

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Bahrain Financial Exchange appoints 2Connect as telecommunications solution provider**

The BFX, launching in Q1, 2010, is the first multi-asset exchange in the Middle East and North Africa which will be internationally accessible to trade cash instruments, derivatives, structured products and Sharia-compliant financial instruments, has announced that 2Connect will be the Exchange's telecommunications service provider for voice, data and internet services.

2Connect will provide the Exchange with key infrastructure for the provision of a voice and data network, equipment for the transfer of data and the supply of IP telephony, internet connectivity and the provision of data centre space for hosting BFX infrastructure. 2Connect, in addition, will also provide a suite of service support packages for the installed infrastructure.

The infrastructure will be essential to the Exchange in its day-to-day operations, plug and trade electronic trading floor and international standard in-house training academy.

Commenting on the announcement Nick Bishop, Chief Operations Officer, BFX said, "We are delighted to have 2Connect as our chosen solution provider for these services. They showed a sound understanding of our business model and the solutions we require. The BFX looks forward to a good working relationship with them."

Rick Hillson, Vice President, Customer Operations, 2Connect said, "2Connect are extremely pleased to have been chosen as a solution provider for a world class client such as the BFX. As a leading service provider we are ideally placed to provide BFX with the infrastructure and support they require for their demanding business model."

#### **Notes to editors:**

- The Bahrain Financial Exchange (BFX) will begin trading in Q1, 2010;
- The BFX is licensed and regulated by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) to trade multi assets including cash instruments, derivatives, structured products and Sharia-compliant financial instruments;
- BFX is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Financial Technologies Group;
- The Exchange has an international standard in-house training academy;
- Website: [www.bfx.bh](http://www.bfx.bh)
- 2Connect website: [www.2connectbahrain.com](http://www.2connectbahrain.com)

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#### **About 2Connect WLL**

2Connect is a leading telecommunications service provider that offers an innovative portfolio of voice and data services that includes advanced internet and IP based solutions guaranteed by an independent state-of-the-art network and IT consulting support. 2Connect creates a new, energetic and dynamic LINK between its customers and the next generation of telecommunications services.

More information available at: <http://www.2connectbahrain.com> or dial +973 16 500 110