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East Capital opens an office in Hong Kong

East Capital has announced the establishment of an office in Hong Kong. It will be run by Michael Hanson-Lawson, a former stockbroker with extensive experience of the Asian equity markets. This establishes East Capital's first presence outside Europe and reflects a major strategic move to widen the company's investor base.

The purpose of the office will be to sell East Capital's broad range of Eastern European funds to institutional investors and through third-party sales agreements throughout the Asian region. The required license is being sought from the local regulator.

Karine Hirn, a founding partner and Managing Director of East Capital Asset Management explains *"we conducted some thorough research into the feasibility of establishing an office in Asia and feel that there is already a definite interest in the Eastern European markets, which should grow with the need to diversify coupled with the outstanding performance of these markets."*

Michael Hanson-Lawson has over 30 years' experience in financial markets. He was initially involved in syndicated lending and fixed income; for the last 18 years he has held senior positions in the brokerage operations of Crosby Securities, Société Generale and HSBC. In these functions he has been based in London, Tokyo and Hong Kong.

East Capital, which was started in Stockholm in 1997, has been expanding rapidly from its initial, predominantly Swedish, client base to an international client base over the last two years, by setting up new offices in Paris and Tallinn. The company has also registered its UCITS III fund range outside Scandinavia in countries such as the Netherlands, France, Austria and Luxembourg.

Facts about East Capital

East Capital is a leading, independent asset manager specialising in Eastern European financial markets. The company actively manages over EUR 3.1bn, basing its investment strategy on thorough knowledge of the markets, fundamental analysis and frequent company visits by fund managers and analysts.

Further information can be obtained from:

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