

Training advisory personal



James J O'Donnell is one of the team of international experts helping the Stock Exchange of Thailand to design, develop and implement educational programmes for managerial and advisory staff in the local capital market. The team will also develop certification programmes for these employees.

O'Donnell has many years of experience in the field of financial and capital markets. As president and chief executive of the Global Training and Development Group, he is responsible for managing and directing the operations of the company.

His activities include training individuals for qualification examinations required by the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the National Association of Stock Dealers (NASD); designing and implementing continuing education programmes; and providing consulting services for domestic and international organisations in the capital markets sector. He is also an arbitrator with the NYSE and NASD.

O'Donnell was head of Merrill Lynch's sales training department in New York from 1975 to 1981. During that time, he was on the committee of the NYSE that designed the US qualifying exam for stockbrokers called the "Series 7" exam.

Building on that work, from 1981 to 1993 O'Donnell was responsible for managing and directing the design, development and implementation of training programmes for individuals required to take the exchange's Series 7, Series 8 and Series 24 exams.

He has been a securities business consultant in several countries, including Egypt, the Philippines, Tunisia, Japan and Britain.

O'Donnell says Global Training and Development provides services particular to emerging markets wanting to develop certification and licences for stockbrokers and other professionals in the investment sector.

"In Thailand, my job is to help the Thailand Securities Institute develop examinations for representatives from banks, brokerage houses and other firms involved in equities, debt instruments and mutual funds," he said.

O'Donnell said the broad aim of the new institute was to make Thailand's investment advisers more professional and competitive in the global investment market.