

UPDATE 1-Marex buys energy, commod broker Spectron

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* Who's who in Europe oil broking [ID:nLDE6B01M6]

* Deal is valued cash consideration of \$154.8 million

(Adds context)

LONDON, March 22 (Reuters) - London-based broker Marex Group bought Spectron Group Ltd, which specialises in handling energy and commodities contracts, from Imarex ASA (IMAREX.OL), both parties said on Tuesday. The deal is valued at about 94.5-95 million pounds (\$154.8 million) in cash, Marex and Imarex said. The deal will give Marex a stronger foothold in European markets upon completion as Spectron is one of the largest brokers in Europe in oil, carbon, commodities and freight.

Its website said it handles refined oil product trades worth more than \$500 billion a year from London, Frankfurt, Singapore and across the United States.

It was acquired by freight exchange Imarex in 2008.

Oslo-based Imarex operates marketplaces for Forward Freight Agreements (FFAs) and freight options.

"Imarex has thoroughly reviewed its strategic opportunities over the past year, with an objective to create value for its shareholders," its chairman of the board Christian Due said in a statement.

Marex Group handles commodity derivatives, financial futures and foreign exchange, which is majority-owned by JRJ Group and its partners, Trilantic Capital Partners and BXR Group.

(Reporting by Ikuko Kurahone, Jonathan Saul, Zaida Espana and Nina Chestney)

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