

DJ: Bondweb Malaysia Named Bond Price Agency

Following is a press release from Bondweb Malaysia:

KUALA LUMPUR, May 8, 2006 Bondweb Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. (BWM), the country's pioneer specialist on the ringgit fixed-income market, has been appointed Malaysia's first Bond Pricing Agency (BPA) by the Securities Commission. BWM is thus the official source for fair valuation on ringgit bonds.

As a BPA, BWM provides the financial industry with a common valuation methodology for Malaysian bonds and greater access to information. This will benchmark the industry in accordance with globally-accepted financial reporting standards which emphasizes greater transparency to protect investors' interest.

On the Malaysian bond market outlook, the government and regulatory bodies are gradually moving toward institutionalizing mandatory marked-to-market practice requiring fair valuations from an independent source. BWM empowers bond investors by providing an accurate and authoritative source to value their bond holdings on a daily basis.

BWM also provides real-time quotes via BondStream, a customized internet-based platform, deployed to over 200 professional users.

Through these mechanisms, the bond market will see higher levels of liquidity, more efficient allocation of capital and enhanced risk management.

BWM has built a strong pricing and data team which will allow investors to access accurate and up-to-date market information on the ringgit bond market. As a Malaysian-based company, BWM's intimate links with local market participants enable it to fully understand their needs and expectations. BWM is thus able to respond rapidly to market changes and adopt a proactive view to fulfill its role as a BPA.

As a regulated body, BWM complies with stringent requirements as set out by the Securities Commission in its Guidelines on the Registration of Bond Pricing Agencies.

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

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