

# Media invitation: 17-18 Feb, ExCel London. The UK's largest franchise exhibition

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

09 FEBRUARY 2017 - Franchising is becoming an increasingly popular way to start your own business. This is the biggest event of its kind in the UK. Entry is free and visitors can speak to 150 different franchise opportunities, access more than 80 free seminars and get all the business start-up advice they need.

Over 30 American/International brands looking to expand in the UK

20 suppliers to franchising to support business start-up

Exhibiting franchises include big names like McDonald's and Wiltshire Farm Foods - I have the full list if you are interested in speaking to certain brands.

The show opens at 10am on Friday 17th Feb. Please call the press office if you'd like to visit: 07887 495198.

More info at: [www.thefranchiseshow.co.uk](http://www.thefranchiseshow.co.uk)

NatWest/British Franchise Association survey 2015:

The contribution of franchising to the UK economy is now reckoned to be £15.1 billion, an increase of 46% over the past 10 years and up 10% since the last survey in 2013.

The total number of people employed in franchising in the UK is 621,000, of which 321,000 are in full-time employment.

This equates to an increase of 70% over the past 10 years

The number of franchisee-owned businesses has increased by 14% in two years, to 44,200. On average, those businesses are also becoming larger as the sector matures:

- Average turnover continues to rise and over half now claim an annual turnover of more than £250,000
- Employment per unit continues its upwards trajectory, with one-third now employing 10 or more staff
- There has been a large rise in the number of units in the Hotel & Catering sector (of 2,884\* ) who tend, on average, to employ more people

\*Not including the allocation of 1,700 dairy franchise units to this sector