معهد الإمارات للدراسات المصرفية والمالية
Emirates Institute for Banking and Financial Studies

International Academy of Retail Banking

International Academy of Retail Banking partners with EIBFS

Dubai, 07 November 2012

The Emirates Institute of Banking and Financial Studies (EIBFS) and the International Academy of Retail Banking (IARB) have formed a partnership to provide world-class education and professional certification to the U.A.E's retail banking industry. The MoU establishing the venture will be signed at the EIBFS Dubai campus during a ceremony to mark the occasion, attended by senior executives from the U.A.E's leading banks.

The Academy is a division of the London-based Lafferty Group, which provides education, research and intelligence in the fields of retail banking and payments to financial institutions worldwide. IARB is unique in being an international organisation providing an education programme with in-depth focus on retail banking as a profession. The Academy offers programmes and certifications for high achievers in the retail banking sector at three levels – foundation, intermediate and expert. Retail bankers who have completed their studies successfully and passed the Expert examination of the academy will become members of the International Academy of Retail Banking and become entitled to use the designation CIRB – Certified International Retail Banker.

Mr Jamal Al-Jassmi, General Manager of EIBFS, said the partnership with the International Academy of Retail Banking was a major development for the banking industry in the Gulf: "Banks in the region attach great importance to providing clients with world-class standards of retail banking. They support the concept of retail banking being a profession like accountancy and law", he said.

Michael Lafferty, chairman of Lafferty Group, said "The academy is dedicated to enabling the highest standards of professionalism in the conduct of retail banking. Members will also have access to an unmatched international network of professional retail bankers and to a specialist research facility. Lafferty is proud and honoured to be working with the EIBFS".

The Academy has developed its own proprietary coursework and recruited a core faculty of senior retail bankers from around the world.

During 2013 academic programmes will be held in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, South Africa and Egypt – as well as Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, and the UK.

Lafferty Ltd, 1 Lyric Square, London W6 0NB, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 20 3008 8415 Fax: +44 (0) 20 3008 8426 Email: academy@lafferty.com
Co. Registration No. 04621222 VAT No. 805 1400 79

Advisory Board: Professor Lord Meghnad Desai • Professor Abdul Rahman • Professor Anna Omirini • Sir Peter Elwood • YY Chin • Pete Soraparu, • Carl Holsters • **David Kerstein • Richard Glasspool • Chris Hoyland • Essam El Mallakh • Dick Harryvan • Rahul Bhagat • Dr. Herbert Walter • Peter England • Gordon Feeney** • Hans Verkoren • Maninder Singh Juneja • Gary Marsh • Josef Redl • Ian Lindsey • Derek Wong • Jos Clijsters • Sandy Vaci • Tryggvi Pálsson • Douglas Beckett •Istvan Lengyel

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Note for editors:

Lafferty Group
Lafferty Group provides advanced knowledge services to clients worldwide in the fields of retail banking, consumer finance, payment cards and e-money. In addition to the International Academy of Retail Banking its activities include confidential councils (where senior executives meet regularly to share best practices and brainstorm the future) and industry research services. OMFIF, another Lafferty Group business, is a global think tank for central banks and sovereign funds.

For further information contact:
Evelyn Hunter-Jordan
+44 (0) 20 3008 5283
+44 (0) 77 2524 3821
evelyn.hunter-jordan@lafferty.com

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