



Press release

Marccus Partners advises NYSE Euronext on its strategic partnership with the Qatar Investment Authority for the establishment of the Qatar Exchange in Doha.

The US \$ 1 billion transaction, which was signed on 24 June 2008, closed on 19 June 2009 and creates a new exchange in the Gulf region.

NYSE Euronext (NYX) and **Qatar Holding (QH)**, the strategic and direct investment arm of sovereign fund **Qatar Investment Authority (QIA)**, finalised agreements whereby **NYSE Euronext** acquires a 20% interest in the new venture **Qatar Exchange (QE)** for US \$ 200 million. QE is the successor of the Doha Securities Market (DSM) whose assets have been transferred. Its trading systems are also transitioned to **NYSE Euronext**'s state-of-the-art technology. A new Board and Chief Executive Officer have been appointed as well.

The binding agreements represent the formal closing of negotiations to enter into a strategic partnership between the **State of Qatar** and **NYSE Euronext**. By taking a 20% stake in **QE** for US \$200 million, **NYSE Euronext** is making its largest investment ever in a foreign exchange. **QIA** retains 80% of **QE** through its strategic and direct investment arm, **QH**. The new exchange will be overseen by a newly appointed Board, to be chaired by His Excellency Dr Khalid Al Attiyah. All staff employed by DSM has been transferred to **QE** with the same employment rights and status. Andre Went, a senior leader from **NYSE Euronext** with 20 years experience, was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of **QE**.

Commenting on the transaction Fabrice Demarigny (Marccus Partners) said:

*“We have been very pleased to work alongside Catherine Langlais, General Counsel Euronext Group and NYSE Euronext Group Executive Vice-President, and her extremely professional in-house team on this prestigious transaction which constitutes a major milestone in the development of **NYSE Euronext** in the Gulf region and, more widely, in the Middle East. Our multi-national and multi-disciplinary team was able to provide decisive advice to our clients across jurisdictions and underlined the ability of **Marccus Partners** to implement sophisticated transactions on a global scale and of **Mazars** to conduct cross-border financial and risk due diligences.”*

Notes for Editors

NYSE Euronext is the world's most diverse exchange group, offering a broad and growing array of financial products and services in Europe and the United States that include cash equities, futures, options, exchange-traded products, bonds, market data, and commercial technology solutions.

For more information please visit: www.nyx.com

Marccus Partners is a specialist in structuring and implementing cross-border transactions throughout Europe and worldwide. The firm enables its clients to draw on additional resources from a network of excellence in the major global business and finance centers. **Marccus Partners** has a clear transactional focus and provides its clients with innovative structures and practical solutions. The firm's core practice areas are Corporate/M&A, Capital Markets, Banking and Finance, Restructuring, Real Estate and Tax. **Marccus Partners** was established in 2007 by four leading business and tax law firms in France, Germany, Italy and Spain sharing the same values of quality, independence, responsibility and integrity. It has since integrated two other law firms in the Netherlands and in Romania. 150 attorneys-at-law and tax-advisors and more than 250 individuals in total are dedicated to serve the firm's clients not only as lawyers but as real business partners. The firm strives as a single integrated team for excellence and constantly shares its knowledge and experience.

Marccus Partners is a member of **Mazars**, the international audit, accounting and advisory group, present in 50 countries with over 10,500 professionals.

For more information please visit: www.marccuspartners.com
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Marccus Partners, Paris: Fabrice Demarigny, Partner (Capital Markets and Regulatory) and Group Head of Capital Market Activities of Mazars; Dr Bernd Sagasser, Partner (Corporate/M&A and Tax); Dr Antje Luke, National Partner (Corporate/M&A); Dr Christoph Maurer, Partner (Commercial and Technology); Gabriel Derycke, Senior Associate (Commercial and Technology) with teams.

Mazars, Paris, Dubai, Luxembourg and New York: Jacques Giard, Partner (Transaction Services), Samir Bitar, Partner (Accounts and Finance), Laurent Decean, Partner (Risk Management) with teams.

Al Tamimi, Doha: Frank Lucente, Of Counsel (Corporate and Qatari law) with team.

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