Scheme of Arrangement Becomes Effective and Delisting of Signet Shares

September 11, 2008 3:28 PM ET

Signet Group plc (the 'Company') announces that the Scheme of Arrangement described in the circular sent to the Company's shareholders on 24 July (the 'Scheme Circular') has now become effective in accordance with its terms. Following an application by the Company to the UK Listing Authority and the London Stock Exchange, the listing of the Company's ordinary shares on the Official List was cancelled and consequently the shares ceased to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange, both with effect from 8.00 a.m. (London time) this morning.

Terms defined in the Scheme Circular (435 Kb PDF) shall have the same meaning in this announcement.

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The Scheme Circular is available here (435 Kb PDF).

The Group operated 1,973 speciality retail jewellery stores at 2 August 2008; these included 1,414 stores in the US, where the Group trades as 'Kay Jewelers', 'Jared The Galleria Of Jewelry' and under a number of regional names. At that date the Group operated 559 stores in the UK, where the Group trades as 'H.Samuel', 'Ernest Jones' and 'Leslie Davis'. Further information on the Company is available at www.signetgroupplc.com. See also www.kay.com, www.jared.com, www.hsamuel.co.uk and www.ernestjones.co.uk.

This release includes statements which are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements, based upon management's beliefs as well as on assumptions made by and data currently available to management, appear in a number of places throughout this release and include statements regarding, among other things, our results of operation, financial condition, liquidity, prospects, growth, strategies and the industry in which the Group operates. Our use of the words 'expects,' 'intends,' 'anticipates,' 'estimates,' 'may,' 'forecast,' 'objective,' 'plan,' or 'target,' and other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to general economic conditions, the merchandising, pricing and inventory policies followed by the Group, the reputation of the Group, the level of competition in the jewellery sector, the price and availability of diamonds, gold and other precious metals, seasonality of the Group's business, financial market risk and risks and uncertainties relating to the Proposal (including, but not limited to, risks and uncertainties relating to implementation of the Proposal, market price, future sales, dilution and transferability of Signet Jewelers Limited common shares, secondary listing, changes in tax treatment, takeover protections, and more extensive US regulation of Signet Jewelers Limited).

For a discussion of these and other risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially, see the 'Risk and other factors' section of the Company's Annual Report & Accounts for the year ended 2 February 2008 furnished as an exhibit to its Report on Form 6-K furnished with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on 1 May 2008, the 'Risk factors' section of the Scheme Circular, and other filings with and submissions to the SEC made by the Company. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements even if experience or future changes make it clear that any projected results expressed or implied therein may not be realised. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances, other than as required by applicable law, rule or regulation.

Documents relating to the Proposal, including the Scheme Circular have been and will be furnished to or filed with the SEC. Shareholders are urged to read such documents regarding the Proposal if and when they become available, because they will contain important information. Shareholders will be able to obtain free copies of these documents, as well as other submissions and filings containing information about the Company, from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. These documents will also be available for inspection and copying at the public reference room maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, United States. For further information about the public reference room, call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330.