

**Hwang-DBS shares up 10% on completion of sale to Affin
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By Chan Quan Min**

Bursa Malaysia listed shares of Hwang-DBS (Malaysia) Bhd shot up this morning to a near record high on the completion of the sale of its investment banking arm to Affin Holdings Bhd.

As of mid-morning, Hwang-DBS was trading at RM4.47 up 42 sen or 10% from yesterday's close. The spike in the company's share price coincides with an announcement yesterday of a special dividend for shareholders.

Hwang-DBS shareholders get a special dividend of RM2.50 per share with an ex-date of Apr 21 with entitlement two days after.

A separate announcement to the stock exchange detailed the completion of the RM1.4 billion sale of HwangDBS Investment Banking (IB) Bhd to the Affin financial group.

With HwangDBS IB ceasing to be a subsidiary of Hwang-DBS from yesterday, the listed entity "may be classified as a 'cash company' and/or an 'affected listed issuer' as set out under Practice Note 16 and 17 respectively of the Main Market listing requirements."

The acquirer, Affin Holdings, saw a more subdued appreciation with the value of the stock up 2 sen to RM3.84 at mid-morning.

Affin Holdings, in a press conference yesterday said full integration of the two businesses would be complete by September or October this year after which the new banking entity will be named Affin-Hwang.

Affin Investment Bank senior management has previously guided the expected synergies from the Affin-Hwang marriage as RM84 million in FY15 to FY17 and RM43 million per annum beginning FY18. These include both revenue and cost synergies from the merger of the two investment banks.

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