



WEST END FINAL

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## £7.8m sell-off makes Wilkie a winner

OLYMPIC swimmer David Wilkie has struck gold again, as a multi-millionaire through the sale of his vitamin and mineral supplements business.

Wilkie, 50, won a gold medal in the 200 metres breast-stroke in Montreal 28 years ago but would have earned little as an amateur in the days before multi-million-pound sponsorship deals.

However, today's £7.8 million sale of Health Perception, which he founded in 1989 and runs with his wife Helen Isaac

**By James Rossiter**

son, makes him a multi-millionaire. The buyer is natural-products healthcare business William Ransom & Son, which has paid £4.3 million and shares worth £3.5 million for the business, which is 99% owned by Wilkie and 1% by his wife.

The couple will run the business for two more years and can cash in their shares

after 18 months. Ransom executive chairman Tim Dye said he was keen to get his hands on Wilkie's branded product Glucosamine, the market leader in supplements for aching joints.

Health Perception's brands, including pollution and stress reliever Antioxidant Plus, are sold through Boots, Superdrug, Tesco and Sainsbury's.

"Joining Ransom allows us to take the business to the next stage with access to wider distribution," Wilkie said today.

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**Business**