

## **Bank Sohar's Website Wins Pan Arab Web Award**

Bank Sohar's website [www.banksohar.net](http://www.banksohar.net) has won the First Prize in Oman in the Private and Investment Category in the Banking Web Awards 2009 Competition that concluded recently at the Intercontinental in Beirut, Lebanon where Munira Abdul Nabi Macki – DGM HR & Corporate Support received the award on behalf of Bank Sohar.

This is the third consecutive award for the Bank's website which was launched in July 2007, shortly after the new Bank opened for business. Bank Sohar received the coveted Gold Award from Oman Web Awards in the category, Banking and Finance when the website was barely a year old. The following year, the Bank's website repeated the achievement with a second award from Oman Web Awards in the same category.

“Three awards for the Bank Sohar website in less than three years of business is an unprecedented recognition,” said Dr. Mohamed Abdulaziz Kalmoor, CEO, Bank Sohar. “Our Arabic- English website is our calling card and one of several channels that we provide for customers to interact with the Bank. The commissioning of our Arabic website has widened the circle of customers and others who visit the website. The availability of Arabic has also encouraged our customers to opt for the efficiencies and conveniences that complement traditional branch banking.” Dr.Kalmoor added that with all of these awards, the Bank has no plans to rest on its laurels. “Our customers can continue to look forward to a web banking experience that is safe and secure.”

The Banking Web Awards 2009 Competition was organised by the Pan Arab Web Awards Academy in collaboration with the Union of Arab Banks and other associates. The objectives of the competition are to raise the standards of banking websites, advocate growth and development of electronic banking and to encourage the banking sector to be involved in the digital economy. The criteria for the awards were based on concept, technical prowess, content, visual aspects and interactivity.

Bank Sohar has achieved ISO 27001:2005 Certification for the Bank's complete IT Service. ISO 27001:2005 is the formal standard of certification that provides the assurance that the certified organisation fulfills the highest levels of security and compliance and has implemented an Information Security Management System (ISMS) which is on par with global standards.