

Company Watch

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Company Watch expands into Middle East market with The Lebanese Credit Insurer

Company Watch, corporate financial health monitoring specialists, is in discussions to form a joint venture with the Lebanese Credit Insurer (“LCI”), the largest credit insurance company operating in Lebanon and serving other countries in the Middle East.

LCI, which recently celebrated its tenth anniversary, was recently ranked as the 2nd fastest growing company in Lebanon and the 31st in the Arab world.

Company Watch and LCI have committed to working together to develop a ground breaking new product providing their clients with risk assessment and rating services of both public and private companies, initially within Lebanon and thereafter more widely within the Middle East region.

Denis Baker, CEO at Company Watch, commented:

“UK export and import trade with the Middle East totalled £13.5 trillion in 2010, a rise of 38% in the past decade. As a result, we have been dealing with rising volumes of enquiries from our clients, who need our help in assessing commercial risks related to existing and prospective trading partners in the Middle East. The affects of the Arab Spring has also increased the need to have access to reliable financial and other commercial data about businesses in this important business region.

“Working with such a prestigious regional partner as LCI will enable us to provide our clients with a unique insight into the credit risk and supply chain continuity issues in the Middle East and fits well with our continuing international expansion, which will see the launch of our private company service in Ireland and in other major European jurisdictions in 2012.”

Further information, please contact:

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Notes for Editors:

About Company Watch

Company Watch provides in-depth analysis of the financial health of companies worldwide by applying its unique H-Score® methodology to published financial data. Since its launch in 1998, the H-Score® has identified nine out of ten corporate insolvencies or restructurings in advance. The Company Watch service is used by major international blue chip corporations, banks, fund managers, insurance companies, public sector bodies, accountancy firms, restructuring practices and other professional organisations throughout the world.

About LCI

LCI was established in 2001 and is the leading credit insurance company in Lebanon and the Middle East. In addition to its home base in Lebanon, it has forged partnerships with major regional insurance companies in Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria and the UAE. LCI focuses on domestic and export trade credit insurance, providing cover to manufacturers, trading companies and service providers against on-payment risks with their local and foreign customers. It also provides debt collection and corporate rating services involving companies in the Gulf Cooperation Council (“GCC”) region.