

**For immediate release**



## **INVESTCOM IPO WINS 'DEAL OF THE YEAR' AWARD**

*The Banker magazine recognizes Investcom's listing on the Dubai International Financial Exchange as a landmark in 2005*

**Dubai, UAE, February 28, 2006** – Investcom LLC has been awarded The Banker magazine's prestigious 'Deal of the Year' award for the United Arab Emirates, in honour of its landmark Initial Public Offering (IPO) on the Dubai International Financial Exchange in 2005.

The listing of Investcom, a leading international provider of mobile telecommunications services with operations in ten countries in Africa, the Middle East and Europe, was the first on the newly opened exchange. Investcom's IPO was selected for the award, from a large number of UAE entries, by an independent panel of judges for its complexity, execution and innovation.

On receiving the award, Executive Director, Jamal Ramadan, said:

"We are very pleased to receive this accolade from such a respected institution and see this as confirmation that in all aspects of our operations, not just in the services we offer our customers, we continue to break new ground. In particular, this unique deal gave Investcom valuable exposure to investors from this region and beyond."

The 'Deals of the Year' awards were handed out February 26 during the 1<sup>st</sup> 'Middle East IPO Summit' Gala Dinner in Dubai, which was attended by more than 250 senior executives from the region's leading financial institutions and corporations.

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### **About Investcom**

Investcom LLC ([www.investcomllc.com](http://www.investcomllc.com)) is an international provider of mobile telecommunications services with operations in eight countries in the Middle East, Africa and Europe. The company operates GSM networks, mostly under the Areeba™ brand, in Syria, Ghana, Yemen, Benin, Liberia, Cyprus, Guinea-Bissau and Sudan. Investcom has also recently been awarded GSM licenses to build and operate mobile networks in Afghanistan and Guinea, expanding its operations to ten countries and boosting its combined population under license to approx. 147 million.

The company also provides international carrier services, principally through its operations in Monaco, fixed telephony services in the United Kingdom and telecommunications engineering and consulting services.

### **About DIFX**

The DIFX opened for trading on September 26, 2005 and is developing trading in a wide range of asset classes from across the region, including equities, bonds and Islamic fixed-income securities (sukuks) and intends to add derivatives within its first year of operation.

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