

## Diligent appoints top talent for Asia Pacific expansion

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Jan 6. (BusinessDesk) – Diligent Board Member Services Inc., the corporate governance software developer, has snared a clutch of well-connected executives and advisers to expand its Boardbooks product into the Asia Pacific region.

The move comes with the establishment of Diligent APAC Board Services PTE. Ltd., a Singapore-based wholly owned subsidiary, the company said in a statement.

“We have for some time viewed the Asia region as having significant opportunities for us given the sophistication of many of the larger corporations there, particularly when it comes to technology and innovation,” said chief executive and president Alex Sodi. “By establishing a subsidiary there, we plan to capitalise on what we expect will be a high-growth region for us.”

The expansion, which comes almost three months after the company announced it had broken even at a cashflow level, will see the appointment of a number of high-profile media and investment banking executives.

Eslinda Hamzah, former senior vice president of CNN broadcast and commercial sales, marketing & affiliate relations in Asia Pacific, has been appointed as managing director of the new subsidiary.

“The key has been finding the right people,” Sodi said. “In Eslinda we have an experienced executive with the ability to leverage her already established network at the highest levels of business throughout the region.

“The company has also appointed William P. Adamopoulos and Linus Koh as the first members of an advisory board to Diligent and its board of directors. Adamopoulos is president and publisher of Forbes Asia, and Koh is co-chief executive of Saizen REIT, a real estate investment trust listed on the Singapore Exchange At Sept. 30, Diligent had 397 clients worldwide with more than 10,400 individual users of its Boardbooks software.

Diligent’s shares, which floated at \$1 in late 2007, were unchanged at 67 cents today, and have risen 172% in the past 12-months.

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