



Jan du Plessis

Current Positions

Jan du Plessis is currently Chairman of BT Group Plc.

Background Information

Raised near Cape Town, Jan du Plessis started his career as a Chartered Accountant and joined the South African Rembrandt Group Limited, before being transferred to London and later on to Switzerland to work in financial and legal functions.

In 1988 he became Group Finance Director of Richemont SA, a diversified Swiss holding company. When he resigned from that role 16 years later the group had been significantly restructured into the second biggest luxury goods group in the world.

From 1990 to 1996 he also held the additional role of Group Finance Director of Rothmans International plc, at that time a FTSE 30 subsidiary company of Richemont.

In 1999 he became a Non-Executive Director of British American Tobacco plc prior to occupying the Chairmanship from May 2004 to October 2009.

Mr du Plessis was a Non-Executive Director of Lloyds Banking Group plc from October 2005 to April 2009, taking on the role of Audit Committee Chair towards the end of that period.

In 2005 he became Chairman of RHM plc, one of the UK's leading food producers, and in that capacity led its transition from private equity ownership to public company, until the recommended take-over of RHM by Premier Foods in March 2007.

In 2008 he became a Non-Executive Director of the retailer Marks & Spencer Group plc and then the Senior Independent Director in March 2012, until he resigned from the Board in March 2015.

In July 2015 Mr du Plessis became Chairman of SABMiller plc until October 2016, having previously joined that Board as a Non-Executive Director and Chairman-Elect in September 2014.

He was Chairman of Rio Tinto plc from April 2009 until March 2018, having been appointed as Non-Executive Director in September 2008.

Other Notable Interests

Jan du Plessis is based in London.