



**For immediate release**

**MIDDLE EAST INVESTORS EXPECT EMERGING MARKETS,  
THE US AND ASIA (EXCLUDING JAPAN) TO OUTPERFORM IN  
2009 DESPITE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN**

*Capintro Partners, Ltd. Releases Results of First Regional Hedge Fund  
Investor Survey*

**Dubai, UAE, February 19, 2009** -- Capintro Partners, Ltd. (Capintro), an investment placement specialist with a focus on introducing global alternative investment managers to MENA (Middle East and North Africa) investors, released today the results of its first Middle East Hedge Fund Investor Survey for 2009.

The survey which covers 65 investors from the six GCC countries, Lebanon and Jordan, showed several interesting findings which include but are not limited to:

- Family offices allocate a larger percentage of their portfolio to hedge funds than do other institutions.
- Investors in the region prefer funds with larger asset sizes, longer track records and higher levels of liquidity.
- Respondents favored strategies for 2009 include: Distressed, Global Macro and CTAs.
- Respondents expect that Emerging Markets, the United States and Asia (excluding Japan) will outperform in 2009.



“This research serves multiple purposes; it allows global fund managers to hear directly from investors with regards to questions they typically have such as what type of hedge funds MENA investors invest in and what their investment criteria are. We also wanted to play our part in the development of the hedge fund industry in the region by moving away from anecdotal evidence to more factual statistics and data analyzing investor behavior” said Mahmoud Al-Khawaja, CEO of Capintro.

“This is the first effort of its kind aimed at presenting collective investor feedback from the region on the alternative space. Given the recent challenges facing the asset class, this research is well timed and provides an important platform for presenting collective Middle East investor sentiment” said Mr. Hammad Naqvi, Managing Director of FX Derivatives & Investments at Mashreqbank in Dubai.

Capintro will continue to publish and improve this research annually in order to better serve its investors as well as global fund managers. “We plan on growing this project into a highly anticipated annual report focusing on the MENA market. This report will set a new regional standard in hedge fund marketing” concluded Al-Khawaja.

**EDITORS NOTE:**

The firm collected responses through Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 from 65 investors in eight countries including the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Lebanon. Investors were asked to complete an online questionnaire that focused on four main categories: an Investor Profile (categorizing investors by type, assets & country), their Minimum Investment Criteria, Expected Asset Allocation Changes in 2009 as well as Industry Developments and Changes.



**About Capintro Partners, Ltd.**

Headquartered in the United Kingdom with a representative office in Dubai, Capintro undertakes a range of activities including, but not limited to, placement services of actively managed funds and direct investments in the alternative investment industry including hedge funds. Aiming to become a leader in the investment product placement business, Capintro will bridge a gap between global investment managers and institutional and high net worth clients throughout the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region.

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