



Global Finance Names the 2009 World's Best Internet Banks in the Middle East and Africa

NEW YORK, July 21, 2009 — *Global Finance* has announced the First Round winners in the “World’s Best Internet Banks” competition in the Middle East and Africa. This is the 10th year *Global Finance* has named the World’s Best Internet Banks. Details on all First Round winners will be published in the September issue. First Round winners include Best Corporate/Institutional Internet Banks and Best Consumer Internet Banks at the country level. The Regional and Global winners for these categories will be announced at an Awards Ceremony in New York City in November and published in the December issue of *Global Finance*. Also announced were Regional winners in Sub-Categories. Global winners in the Sub-Categories will also be announced at the Awards Ceremony and in the December issue. The list of First Round winners follows.

Winners were chosen among entries evaluated by a world-class judging panel. *Global Finance* editors were responsible for the final selection of winners in the First Round.

Only banks that entered the competition were considered for awards, and awards were only given in those regions, countries and categories in which there were entries.

Winning banks were selected based on the following criteria: strength of strategy for attracting and servicing online customers, success in getting clients to use web offerings, growth of online customers, breadth of product offerings, evidence of tangible benefits gained from Internet initiatives, and web site design and functionality. Category winners, such as “best online cash management” were selected based on the relative strength and success of those web products and services.

“In less than a decade, the Internet has transformed the way many consumers and most businesses bank,” says Joseph D. Giarraputo, publisher of Global Finance. “The continuing improvements in Internet offerings represented by this year’s entries show that more significant Internet banking developments are still ahead of us.”

See following for full listing of the World’s Best Internet Banks First Round winners for 2009 in the Middle East and Africa:



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Country Winners:

Best Consumer Internet Banks:

Egypt – HSBC
Israel – Bank Hapoalim
Jordan – Arab Bank
Oman – Bank Muscat
Qatar – Mashreq Bank
Saudi Arabia – The Saudi British Bank (SABB)
United Arab Emirates – Citi

Best Corporate/Institutional Internet Banks:

Algeria – Citi
Bahrain – Citi
Botswana – Standard Chartered
Cameroon – Citi
Congo – Citi
Cote D'Ivoire – Citi
Egypt – Citi
Gabon – Citi
Ghana – Standard Chartered
Israel – Bank Hapoalim
Jordan – Standard Chartered
Kenya – Citi
Kuwait – Citi
Lebanon – Citi
Morocco - Citi
Nigeria – Citi
Qatar – Standard Chartered
Saudi Arabia – Samba Financial Group
Senegal – Citi
Sierra Leone – Standard Chartered

South Africa - Citi
Tanzania – Citi
Tunisia – Citi
United Arab Emirates – HSBC
Uganda – Citi
Zambia – Citi
Zimbabwe – Standard Chartered

Regional Sub-Category Winners:

Best Consumer Internet Banks:

Best Investment Management Services –
Bank Hapoalim
Best Bill Payment & Presentment – Mashreq Bank
Best Online Consumer Credit Site – The Saudi British
Bank (SABB)
Best Web Site Design – Bank Hapoalim
Best Integrated Consumer Bank Site – Samba Financial
Group
Best Information Security Initiatives - HSBC
Best Online Deposits Acquisition - HSBC

Best Corporate/Institutional Internet Banks:

Best Investment Management Services – Citi
Best Online Cash Management – Citi
Best Trade Finance Services – Standard Chartered
Best Web Site Design – Citi
Best Integrated Corporate Bank Site – Samba Financial
Group
Best Information Security Initiatives – HSBC

Global Finance, which celebrates its 22nd year of publishing in 2009, has 50,000 subscribers and more than 180,000 readers in over 158 countries. This audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers, and other financial officers responsible for making investments and strategic business decisions for large global companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 key portfolio investors who control over 80% of all assets under professional management.

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