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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

R.J. O'Brien Wins 2016 FOW International Award for Best Non-Bank FCM

CHICAGO / LONDON, December 8, 2016 – Chicago-based R.J. O'Brien & Associates (RJO), the oldest and largest independent futures brokerage and clearing firm in the United States, last night won the FOW International Award for 2016 Best Non-Bank Futures Commission Merchant (FCM). <u>FOW Magazine</u> presented the award at a dinner ceremony following the FOW Derivatives World London conference.

A panel of independent judges selected RJO for the award following a survey of market participants and exchanges in which respondents were asked which non-bank FCM has had the biggest impact in 2016.

FOW Publisher Will Mitting said: "At a time when some banks are pulling back from the market, non-bank FCMs need to step up to fill the void. R.J. O'Brien has certainly stepped up, opening its doors to new business and taking on an LME membership as well as making a number of key hires during the year. The acquisition of Kyte Group has enabled it to better serve the European market, and it has continued to expand in its home market."

Gerald Corcoran, RJO Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, said: "We are greatly honored to win this award from *FOW* and especially gratified that market participants singled us out for our impact on the industry and our clients. That is a true testament to our amazing employees who do an outstanding job every day on behalf of the clients we are so proud to serve. We're looking forward to building further on our talented sales teams and client base in the U.S., Europe and Asia throughout 2017."

Last year, RJO's London-based UK affiliate won the magazine's prestigious Editor's Choice Award at the 2015 FOW International Awards, based on factors including growth prospects, company achievements and successful collaborations and acquisitions.

FOW is the leading news and data service for the international futures and options industry.

About R.J. O'Brien

Founded in 1914, <u>R.J. O'Brien & Associates</u> is the largest independent futures brokerage firm in the United States, serving institutional, commercial and individual clients globally, in addition to a network of 400 introducing brokers (IBs). Clearing more than 80,000 client accounts, RJO

services the industry's most expansive global network of IBs, a vast array of middle market firms and many of the world's largest financial, industrial and agricultural institutions. The firm offers state-of-the-art electronic trading and 24-hour trade execution on every major futures exchange worldwide.