

# KAZAKHSTAN STOCK EXCHANGE

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **KASE presented awards 2017 to most active members of Exchange, listed companies and media representatives**

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange (Exchange, KASE) on February 14, 2018 at a ceremony presented awards to the most outstanding in 2017 members of the Exchange, listed companies demonstrating an articulate pursuit of transparency of their operations, as well as to representatives of the media that provided extensive coverage of Kazakhstan's stock market and KASE's operations in 2017.

KASE holds such events annually, as a rule, improving its requirements for nominees.

#### **KASE members**

Among members of the Exchange the following companies were determined as winners in nominations stipulated in KASE's internal documents "Rules of annual presenting of awards to members of Kazakhstan Stock Exchange JSC".

**Freedom Finance** was named the winner in nomination "**Leader of the Equity Market**", as the most active participant in the equity market, well ahead of other members of the Exchange in terms of activity indicator<sup>1</sup>. This company is characterized by the largest volume and number of deals in shares in KASE trading system, the most number of investor accounts involved in deals and the most number of successful days in the year under review.

**BCC Invest – subsidiary of Bank CenterCredit** received an award as the "**Leader of the Corporate Bond Market**" for active operations and the largest amount of market deals in corporate bonds. In spite of the second rank among the Exchange's 2017 most active members, this participant accounted for the largest amount of deals in corporate bonds. This fact became decisive in view of the Expert Council determining the winners.

**Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan** won in nomination "**Leader of the Government Securities Market**" as the most active participant in this market sector, judging by the activity indicator's value.

**SkyBridge Invest** was named the winner in nomination "**The Underwriter of the Year on the Equity Market**" for the most volume in terms of offering and selling of blocks of shares. The total amount of those operations reached KZT130.8 bn, or 48.5 % of the total amount on KASE's equity market in 2017. SkyBridge Invest met underwriter's liabilities for AK Altynalmas JSC, 3A-BestGroup JSC, Caspiy neft and Shubarkol Premium JSC.

The nominee "**The Underwriter of the Year on the Corporate Bond Market**" is **Kazkommerts Securities JSC – subsidiary of Kazkommertsbank JSC**, which sold the most number of debt securities issues in 2017, to a total of KZT137.3 bn.

**Freedom Finance** received an award in nomination "**The Market-maker of the Year on the Equity Market**", as member of KASE with the most number of titles of shares for which it is a market-maker (a total of 10 instruments).

In nomination "**The Market-maker of the Year on the Corporate Bond Market**" a decision was taken to present awards to two participants – **Kazkommerts Securities JSC – subsidiary of Kazkommertsbank JSC** and **Halyk Finance, subsidiary of Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan**. these companies' indicators are very close to each other. E.g., Kazkommerts Securities stood out with the largest share (in money terms) of deals in international bonds of Kazkommertsbank (ticker

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<sup>1</sup> The procedure of calculation of the activity indicator  $K_a$  is determined in KASE's internal document "Methodology of Kazakhstan Stock Exchange Members Activity Indicators Calculation".

BTASe16), for which it was a market-maker. Halyk Finance was the market-maker of the largest number of bond issues (31 issues). Both companies were characterized by the largest number of deals concluded in bonds, for which they were market-makers.

In nomination "**The Market-maker of the Year on the Government Securities Market**" a decision was taken not to **present awards** due to insufficient liquidity in this market segment and, as a consequence, insufficiency of parameters for encouragement for active participation in the trading.

An award "**For a significant contribution to attracting of investors**" was presented to **Freedom Finance**, as the financial advisor, offering underwriter and market-maker on KASE for ordinary shares of Bank of Astana, sharing financial risks with the issuer and its investors during the IPO, as well as an active participant of programs aimed at raising people's awareness of the stock market (during the year representatives of Freedom Finance, also in association with the Exchange, took an active part in road shows for retail investors in Kazakhstan's regions).

**Freedom Finance** was awarded a prize in nomination "**For Development of the Derivatives Market**". The share of this member of KASE in transactions on the futures market made up 50 % of the total gross turnover of derivatives.

### **KASE-listed companies**

Diplomas "**For Aspiration for Transparency**" were presented by the Exchange to the following listed companies, that disclosed information on themselves and their operations in 2017 to investors in the most open, timely and full manner:

- from companies of the economy's financial sector: **Development Bank of Kazakhstan JSC, Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan JSC;**
- from companies of the economy's non-financial sector: **KazMunaiGas Exploration Production JSC, KazTransOil JSC.**

In particular, these nominees not only met all KASE requirements for information disclosure, but also tried to provide the Exchange with more details of their operations.

### **Media representatives**

KASE also awarded diplomas to media representatives that provided extensive coverage of Kazakhstan's stock market and KASE's operations in 2017. These media representatives stood out by their professionalism in providing information in an easy-to-understand and interesting form, by the relevance and reasonability of coverage based on comparative information, statistical and analytical data.

A diploma in nomination "**The Best Article in Printed Media**" was awarded to **Aleksandr Vorotilov (magazine "Forbes Kazakhstan")**.

A diploma in nomination "**The Best Material in the Internet**" was awarded to **Valentina Vladimirskaia (Information agency "Interfax-Kazakhstan")**.

In nomination "**The Best TV-news story**" a prize was awarded to **Viktoriya Kuchma (TV-channel "Atameken Business Channel")**.

### **For reference**

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange (KASE) is a leading stock exchange in the Central Asian region and the only exchange in Kazakhstan, carrying out its activities in the financial market. It is a universal trading platform for repo market instruments, foreign currencies, government and corporate securities, bonds of international financial institutions as well as derivatives.

KASE is a member of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), the Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges (FEAS) and other international and local professional associations.

In 2015, KASE joined the UN Sustainable Stock Exchanges initiative. KASE occupies the second place among the CIS exchanges in terms of securities trading volume, as well as the sixth rank in terms of the equity market capitalization among the FEAS exchanges.

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