

NEW



MEMBERS

The AFM network is getting bigger and bigger! On the occasion of its 22nd Annual Conference (May 9-10 in Chicago) AFM is welcoming two new member organisations: **The American Financial Exchange** and **Connamara Systems**.

Interview with Jim Downs, CEO of Connamara Systems

What was the reason you decided to become a member of AFM?



How does Connamara Systems help build exchanges and marketplaces for the capital markets?

Once we became familiar with AFM and its mission to promote the establishment of new derivatives exchanges, it seemed only natural that we would join. Connamara has been actively involved in designing and building exchanges in capital markets for over 20 years, so we were excited to join and become part of the AFM community of members.



Combining our domain expertise in capital markets with our unique experience building regulated exchanges and other marketplaces, we launched our product, EP3 (Exchange Platform 3), earlier this year. Designed from the ground up and taking advantage of the latest technological innovations — including a microservices-based architecture, automated provisioning, auto-scaling, and self-healing — we enable new exchanges to get to their first trade in the shortest amount of time possible.

Interview with Richard L. Sandor, Chairman and CEO, American Financial Exchange

What was the reason you decided to become a member of AFM?



Please tell us about AFX's current projects

As the head of the American Financial Exchange (AFX) I'm pleased to be a new member of the Association of Futures Markets. There are always challenges facing exchanges developing new markets. I think by discussing issues and sharing our experiences and new ideas we can help build stronger and more robust markets and thereby contribute to healthy trading communities.



We are currently preparing for the launch of our AMERIBOR Futures contract on August 16. As our volume and membership continues to gain momentum and reaches critical mass, the launch of AMERIBOR futures is the natural next step that will provide market participants with the tools they need to manage their risk and seek trading opportunities. The inherently straightforward and transparent design of the AMERIBOR interest rate benchmark allows for ease of execution and spreading strategies between the cash and the futures markets.