

Chinese enterprise to locate global HQ in London

A Chinese enterprise is to set up its global headquarters in London, it was announced today.

ABP, which is developing the Royal Albert Dock site in east London, announced it had chosen London as its global home at a London-Asia business forum at City Hall.

The exact location of the firm's headquarters will be announced in due course.

Making the announcement company chairman Xu Weiping said: "This is a hugely significant move for ABP as we grow the company globally. London is one of the world's truly global cities and it was a proud moment when we announced ABP had acquired the Royal Albert Dock.

"As we look towards expanding worldwide London is the natural choice to base ABP's global headquarters. We considered a number of options but chose London because it has fantastic international connections, a reputation for entrepreneurialism and we were encouraged by London's spectacular organisation and hosting of the 2012 Olympic Games.

"London is ideally placed to do global business across time zones, is business friendly in terms of finance, information and services and has a readily available and highly skilled workforce. Many of those in London have strong family connections to countries across the world and have an international outlook.

"London presents many fantastic opportunities and I believe this is just the beginning of an exciting period of investment and regeneration in the area. I hope other foreign businesses will follow our lead and invest in this great city. We have many leading businesses from Asia here today and I will introduce the Mayor to many more when we welcome him to Beijing later next month."

Also speaking at the London-Asia business forum, Mayor of London Boris Johnson said: "It's fantastic to see ABP voting with their feet and choosing to bring their global headquarters to London. A fantastic place to live and work, in the right time-zone to trade between east and west, with a highly skilled workforce and a concentration of first class business expertise, London has an enormous amount to offer businesses and brands from all over the world."

The newly established headquarters will have 100 staff, including strategy, finance, human resources, sales and marketing, communications and research and development.

Sources:

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