

### **Thai bourse and brokerages enhance industry's IT competitiveness**

**The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) is developing a trading system in close cooperation with brokerages that will support all securities products and smoothly connect with foreign exchanges. This new system will support the needs of domestic and foreign investors, increasing business opportunities for securities companies, and enhancing the Thai capital market competitiveness in the global arena, according to the SET IT Master Plan**

"SET has proposed its IT Master Plan to top executives from securities companies so that we can work together prepare our operations and personnel to reach a higher level of compliance with international standards," revealed SET President Charamporn Jotikasthira.

"At present, global exchanges emphasize developing their trading systems to reach higher levels of efficiency, meeting international standards and able to readily connect to the trading systems of foreign markets. In addition, exchanges tend to adjust their rules to facilitate quick transmission of orders. Competition in reducing costs and time of operation processes has intensified, partly because of a more advanced technology with lower costs. New trading systems being introduced, e.g., Alternative Trading System (ATS), are receiving great attention from investors due to its higher speed, lower cost, and less rules than other exchanges," said Mr. Charamporn.

"SET began developing its IT Master Plan in 2009, and plans to complete it this year. SET will take about six months from now to choose a vendor to develop and test the system. SET and brokerages will set up a working group to implement the IT Master Plan and achieve our joint goals," he continued.

The IT Master Plan is one of SET major strategies to build a solid foundation for development, by enhancing the trading system's efficiency to be advanced and able to support the trading of all products, i.e., equities, futures, and bonds, on a single platform.



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