O’CONNOR, SLAUGHTER HELP BOOST CHRYSLIS GROSS
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effects the high cost of borrowing money must have on some of our competitors who are patently over- stretched financially. You need have no reason to believe that we are taking any hardships from this quarter.

The U.K. company has restructured its A&R department, bringing in Chris Briggs from A&M and John Williams from Polydor. They will run independent operations alongside Chrysalis director Peter Daukantas and Ensign chief Nigel Grainger.

Both Briggs and Williams are returning to Chrysalis. Briggs left the company only a few years ago after Generation X, which spawned Billy Idol’s solo career. Since then, Briggs has worked at Phonogram, where he signed ABC and Big Country and worked with Def Leppard, and A&M, where he was responsible for signing Sam Brown, del Amitri, and Gun.

Briggs says, “It is the independence which Chrysalis is allowing me that attracted me to the company. I have already done the traditional head of A&R role and I have no desire to be an administrator.”

Chrysalis president Paul Connolly says that Briggs, who was being wooed by at least two other majors, will “definitely bring us a number of world-beaters.” And he describes the new A&R group “like Geffen, with people developing their own specific projects.”

BILLY JOEL's new album, 'An Innocent Man,' is due in the fall.