
PRESS RELEASE

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CGF & IRMSA STRATEGICALLY ALIGN WITH MARKET BENEFITS

Over the last decade, CGF Research Institute (Pty) Ltd ('CGF') has steadily grown to become a well-established, leading governance authority in South Africa. The company is privately owned and prides itself upon the many clients it has served since 2004. CGF initially only focused its services in the corporate governance research arena; but soon after its market debut, the company established its *Corporate Governance Framework®* model which has become one of its hallmarks both in South Africa and across the African continent.

As CGF's broad range of clients -- which spans various industry sectors -- sought additional assistance from CGF in their governance departments, so the need arose for CGF to expand its initial research offerings to a broader set of professional related consulting services. As the transition for CGF developed to include risk and compliance services within its repertoire, the close association between the governance, risk and compliance ('GRC') disciplines necessitated the need for CGF and the Institute of Risk Management South Africa ('IRMSA') to build their relationship over the years.

*"If you treat risk management
as a part-time job, you might
soon find yourself
looking for one."*

Deloitte

The robust business relationship between CGF and IRMSA has grown steadily and both organisations have become mature brands in the region, with each offering their clients valuable services within the GRC arena. Understandably, as both organisations have a large degree of overlapping clients -- and considering their need to provide clients the very best services -- CGF and IRMSA reached an easy decision to strategically align their brands and business efforts to support each other in order to enhance their respective client services.

Both CGF's and IRMSA's clients and their member constituencies will be able to expect a blend of value-added services through this strategic alliance. For example, each organisation will support the other at particular GRC events, offering preferential discounts to their respective clients wishing to attend such events. Included in these services will be joint-access to various GRC white papers and published articles which will be included at no additional cost to their respective membership fees. Moreover, IRMSA's corporate members will now also be able to save on the initial licence fee in the event that their company wishes to subscribe to CGF's web-based *Corporate Governance Body of Knowledge®*. CGF's Corporate Governance Body of Knowledge® has become many company's first port of call on issues relating to GRC matters; and the GRC reports, policy templates, director's induction manuals amongst other important materials is compiled by a team of highly trained management consultants who have considerable practical experience in this area. CGF's researched reports are peer reviewed by appropriately qualified external subject matter experts and they provide assurance of the material integrity and accuracy of the wide-ranging reports. Some of the clients who make use of CGF's Corporate Governance Body of Knowledge® include; African Rainbow Minerals, Altron Group, Anglo American, Babcock Africa, BHP Billiton South Africa, Denel, Development Bank of Southern Africa, JSE Limited, Liberty Holdings Group, Vodacom and the Provincial Government of the Western Cape.

As the strategic alliance develops between CGF and IRMSA, they foresee sharing information -- through their joint knowledge and experience -- with their respective constituencies that allows them to take a more proactive (and informed) approach toward risk management. Accordingly, these beneficiaries may gain a renewed understanding behind the integral, symbiotic relationship which exists between governance, risk and compliance. Instead of GRC being seen as a mere 'tick-box' item on the board's agenda, those organisations who embed proper risk management principles and methodologies -- as a part of their go-to-market strategic enabling differentiators -- will in all probability benefit from an improved

financial and sustainable performance. Indeed, an outcome of this nature is well positioned within some of IRMSA's key objectives which are found within its Constitution, including to:

- advance the theory and practice of risk management in all its aspects;
- provide a forum for discussion on subjects of interest to persons engaged in enterprise risk management;
- consider and pass comment on actual or impending legislation in the Republic of South Africa affecting the risk management profession;
- provide for research into risk management and kindred matters and to provide members with information on developments in professional thought and methods both inside and outside the Republic of South Africa; and
- promote and develop on behalf of members public relations programmes designed to inform the general public about the risk management profession and to give a proper appreciation of its functions and problems.

CGF is delighted with the IRMSA strategic alliance. Through the collaborative efforts envisaged between the organisations, we believe this is a positive step for not only CGF and IRMSA, but indeed our respective constituencies and the Southern African business market. Through this collaboration, CGF and IRMSA intend to demystify the often negative perceptions attached to the GRC profession and practices. In so doing, we believe businesses can become more robust and more competitive, but at the same time also observing the many areas where unmitigated risk could cause irreparable damage to an organisation and its various stakeholders.

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About The Institute of Risk Management South Africa ('IRMSA')

IRMSA is the leading source of information and networking opportunities within the Risk Management industry, with members from a wide range of corporations both from the private and public sector. IRMSA is a non-profit organisation and represents individuals and companies committed to the enhancement of the Risk Management discipline.

IRMSA has been recognised by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) as the Professional Body for Risk Management in South Africa, and is therefore the institute of choice for risk professionals and practitioners in Southern Africa, dedicated to the advancement of the risk management profession and accreditation, through research, promotion, education, upliftment, training, guidance and strong relationships with other Institutes or Associations.

For more information about IRMSA visit www.irmsa.org.za

About CGF Research Institute (Pty) Ltd ('CGF')

CGF is a Proudly South African, Level 4 BBBEE compliant company that specialises in conducting desktop research on Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) related subjects. The company has numerous products and services that cover GRC reporting, consulting, board assessment and induction, mentoring and coaching, business optimisation, executive search, business rescue, including business audit services.

For more information about CGF Research Institute visit www.cgf.co.za or www.corporate-governance.co.za

For further information contact:

CGF Research Institute (Pty) Ltd
Terrance M. Booysen (Chief Executive Officer)
Tel: 011 476 8264
Cell: 082 373 2249
E-mail: tbooyesen@cgf.co.za

The Institute of Risk Management South Africa
Gillian le Cordeur (Chief Executive Officer)
Tel: 011 555 1800
Cell: 082 322 6104
E-mail: gillianl@irmsa.org.za

