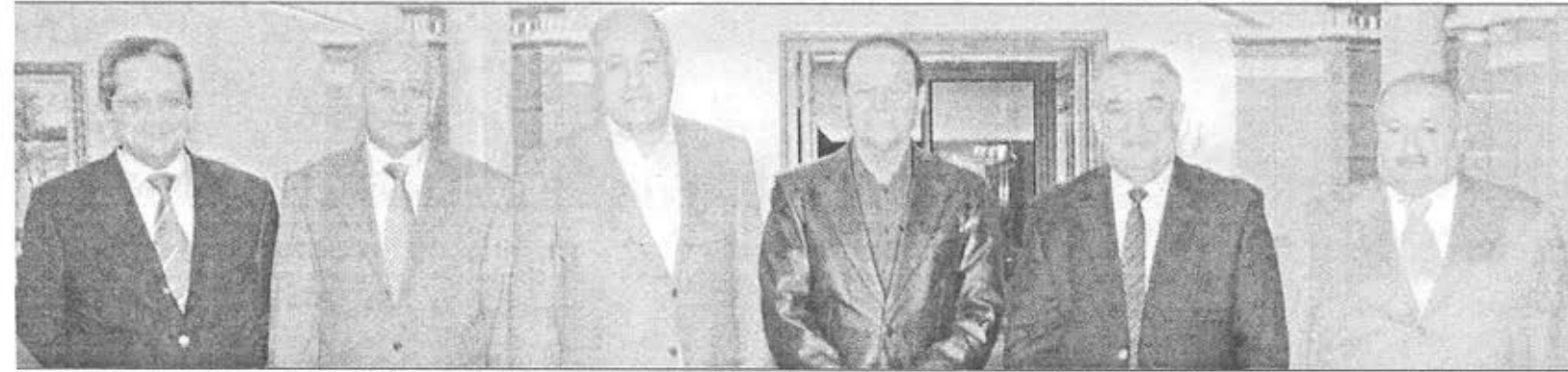


The Business



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■ Industry and Commerce Minister Dr Hassan Fakhro yesterday left for France to attend the launch of the first Bahraini-French business council. The event will be held under the patronage of Prime Minister Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa. The delegation includes Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Dr Essam Fakhro, Premier's Court Adviser Abdulnabi Al Shoa'ala, Bahrain-France Business Association chairman Abdulla Hassan Jumaa, Bahrain Business Association chairman Khalid Abdulrahman Almoayyed and BCCI board member Othman Sharif.

Hilal Computers to make debut at Dubai expo

MANAMA: Bahrain-based Hilal Computers will participate for the first time in the Middle East's largest ICT exhibition in Dubai on Wednesday.

It joins Red Hat, the world's leading open source software solutions provider, at the US firm's booth at the Gulf Information Technology Exhibition (Gitex).

Hilal Computers, which provides computer hardware and software systems integration and solutions in Bahrain, will use the high-profile event to boost its market footprint in terms of Red Hat Linux open source offerings.



■ Mr Milne

Hilal Computers general manager Hardy Koshy and enterprise operations manager Roshan George will receive visitors at the Red Hat booth, at stand 612, hall 6, at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre, from 1.30pm to 7pm on Wednesday.

Hilal Computers was appointed a Red Hat Advanced Business Partner for IT infrastructure in August.

It is the only Red Hat-certified partner in Bahrain with the technical and business capabilities to deploy Red Hat open source solutions and support in locally.

Optimum success

MANAMA: Bahrain-based Islamic investment bank Capinvest has announced the successful exit of its Optimum Fund, rewarding its investors with 100 per cent of their invested capital and a profit of 10pc.

"The successful exit of the Optimum Fund, which comprised of Dow Jones Islamic Index, crude oil, and copper, is very significant under the current market conditions," Capinvest treasury and financial institutions executive

director Hasan Habib said. "It gives us more confidence in our business strategy of sectoral and geographic diversification, and reinforces our commitment of meeting our investors' expectations."

Capinvest treasury products provide 100pc capital protection, which assures investors who hence take no risks on their invested capital.

Capital protection is a very important



■ Mr Habib

factor in these products, which are recording a good performance despite the current global economic situation.

In such times of turmoil, which are adversely affecting the performance of all markets, Capinvest was also able to reward its investors at the exit time with 10pc profit return.

"Capinvest will continue to develop its treasury products through a new generation of Sharia-compliant

investments, which meet investors' appetite for a secured capital with good returns," Mr Habib said.

"The economic and financial recovery being underway, the return to growth requires all investment banks to proactively plan their projects in order to enhance investors' sentiment and regain their trust in the markets.

"The recovery of oil revenues is expected to be reasonably strong with prices hovering around \$70 per barrel with further rise forecasts.

"This rise will reinforce the economic and financial

Energy sector

