ACTME's acme



he steady growth of the ACT Middle East (ACTME) is clear from the increasing numbers attracted to both its Annual Conference and the ACTME Treasury Awards.

The ACTME Treasury Awards have grown in significance and stature over the past four years, with both the quality and quantity of submissions received increasing. Building on the success of the 2011 Awards, we are pleased to invite nominations for the following categories, for which submissions should be made by 20 July 2012:

- Treasury Funding, covering all types of capital raising and funding;
- Cash and Trade Finance, including cash management, trade finance and supply chain finance;
- Corporate Financial Management, including mergers and acquisitions, risk management activities and treasury organisation;
- Treasury Team of the Year for large enterprises; and
- Treasury Team of the Year for small and medium-sized enterprises.

As in previous years, the Awards celebrate the achievements of corporate treasurers in what remains a difficult environment. They recognise companies and individuals demonstrating innovation and excellence in corporate treasury.

Once again we are honouring both large enterprises and SMEs separately this year in the Treasury Team of the Year Awards to reflect the breadth and depth of entries that this category attracts.

The Awards are open to corporate organisations only, so banks, financial institutions and government departments may not be nominated. All types of deal are eligible and are judged on the basis of the criteria, rather than the size of the deal.

- All sizes of deal and company will be taken into consideration.
- We take the Middle East to include the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE), although nominations submitted from further afield will also be taken into account.
- To qualify, the deal or project must have

- been executed by the treasury team or treasurer within the Middle East.
- Deals must have been completed between 1 October 2011 and 1 July 2012 to qualify for consideration.

All deals will be considered from the corporate treasury perspective. The basic criterion is excellence in corporate treasury, as shown by any or all of the following:

- sound treasury management;
- efficient pricing;
- optimal or innovative structure; and
- relative success in prevailing market conditions.

The deal must involve a corporate with a Middle East domicile in which the corporate treasury team played a significant role.

TREASURY TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARDS

These Awards takes into account the relative size of the company and its treasury team. Across all treasury disciplines of cash management, corporate finance and funding, governance and risk management, the winning teams should demonstrate all or any of the following:

- sound treasury management;
- strong technical knowledge and ability;
- innovation in technology and systems; and
- the ability to build strong relationships with the company's bankers and advisers. The concept of treasury "team" should also be taken widely. It may consist of one or two people in the treasury department supported by a broader grouping of people who help perform the treasury function.

As with the deals Awards, the Team of the Year large enterprise must have a Middle East domicile.

To nominate an organisation and/or its treasury team, please complete the relevant application form, which is downloadable from the website www.actmiddleeast.org

You can email your nominations for the Awards to actme@treasurers.org or to pmatza@treasurers.org

The winners will be honoured by an Awards ceremony to be held at a gala dinner at the Jumeirah Emirates Towers in Dubai on 8 October 2012.

Last year's winners: ACTME Treasury Awards 2011		
Category	Winner	Highly commended
Bonds	MB Petroleum	IPIC
Loans	Octal Oman	Zain Iraq
Corporate Finance	Nawras	Wataniya
Team of the Year, large enterprise	Mubadala Development Company	
Team of the Year, SME	Al Fahim	UNRWA