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PRESS RELEASE

ACI – The Financial Markets Association Unveils New Operations Certificate

ACI – The Financial Markets Association unveiled the latest addition to its suite of examinations during its 45th World Congress in Manila. Andreas Gaus, head of the ACI International Operations Working Group and member of Board of Education, revealed details of the new examination to delegates in Manila on Friday May 26th.

Events in the global financial markets in recent years have served to raise the profile of reputational and operational risk higher than ever, and meant that an efficient operational team has become indispensable to all trading organisations – especially in those institutions offering prime brokerage or other back office outsourcing services. Customer business is often won by the thinnest of margins; operational efficiency can win the business...it can also lose it.

ACI's Board of Education has developed the Operations Certificate to meet the needs of the evolving financial markets industry and set a standard for operational staff globally. It continues ACI's efforts to promote and maintain the highest operational standards in the world's financial markets. Market-based organisations such as the New York Foreign Exchange Committee and the UK's FX Joint Standing Committee have raised awareness of these issues by stressing the need for vigilance and best practice in operations departments.

The new Operations Certificate is aimed at back- and middle-office staff, traders and vendors and helps to build understanding between trading and operational staff. The topic baskets in the new examination include:

- A front-to-end treasury view across all foreign exchange, money markets, derivatives and short term bonds and notes
- Deal capture, trade entry and confirmations
- Settlement, netting and clearing
- Reconciliation and investigations
- Treasury systems and data management
- Risk management, controls, compliance and documentation

Developed in association with Bankakademie Frankfurt, candidates can study for and sit the new Operations Certificate – which is provided by a wide range of external training companies – initially in English. As with all ACI examinations, the ACI Operations Certificate will be open to both members and non-members of ACI – The Financial Markets Association.

The ACI Operations Certificate: Can You afford to ignore potential reputational risk and regulatory oversight issues?