

# KAZAKHSTAN STOCK EXCHANGE JSC

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## PRESS RELEASE

Almaty

May 19, 2016

**The Annual Stock Market Expo, Invest Show 2016, organized this year by the Kazakhstan Stock Exchange (KASE) and IRBIS Agency, was held in Almaty on May 18-19.**

**More than 2,000 delegates, including those from countries near and far abroad, were estimated to have attended the two-day event, with more than 100 companies taking part and 40 speakers appearing.**

The event aims to build an effective dialogue platform for the various companies to share their vision and present their capital raising business plans, while potential investors are able to have a look at the promising investment proposals.

This year, the first expo day was dedicated to the startups. As part of the panel session "**Investing in companies with high growth potential in the context of financial uncertainty**", the speakers discussed the pressing issues of raising capital for the startup projects, as well as public and private support for the innovative projects and infrastructure development prospects for the startup funding in Kazakhstan.

On the same day, a startup projects competition was held whereby out of 16 submitted projects the jury selected the most promising one being KazMotors for the sale and purchase of spare parts using a mobile app. The winner was offered the opportunity worth KZT500,000 to study at the MOST Young Entrepreneurs Club and access to a private business angels club, as well as free Invest Show 2017 participation. The jury represented by business angels pointed out the commercialization of all the projects presented and invited many startups to cooperate.

The second day's program was focused on the stock market issues in Kazakhstan. The participants of the panel session "Kazakhstan stock market: reloading, new investor opportunities" expressed their views on the prospects of developing the securities market in Kazakhstan and discussed the mechanisms for further deepening of the financial market and regulatory system reforms. It was noted that in the context of banks not so much interested in funding the industrial sector, the local securities market is the one to provide the essential support to the real economy. The Kazakhstan Stock Exchange, operating under the international standards, is committed to providing the securities issuers and investors with great opportunities. A special emphasis has recently been placed on the industrial enterprises, including the SMEs and retail investors.

"Being listed on the KASE is a great opportunity for companies to present a better image to the investors and obtain an additional and diversified funding, including through the offering of shares. The People's IPO program has doubled the number of retail investors in our country. This year, the national currency strengthening has led to the free tenge volume growth. Now people and companies have an interest in tenge instruments. And the KASE is able to meet this need", – said Alina Aldambergen, Chairwoman of the KASE's Management Board.

In this context, on the second day of the event, the Kazakhstan Stock Exchange at a press briefing introduced one of the new issuers successfully listed on the KASE in the second category.

The expo participants' attention on both of the days was also drawn to the lecture sessions where the stock market leading experts and business consultants shared their expertise on the various capital raise and investment issues, including the search for the funding sources, information disclosure by the listed companies, choice of the investment instruments and many others.

Following the results of the event it is safe to say that the Invest Show 2016 remains to be the main securities market event in Kazakhstan, gathering the stock market professionals, financiers, investment advisors, entrepreneurs and top managers of the leading companies of Kazakhstan.

The expo organizers are happy to see the current and new participants next year and express gratitude to the event's information partners – "Business&Power", "Kursiv", "Capital" newspapers, "And.kz" information and analytical website, "Real Business of Kazakhstan" magazine, "LS" financial magazine and business website, "Exclusive" magazine, "Business Life" magazine, "Kazakhstan"

business magazine, "investkz.com" investment website, "Vlast.kz" online magazine, "Business Kazakhstan" newspaper and "DK News" news agency.

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#### **For reference**

Between 2012 and 2014 in the framework of efforts to attract the retail investors to the securities market of Kazakhstan, the KASE held an event "Open Day of Kazakhstan Stock Market" at the KIMEP University. The event was attended by the brokerage companies and commercial banks of Kazakhstan, as well as the Committee for Protection of Financial Services Consumers of the National Bank of Kazakhstan, Academy of the Regional Financial Center in Almaty and DAMU Entrepreneurship Development Fund.

In 2015, the name of the "Open Day of Kazakhstan Stock Market" event was changed to the Invest Show, as it became a stock market expo covering a wider audience.

This year, in addition to the expo itself, the Invest Show will include a forum with lectures and two panel sessions organised for the issuers and investors.

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