

Press Release

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## **Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) wins Best Retail Bank in Kuwait for 2016**

- **Al Ahli Bank's operating profit grew by 27% over the year with a 29% expansion in the consumer lending business**
- **The bank introduced its 'one tap touch ID' sign-in for mobile banking for added security**
- **Two new credit cards were launched by the bank for further business expansion**

Hong Kong, March 16th 2016— Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait won Best Retail Bank in Kuwait for 2016. The bank received the award at The Asian Banker's International Excellence in Retail Financial Services 2016 Awards ceremony, held in conjunction with the region's most prestigious retail banking event, the Excellence in Retail Financial Services Convention. The ceremony was held at the W Hotel, Hong Kong.

### **Al Ahli Bank's operating profit grew by 27% over the year and the consumer lending business expanded by 29%**

Al Ahli Bank's business operation, under the strategy of 'reimagining a simpler bank', saw operating profit grow by 27% and a 29% expansion of consumer lending through 2015. The business expansion resulted from the introduction of new products and an increased level of spending on technology.

### **The bank introduced its 'one tap touch ID' sign in for mobile banking for added security**

For added security and ease of use, Al Ahli Bank introduced the One Tap Touch ID biometric verification process sign-in for its mobile banking application. The Touch ID security system operates through the touch of a finger as an optional replacement to the passcode. The feature was piloted in Apple iPhones and will be expanded onto other operating systems as well.

### **Two new credit cards were launched by the bank for further business expansion**

In conjunction with Emirates Skywards, Al Ahli Bank launched its Infinite and Signature cards, both offering bonus memberships to the Emirates skywards program and premium access to airport lounges in addition to a wide array of dining, sports, shopping, entertainment and health benefits. The cards also offer the "tap n' go" contactless technology that enables customers to simply wave or tap their card in front of a payWave reader.

Over 200 senior bankers from award-winning banks in 45 countries across the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa attended the glittering event that recognised their efforts in bringing superior products and services to their customers. The awards programme,

administered by The Asian Banker and refereed by prominent global bankers, consultants and academics, is the most prestigious of its kind.

A stringent three-month evaluation process based on a balanced and transparent scorecard is used to determine the winners and the positions of the various retail banks in the region. The scorecard is attached for reference.

#### About The Asian Banker

The Asian Banker is the region's most authoritative provider of strategic business intelligence to the financial services community. The Singapore-based company has offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Beijing and Dubai as well as representatives in London, New York and San Francisco. It has a business model that revolves around three core business lines: publications, research services and forums. The company's website is [www.theasianbanker.com](http://www.theasianbanker.com)

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