

# PRESS RELEASE

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**FD** **FINANCIAL DYNAMICS**  
**BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS**

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## **Dubai acquisition strengthens FD's leading position in Gulf region**

Financial Dynamics (FD) has today announced that it has acquired Citigate's Dubai office from the Huntsworth Group plc. The acquisition of this full service agency establishes FD as the leading specialist business communications consultancy in the Gulf region.

Located in Dubai, the business comprises a fully resourced corporate and financial communications team servicing a wide range of clients including: Mellon Global Investments, Invesco, Korn Ferry, Forsyth Partners, MiNC Property Enterprises, Lloyds TSB, Thomas H Lee and Dubai Sports City.

The business was founded in 2003 by John Hobday, a highly experienced corporate and financial communications consultant – who will become Managing Director of FD's Gulf region. Other senior staff include: Manash Bhuyan and Liz Fox – who will become FD Vice Presidents.

The new Dubai office will combine its resources with FD's existing team in Bahrain, which has become established as a leading regional communications practice in its own right since its launch in early 2003, creating the premier specialist financial and corporate communications consultancy in the Middle East. Key clients include Dubai Mercantile Exchange, Arcapita Bank and Kuwait Finance House (Bahrain).

Commenting on the announcement FD Group CEO Charles Watson said: *"The Gulf region is currently one of the most exciting communications markets in the world and FD has been committed to building its brand there since we opened for business in Bahrain in 2003. In John Hobday and his colleagues we have secured a highly respected and talented team in one of the key economic and service hubs of the region. I am absolutely delighted to be welcoming them to FD."*

John Hobday added: *"We are delighted to be joining Financial Dynamics. FD has invested considerable time and resources building its brand in the Gulf region in recent years and we are enormously excited to be joining the team and working with our new colleagues both here in the Gulf and elsewhere around the world."*

### **About Financial Dynamics**

Financial Dynamics is one of the most highly regarded consultancies in the communications industry with a 20 year history of advising clients in both the private and public sectors. Services include financial public relations, investor relations, public affairs, crisis & issues management and corporate, business-to-business & business-to-consumer communications. Financial Dynamics is structured around specialist sector teams operating on an international basis, covering consumer

industries, financial services, basic industries, business services, life sciences & healthcare, media, real estate, technology and telecommunications. Financial Dynamics is also a market leader in M&A advisory work. The Group employs over 430 professional staff and advises more than 750 clients worldwide through its offices in London, New York, San Francisco, Frankfurt, Paris, Dublin, Boston, Bahrain, Stockholm, Washington, Chicago, Hong Kong and Moscow.

In July 2003 Financial Dynamics was subject to a management buyout supported by Advent International.

**Ends**

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[www.fd.com](http://www.fd.com)