

OFFICIAL STATEMENT
March 26, 2015**CONTACT**
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(632) 884 5000**PDS GROUP CELEBRATES 10TH ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT**

First Metro Investment Corporation receives the Cesar EA Virata Award Best Securities House - Investment House Category. From left to right: PDEX President & COO Antonino A. Nakpil, PDS Group Chairman Emeritus Cesar EA Virata, and PDS Group President & CEO Cesar B. Crisol



Metrobank receives the Cesar EA Virata Award Best Securities House - Bank Category. From left to right: PDEX President & COO Antonino A. Nakpil, MBTC President Fabian S. Dee, PDS Group Chairman Emeritus Cesar EA Virata, MBTC Senior Executive Vice President and Financial Markets Sector Group Head Fernand Tansingco, and PDS Group President & CEO Cesar B. Crisol

Makati City, Philippines, 26 March 2015 - This year's Annual Awards was a special night of rich reaping for the financial community as the PDS Group marked a decade of recognizing financial institutions that exhibited stellar performance in developing the domestic capital market.

Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company (MBTC) and First Metro Investment Corporation emerged for the second year as winners of the Cesar EA Virata Award for Best Securities House, Bank Category and Investment House Category respectively, recognized for their focus on the fixed income securities business in trading, distribution, settlement, origination, underwriting, and market making. MBTC President Fabian S. Dee said: "We are humbled by this honor but at the same time we acknowledge the responsibility that this award brings. More than just a trophy to be displayed, it will be a constant reminder for us to do our share in the furtherance of our market. We take this as a challenge to give honor to the great man, Prime Minister Cesar Virata, whom this award is named after. We share this honor with everyone who strives to bring our market to a higher standard whether in the buy side, the sell side, the regulators, or the exchange."

A special citation was given to Phoenix Petroleum Philippines, Inc. for its PHP 2.0 Billion Short-Term Commercial Paper Program Due 2015 as pioneer of the First Short-Term Commercial Paper Program listed on the Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp.

PDS Group President & CEO Crisol said, "We hark back to the principles of our creation and look around this room to the founders of this market, the supporters of this vision, and the community that has grown all around it. PDS was built BY the community FOR the community and the tower that has become emblematic is a great source of inspiration. Protective, solid, impartial and strong - we should be this."

The event was graced by top officials from the financial regulatory community: Secretary of Finance Cesar V. Purisima, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Deputy Governor for Supervision and Examination Sector Nestor A. Espenilla, Jr., National Treasurer Roberto B. Tan, Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Chairperson Teresita J. Herbosa, and SEC Commissioners Antonietta Ibe and Ephyro B. Amatong.

BSP Deputy Governor Espenilla said: "Indeed the market has come a long way and it is as much that journey that we celebrate tonight as the performances of respective individual institutions."

National Treasurer Tan focused on unlocking the market's true potential, remarking: "Beyond all these endeavors, we look forward to your unwavering support in building with us programs and capabilities needed as we evolve our markets from the domestic environment toward the Intra-Regional marketplace."

SEC Chairperson Herbosa said: "While only some will go home with awards tonight, I believe we are all winners here for contributing to the continued development of Philippine financial markets and the betterment of the country's economy as a whole." #