



AIB partners with Chamber Network to offer Business Start-ups special membership discount

11th October 2011

AIB today announces details of a new initiative with the Chamber Network in Ireland. This initiative provides new AIB Business Start-up customers with a 50% discount on their first year's annual membership of their local affiliated Chamber.

This offer can provide new AIB Business Start-up customers with the support and advice they need to help them get their business up and running by giving customers access to a local business network and building sound business connections for the future. The affiliated* Chamber Network is the largest Irish business network with 13,000 business members across the country. This exclusive 50% discounted membership offer is being provided to new AIB Business Start-up customers by 45 affiliated Chambers participating in this initiative.

This support offer is one element of the AIB Business Start-up package which has been specifically tailored to meet the needs of new and early stage businesses. Other elements of the package include:

- Special 2 year Current Account fee offer
- Online banking services - 2 years free subscription to iBusiness Banking or registration to AIB Phone & Internet Banking
- AIB Classic Visa Business Card
- AIB Business Overdraft
- SME Loan for Start-up Businesses

John Webb, Head of Propositions, Business Banking, AIB said:

"We are particularly pleased to work on this initiative with the Chamber Network. This is a good fit for both AIB and the Chambers as both organisations have a comprehensive network throughout the country. It will provide excellent networking and business development opportunities for our Business Start-up customers who choose to avail of the offer."

Ian Talbot, Chambers Ireland Chief Executive said:

"2011 has already witnessed a 6% increase in business start-ups. In light of this significant growth, we are delighted to partner with AIB to support these businesses through membership of their local affiliated Chamber. These start-ups will have the prospect of joining a unique network focused on representing the interests of member companies and growing sales opportunities for all members."

* Affiliated Local Chambers are members of the Chambers Ireland Network and share a common brand, logo and identity.

For further information, please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITOR

The role of the Chamber Network

- Supporting SMEs through economic and social development in local communities
- Representing business interests on key issues both locally and nationally
- Working closely with local government authorities and agencies to develop industry infrastructure and services within local areas

Some of the services that local Chambers provide:

- Opportunities to market and promote a new business locally
- Regular business events and networking opportunities for members
- A range of business information is available on a wide range of topics which can really help Business Start-ups (e.g. HR, Legislation, Tax etc)
- Regular email updates about upcoming events, news and notices
- Chamber Newsletter which is distributed on a monthly basis
- A Membership Directory containing the names, addresses, contact details for the key contacts of all members. This directory is an invaluable source of contacts and potential leads for an early stage business.

Qualifying Criteria:

This exclusive AIB/ Chamber Network membership offer is available to:

- New AIB Business Start-up customers who are opening an AIB Business Start-up Current Account for the first time for their business between 3rd October 2011 and 30th September 2012
- Businesses that employ five employees or less and are currently not an affiliated Chamber member

How to apply for the AIB/Chamber Network membership offer:

- Open an AIB Business Start-up Current Account between 3rd October 2011 and 30th September 2012
- Receive an AIB/Chamber Network Membership Voucher, from our AIB branch in order to avail of the offer
- Log on to www.aib.ie/chamberoffer and follow the on-screen instructions

- Ends -