



East West Bancorp Invests in PGP Capital Advisors, LLC

On September 6, PGP Capital Advisors, LLC (PGP) announced that East West Bancorp (Nasdaq: EWBC), the parent company of East West Bank, which is the largest ethnic community banking institution in the U.S. with over \$11 billion in assets, is investing in PGP to form a strategic alliance in financial services.

PGP Founder and Managing Partner Stewart Kim said, “PGP Capital will be able to provide various banking products and services not only to Koreans but also to the entire Asian market through this strategic alliance with East West Bank, which also seeks to expand its activities in China. East West Bank has grown to become the biggest ethnic bank in the past sixteen years. I expect this strategic alliance to play a key role for PGP to become a premier investment banking boutique.”

“PGP’s business model fits precisely with our business goals, which focus on ethnic businesses and cross-border transactions between the U.S. and Asia as the financial bridge between East and West,” said CEO of East West Bancorp, Dominic Ng. “PGP already has an impressive track record in areas such as investment banking and asset management. Both of our organizations will have more opportunities for growth by working together.”

PGP Capital Advisors, LLC is an L.A.-based investment bank established by Korean-American Stewart Kim in 2003, which assisted in the formation of HELIO LLC, a partnership between EarthLink, Inc. and SK Telecom (total investment amount \$440 million), and advised on the acquisition of fourteen radio channels by Multicultural Radio Broadcasting, Inc. (MRBI) (total acquisition amount \$150 million). PGP also provided M&A advisory services to the legendary professional golfer Jack Nicklaus to secure \$145 million dollars of investment last June.