

## Strategic developments strengthen Russell Bedford Moscow firm

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RMikhailov & Partners, the Moscow member of the Russell Bedford accounting and audit network, has broadened its service offering by acquiring ARNI, a specialist auditor of banks and investment businesses, also based in Moscow.

ARNI was established in 1992 and has developed a strong reputation for audits of banks, financial and investment houses, insurance companies, governmental organisations and industrial groups. The firm will continue to operate under its own brand but as a member of the Mikhailov & Partners Consulting Group. It will share the offices of the Russell Bedford Moscow firm.

The acquisition brings Mikhailov & Partners the opportunity to expand its share of the Russian audit and consulting market and to broaden its service portfolio by obtaining licences for bank and investment audit services.

In a separate strategic move designed to further reinforce its presence in the Russian market, Mikhailov & Partners has also announced the opening of a new office in Orenburg in the Volga Federal District, some 1500km southeast of Moscow. This area, close to the border with Kazakhstan, is home to several large businesses and subsidiaries of foreign companies in the oil and gas and energy production sectors.

Mikhailov & Partners was established in 1995 and is now one of the largest multi-discipline professional services groups in Russia. The group provides a wide range of services including audit, accounting, legal advice, tax and management consulting, valuation, international project support and HR consulting. M&P has been a member of Russell Bedford International since 2004.

For further information, contact Maria Sverchevskaya on +7 495 945 4463/64. Alternatively, visit the websites at [www.mnp.ru](http://www.mnp.ru) and [www.russellbedford.com](http://www.russellbedford.com).

### About Russell Bedford International

Established in 1983, Russell Bedford International is a global network of independent firms of accountants, business consultants and specialist legal advisers.

Ranked as one of the world's top 15 accounting and audit networks, Russell Bedford is represented by some 460 partners, 5000 staff and 200 offices in more than 70 countries in Europe, the Americas, the Middle East, Africa and Asia-Pacific.

All Russell Bedford affiliates are well-established firms offering international business advice and services to local and multinational clients. Most provide a full range of services comprising accounting, auditing, tax advice, general business guidance and financial consulting. In addition, many have special expertise in particular fields, such as international taxation or information technology.

In January 2008 Russell Bedford International was named one of the first 17 full members of the IFAC Forum of Firms after reporting it had implemented a globally coordinated quality assurance programme, committed to the use of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), and met other specific ethics requirements.

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