

## BUSINESS BITES

Qatar's Doha Bank will open its first branch in Dubai and offer a range of trade finance and investment banking services to local customers. Qatar is expected to spend \$180 billion over the next 10 years in scaling up its oil and gas infrastructure.

# NEWS

BE THE FIRST TO GET THE LOW DOWN ON THE DUBAI BUSINESS, PROPERTY AND SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDARS



## HARRODS TO DUBAI

Harrods could be the next luxury department store to head to Dubai. Hot on the heels of Harvey Nichols, which opened in Dubai's Mall of the Emirates in May.

Neil Tunbridge, head of retail services at Dubai-based analysts GRMC, said that the focus may initially be on high quality convenience food with the other aspects of the store to be added later. He said: "The Harrods name is obviously very well known in the Arab world because of its connections to Harrod's Egyptian owner Mohamed Al Fayed" [www.harrods.com](http://www.harrods.com)

## BUSINESS BITES

Over half the annual figures for sales of gold and jewellery in Dubai is due to tourists, according to a survey by the Dubai Gold and Jewellery Group, Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC) and the World Gold Council.



## ANSBACHER PROPERTY FUND ACHIEVES TARGET

The Ansbacher Banking Group announced the first closing of its International Property Fund, the Ansbacher Prime 1 Fund. Comprising equity and supporting debt, the fund has been established by Ansbacher in conjunction with its parent company Qatar National Bank (QNB) and Strategic Real Estate Advisors (StratREAL).

Hugh Titcomb, Group Chief Executive at Ansbacher said: "The Prime 1 Fund was launched in response to growing demand from investors in the Gulf for access to the international property sector." [www.ansbacher.com](http://www.ansbacher.com)

## Dubai's population growth



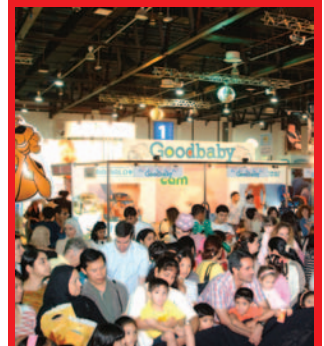
Dubai Municipality's Statistic Centre has released its yearly bulletin "Dubai in Figures", with figures reaching 1,241,000 on June 30 2006. Other stats showed that of the total population, 73% (911,000) are male and only 27% (330,000) are female.

Dhs 22.9 billion worth of land deals were carried out in Dubai during this period while 1128 buildings were completed at a cost of

Dhs 5.579 billion. Also, during the first six months of the year, there were 116,543 airline trips at Dubai International Airport, which carried a total of 13.76 million passengers.

[www.dm.gov.ae](http://www.dm.gov.ae)

## EXHIBITIONS



### MOTHER, BABY & CHILD SHOW

14-16 December

Dubai World Trade Centre will be home to the show created by parents for parents. It is full of parenting essentials from feeding to fashion, holidays to healthcare and much more. The latest ranges of products and equipment are available, and awareness can be raised through seminars and workshops.

Tel: +971 4 340 5601

Web: [www.motherbabyandchild.com](http://www.motherbabyandchild.com)



### ARAB HEALTH

29 January-1 February

Arab Health touches all aspects of the healthcare industry in the Middle East. Thousands of medical professionals, wholesalers and distributors converge on the Dubai International Exhibition Centre every year for this 4 day event.

Tel: +971 4 3365161

Web: [www.arabhealthonline.com](http://www.arabhealthonline.com)

