

Financial Information Forum Announces the Appointment of Manisha Kulkarni as Executive Director

March 22, 2005 - The Financial Information Forum (FIF) announced the appointment of Manisha Kulkarni as the organization's first full-time Executive Director at FIF's Advisory Committee meeting held in New York on March 16, 2005. The committee includes senior executives from the industry's leading financial institutions, vendors and exchanges who work to set the strategic direction of the Financial Information Forum.

Tom Jordan, president of Jordan & Jordan and chair of the FIF Advisory Committee explained the need for a full-time resource stating, "The pace of market innovation coupled with increased regulation requires focused leadership. Having served in a part-time capacity as FIF's Executive Director, we have succeeded in establishing an organization capable of understanding and communicating the implications of industry issues. I expect Manisha to exceed our subscribers' expectations by bringing the same level of rigor and analysis to FIF subscribers that she has to Jordan & Jordan's clients over the past several years."

Manisha's appointment represents a renewed focus on FIF's strategic growth as financial information issues take on increasing relevance in all aspects of the securities industry. In addition to remaining at the forefront of operational market data and service bureau issues, FIF aims to add value to strategic and technical issues as they relate to all aspects of the trade process - serving as the "go to" resource enabling participants to make informed decisions on behalf of their firms.

"Manisha brings a significant amount of industry experience to FIF," said Leo McBlain, chair of the Financial Information Forum. "She has worked with a number of major financial institutions and service providers in both a strategic and technical capacity. I look forward to working with her to enhance the value FIF brings to the industry."

As executive director, Ms. Kulkarni will be responsible for coordination and management of all FIF-related activities. Manisha will continue to attract new members in order to ensure that key stakeholders are represented in industry discussions. She will drive FIF initiatives forward by coordinating the efforts of FIF volunteers and harnessing their industry expertise in order to ensure that FIF remains the focal point for addressing financial information industry business and technology issues.

About the Financial Information Forum

The Financial Information Forum (FIF) addresses the issues that impact the financial information industry, from real-time decision support through securities processing. FIF provides a collaborative environment for subscribers to benefit from technology, regulatory, and market innovations. Financial institutions, vendors, and exchanges are encouraged to join the Financial Information Forum, which serves as a focal point for coordination and communication on behalf of the industry. Prospective subscribers should the FIF Program Office at fifinfo@fif.com or call +1 212 422 8568 for additional information.

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