

'Mobile wallet' opens wide



The Qtel Mobile Money service, a "safe, fast and easy-to-use 'mobile wallet' (mWallet) solution", has been launched by the Qtel Group.

Now, customers in Qatar can transfer money domestically and to overseas destinations through the mWallet, which is said to be as easy to use as a mobile phone.

Dr Nassar Marafih, CEO, the Qtel Group, said, "The Qtel Group has made the launch of

mobile money services across our operations a strategic priority, recognising the strong demand from our customers, and the important social benefits this service will provide. Mobile Money services provide access and security for a whole cross-section of the community that is underserved by traditional banking, and we aim to be a leader in the countries we serve."

Falcon Group expands in Abu Dhabi

Dubai-based Falcon Group's growth in the Middle East continues apace with the opening of an Abu Dhabi office, with Kapila Karunaratne as Head.

Kapila Karunaratne joins Falcon from consultants Baker Tilly, where he was Director of Business Development and Head of Corporate and Commercial Finance (Dubai). Prior to this Karunaratne was Head of Marketing for Finance House, an Abu Dhabi based finance boutique. His banking experience comes from a long career at Sampat Bank, the leading Sri Lankan commercial bank, where he worked in arranging syndicated loans, as well as in corporate and business banking. Karunaratne will report to Nam Sahasra, UAE country head.

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Middle East Corporate Treasury Benchmarking Study 2012

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Just over 100 corporates participated in the first 2011 Study which reported some interesting findings. This 2012 Study, which is now live, builds on last year's programme and repeats questions in several key areas in order to identify changes and emerging trends. The Study also includes a specific section on the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) being deployed across 8 key areas within treasury, leveraging the findings from the 2011 European Study, as the programme looks to develop some online tools for you to benchmark your company against your peers and industry best practices. The project is again being supported by J.P. Morgan Treasury Services, however, your answers will be treated in confidence and individual responses will not be disclosed.

If you participate in the Study you will again receive a copy of the full study results when they are published in March. The findings will also be presented at the EuroFinance Conference in Dubai in March 2012.

So, if you are located in the Middle East or outside the region with treasury responsibilities in the region please help by completing this study.

To participate please go to <http://treasurytoday.com/benchmarking/2012/me>

Thank you