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Media Release

Happy 5th Birthday Athene!

Peterborough-based strategic communications consultancy, Athene Communications, is celebrating its fifth birthday this autumn following a record year of growth in new clients and turnover.

Managing Director Richard Astle established Athene Communications in 2003. Working from his office at home in Helpston, the company's first client was Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals, providing support for its public consultation on becoming an NHS foundation Trust.

From this small beginning, Athene has grown rapidly and now, five years on the team of 12 occupies the whole of the top floor of 26 Priestgate. In the last financial year, Athene increased turnover by 40% to over £800,000 winning new clients at Pearl Group Ltd, Indesit Company, Unisys, Royal Haskoning, Intelligent Processing Solutions and Hush Puppies as well as continuing its ongoing work for a wide range of local, regional and national companies.

Athene specialises in delivering creative advice and solutions for employee communications and comprehensive strategies for public engagement and consultation programmes.

At least 1% of Athene's profits are annually given to locally based charities, which in the last financial year included local disability charity Dial, the Wildlife Trusts, Etton Parish Church, the RSPB's Nene Washes Appeal and the Langdyke Countryside Trust. Richard is also chairman of Peterborough based national charity, the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus for whom Athene work for on a pro bono basis.

Athene has also established the Peterborough Communicators' Network, a networking group for people working in public relations, communications and marketing in the Peterborough area, providing a social forum for communicators to come together and discuss shared aspects of their roles.

Whilst celebrating Athene's 5th birthday, Jane Smith, Athene's Senior Account Director said, "Athene has gone from strength to strength, growing rapidly over the past five years. I hope we continue to expand as we are delighted to have won such high profile clients in such a short period of time. This is testament to the growing reputation of Athene as a provider of high quality communication and marketing services."

For more information on Athene Communications, visit our website, www.athene-communications.co.uk

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Notes to Editors

Athene Communications is a strategic communications consultancy offering innovative and integrated communications advice and support to organisations looking to improve the way they engage and communicate with key internal and external audiences, particularly those embarking on major change programmes or projects.

Richard Astle formerly worked as Corporate Affairs Director for Lynchwood based Pearl Assurance, one of the UK's largest financial services companies. Richard ran all media and advertising work for Pearl, including a large scale television advertising campaigning and also the internal communications for the 6500 staff which Pearl employed.

Media contact:

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