,915	
Add: Intangible amortization		90		90		90	
Add: Tax benefit from goodwill amortization		38		38		38	
Economic earnings	\$	10,881	\$	11,708	\$	7,344	
Diluted weighted average shares		7,734,309		7,679,032		7,597,001	
Economic EPS	\$	1.41	\$	1.52	\$	0.97	

	Nine Months Ended							
	September 30, 2014			otember 30, 2013				
Net Income	\$	21,271	\$	12,074				
Add: Stock based compensation expense		10,103		8,512				
Add: Intangible amortization		270		270				
Add: Tax benefit from goodwill amortization		114		114				
Economic earnings	\$	31,758	\$	20,970				
Diluted weighted average shares Economic EPS	\$	7,801,073 4.07	\$	7,667,851 2.73				

As supplemental information, we are providing non-GAAP performance measures that we refer to as Economic Earnings and Economic Earnings per share (or "Economic EPS"). We provide these measures in addition to, not as a substitute for, net income and earnings per share, which are reported on a GAAP basis. Management reviews Economic Earnings and Economic EPS to evaluate Westwood's ongoing performance, allocate resources, and review dividend policy. We believe that these non-GAAP performance measures, while not substitutes for GAAP net income or earnings per share, are useful for both management and investors when evaluating Westwood's underlying operating and financial performance and its available resources. We do not advocate that investors consider these non-GAAP measures without considering financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP.

We define Economic Earnings as net income plus non-cash stock based compensation expense, amortization of intangible assets and deferred taxes related to goodwill. Although depreciation on fixed assets is a non-cash expense, we do not add it back when calculating Economic Earnings because depreciation charges represent an allocation of the decline in the value of the related assets that will ultimately require replacement. In addition, we do not adjust Economic Earnings for tax deductions related to restricted stock expense or amortization of intangible assets. Economic EPS represents Economic Earnings divided by diluted weighted average shares outstanding.

(WHG-G)

Westwood Holdings Group, Inc. Tiffany B. Kice, 214-756-6900 Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Source: Westwood Holdings Group, Inc.

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