

# CEO James Hill to step down from Young's Seafood International

## Andrew Don

Young's Seafood International, formerly Findus Group, has announced James Hill will step down as chief executive at the end of the year "to pursue alternative opportunities outside the group".

His departure follows Nomad Foods' £500m takeover of the European arm of Findus, which excludes Young's Seafood in the UK.

Hill, who will retain a non-executive role as an adviser to the Young's International board, was one of the architects of the deal for Nomad to combine Findus's operations with Birds Eye Iglo's operations across Europe.



Hill was one of architects of the Nomad/Findus deal

He was appointed chief executive of Findus Group in April 2013. His 32-year career has included stints as CEO of Birds Eye Walls for four years, and Findus Italy for a year prior to its sale to Birds Eye in 2010.

"Having driven significant growth, and following the sale of the international Findus business, now is the

right time to move on," he said.

Bill Showalter, chief financial officer of Young's International, will step up to chief executive when Hill leaves. Showalter will also continue his existing duties, including financial control and corporate governance over the group's remaining operations.

Showalter has held the chief financial officer's role for nearly three years. Previously, he worked for HJ Heinz from 1988 where he rose to chief financial officer in 2001. He worked at Starwood Hotels & Resorts for seven years, as senior vice-president finance EAME before joining Findus Group. +