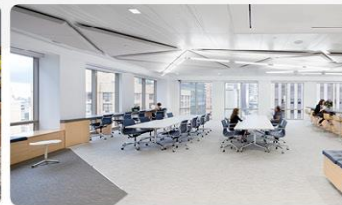




## PRESS RELEASE

Sint-Baafs-Vijve, 13 November 2017  
For immediate publication



### Management changes within our US Commercial Division

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Jim Harley as the new President of Bentley Mills.

Bentley Veteran Jim Harley succeeds Ralph Grogan who will leave the organization to permanently return to the east coast of the US for personal reasons. We thank Ralph for his passion and great achievements for Bentley over the last four years, wishing him the best for the future.

Jim Harley had been leading Bentley jointly with Ralph since he re-joined the firm in 2013 as Chief Operating Officer. With 30 years of experience in the US flooring industry, of which 20 years at Bentley, his knowledge of the business and contribution to its development are unrivalled. Jim has been a central part of the management team that built the company from a small start-up carpet manufacturer in 1980 into a brand widely recognized for its innovative design, high-quality products and excellence in customer service. Recently, Jim has also played a key role in laying the groundwork for realising the synergies between Bentley and Balta's Modulyss product lines.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Richard French to our leadership team who will join us in the newly created role as Vice-President of Global Sales at Bentley Mills. Richard brings great experience having spent his entire career in the commercial carpet industry, 15 years in leading sales roles and most recently as Vice President of Sales at Interface. Richard brings strong experience in developing national accounts across North America and Exports, for which Bentley now has a competitive mid-market positioned product in Modulyss.

Tom Debusschere, Chief Executive Officer of Balta Group, said "I am very excited by the appointments of Jim and Richard. Along with the existing highly professional and passionate team, the new leadership will, while continuing to invest and build the growth of Bentley Mills business, further drive the synergies between Bentley and Modulyss including cross selling, entering new end markets in the US and promoting our European contract business."

#### **For further information, please contact**

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#### **About Bentley**

Defining style, color, quality and service for more than 30 years, Bentley Mills, Inc. manufactures and markets award-winning carpet tile, broadloom, and area rug products for all commercial interiors across the globe. Bentley is recognized for leadership in product design, style and customer service. Bentley is committed to sustainable commerce, and, as the largest commercial carpet manufacturer in California, the company operates in a LEED-EBOM® Gold carpet mill. For more information, contact Bentley at 800.423.4709 or visit us at [bentleymills.com](http://bentleymills.com).

#### **About Balta**

Balta is a leading manufacturer of textile floor coverings, selling to over 135 countries worldwide. The Balta divisions are Balta Home (woven area rugs), Balta Residential Carpets & Tiles (under the brands Balta Carpets and ITC), Balta Commercial Carpets & Tiles (under the brands modulyss, Arc Edition and Bentley), and Balta Non-Woven (under the brand Captiqs). With the addition of Bentley, Balta employs over 3,600 FTEs in 9 manufacturing sites and in distribution centers in Belgium, Turkey and the United States.