

Telecom and finance leadership meet in Dubai to assess global investment opportunities

Submitted by: TMT Consultants Ltd

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CEOs and Regional Leadership from telecom companies, sovereign wealth funds, investment banks, and specialist advisers will meet in Dubai to debate investment strategies at the annual TMT Finance Middle East 2011 conference on May 9-10.

Saudi Telecom (STC), Emirates Investments Authority (EIA), Goldman Sachs, Booz & Company, Google, Etisalat, Citi, Clifford Chance and Huawei are among the 50 companies with speakers represented at the influential forum. Critical to this year's debate is how telecom operators assess new investment opportunities in content and technology across globally positioned telecom portfolios.

Ghassan Hasbani, CEO of STC International, who will feature as keynote and in the opening Global Telecom Strategy Round Table said: "Today's industry leaders have to make tougher decisions than ever before, given the pace of technology change, the globalizing behaviour of consumerism through social networks, and mixed views from investors on the expectations from the industry."

While debate on merger and acquisition opportunities often dominates the agenda of the conference, a range of content strategies will also be discussed in a series of panel discussions this year. Mr Hasbani, who's keynote speech is titled Connecting the Next Generation, added: "Traditional broadcasters are beginning to explore emerging telecommunications technologies as a new medium. However, social media is a strong competitor for consumer attention."

Keynote panel sessions at the conference also include: The M&A Panel; CFO Round Table; Financing Growth Session; Leadership Strategies for Next Generation Business; Regulation and Growth Panel, Broadband Investment; Infrastructure Sharing, Media and Convergence and The National Panel – Assessing Future Telecom Growth Drivers.

The TMT Finance Middle East Awards Dinner which celebrates the leading telecom companies, investments, financiers and advisers across the region over the year, will also take place on Monday May 9 from 18.30-21.30 at the Ritz Carlton main ballroom. Awards to be presented include for Deal of the Year, Mobile Operator, Growth Story, Outstanding Leader, M&A Adviser, Debt Bank, Broadband Operator, and Legal Adviser.

Now in its fifth year, the TMT Finance & Investment Middle East Conference and Awards Ceremony takes place at the Ritz Carlton, Dubai International Financial Centre on May 9-10. The event is supported by STC as Main Event Sponsor, Booz & Company, Clifford Chance, PricewaterhouseCoopers, SNR Denton and Capital MSL. Broadcast Partner is Al Alarabiya, and Media Partners include Thomson Reuters, the National, TMT Finance News Alert, Onda Analytics, Business Intelligence Middle East, Oxford Business Group, Telecom Review, Middle East Monitor, Juniper Research, Nooz, Comm, Wealth Matrix, Middle East IT Insight, Dubib, Eye of Dubai and Eye of Riyadh.

For full programme details visit www.tmtfinance.com/me/programme

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