

Hughes to lead Avison Young's European push

■ The Canadian firm has promoted Gerry Hughes to role of president, Europe

Richard Williams

Gerry Hughes has been promoted to president, Europe, at Avison Young to spearhead the Canadian firm's European expansion programme.

Hughes (pictured), who will report directly to Avison Young chairman and chief executive Mark Rose, will focus on developing and delivering Avison Young's aggressive growth plans in continental Europe and Ireland.

The announcement follows Avison Young's acquisition of GVA in February.

"This is an exciting time for our business," said Rose. "Our growth plan is strategic and long term. We aim to amplify our operations through the recruitment of individuals and the acquisition of teams and whole businesses, as well as continue to expand geographically.

"Our recent merger with GVA in the UK has given Avison Young an excellent gateway to develop our continental Europe platform. Now that the UK integration is nearly



complete, this is the right time for Gerry to turn his leadership talents to the next stage of our ambitious expansion: Europe."

In addition to the UK, Avison Young has European offices in Germany, Poland, Romania and eight other countries through the long-established GVA Worldwide platform.

"I am tremendously excited by the potential presented for our business in Europe," said Hughes. "This is an opportunity that I have

long looked forward to – to help build a market-leading real estate advisory platform across Europe.

"What we have achieved at GVA over the last few years, combined with the partnership and business philosophy of Avison Young, provides the template for a European business with a real sense of social purpose aligned with not only meeting the demands of clients, but helping them navigate a rapidly evolving marketplace."