

# EMBARGOED MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT



## **Specialist seminars in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Bahrain on the growth of UCITS**

**Dubai/Abu Dhabi/Bahrain:** 25 April 2010: Apex Fund Services, Mason Hayes+Curran and the Irish Stock Exchange are pleased to announce that they will be hosting interactive Seminars in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain this week on the opportunities of UCITS funds for MENA fund managers.

During the presentations details will be provided about the flexibility of UCITS strategies, the global distribution potential of UCITS, the process of establishing UCITS funds in Ireland, as well as the advantages of listing UCITS on the Irish Stock Exchange ("ISE"). The Seminars will take place in Abu Dhabi 25 April, Dubai 26 April and Bahrain 27 April.

**Commenting on the seminars Peter Hughes, Managing Director of Apex Fund Services Limited, said:**

"Liquidity remains one of the main obstacles for the international capital markets. There continues to be a steady rise in demand for the UCITS product which allows investment managers to passport their investment funds across Europe and access this wider pool of capital. Working with our partners this is another example of how Apex provides its clients in the Middle East with value added services that are above and beyond those provided by other traditional fund administration companies."

**Commenting on the seminars Fionán Breathnach, Head of Investment Funds at Irish law firm Mason Hayes+Curran, said:**

"Having recently advised The National Investor on the establishment of its Irish UCITS platform, we are familiar with the opportunities that UCITS present for MENA-based fund managers. As a well-recognised fund structure, coming from a well-regulated, stable environment, with a strong emphasis on investor protection, Irish UCITS are accepted for sale not only across the EU but in jurisdictions in the Far East, Latin America and the MENA region itself. This global distribution opportunity is invaluable for managers wishing to access capital in Europe and beyond."

**Commenting on the seminars Roseanne Kelly, Head of Investment Funds at the Irish Stock Exchange, said:**

"The listing of UCITS on the Irish Stock Exchange continues to increase in popularity as managers look to broaden their investor base, enhance distribution and provide additional transparency to investors. With a listing base of over 3,200 funds which are managed out of 46 countries, including those in the MENA region, we welcome the opportunity to discuss these benefits with local managers and other industry colleagues."

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## For further information:

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