

## **Press Release**

Paris. 30 June 2006

## Société Générale finalizes acquisition of Splitska Banka in Croatia

Société Générale finalized today the acquisition of Splitska Banka in Croatia following approval from the Croatian National Bank.

Splitska Banka is a universal bank with a 9.0% market share of assets in Croatia. The bank has 1,112 employees and 112 branches. Splitska Banka operates the fourth largest retail banking network nationwide and serves 460,000 retail clients and 2,000 corporate customers. It is a market-leader on the fast growing Dalmatian coast and one of the top corporate banking franchises in the country.

Didier Alix, Chief Executive Officer Retail Banking, said "Splitska Banka is a well-managed bank with significant growth potential. We will keep its name and its head office in Split. This acquisition consolidates our positions in the region and contributes to providing enhanced services to our regional and international corporate clients."

This acquisition strengthens Société Générale's position as a major regional player. The Group is already established in Serbia, Slovenia and Montenegro with almost 1 million clients and 238 branches in the region. Société Générale expects to derive material synergies with its existing operations in these markets as well as with other divisions of the Group including leasing, car financing, asset management, life insurance, custody, corporate and investment banking.

Moreover, Société Générale is strongly established in central and eastern Europe through its subsidiaries in the Czech Republic (Komercni Banka is # 2 bank with 363 branches, 1.2 million retail and 285,000 corporate clients as of end-March 2006) and Romania (BRD is # 2 bank, with 367 branches, 1.8 million retail and 110,000 corporate clients as of end-March 2006).

## Société Générale

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs more than 103,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services: Société Générale serves about 19 million individual customers worldwide.
- Global Investment Management & Services: Société Générale is one of the largest banks in the euro-zone in terms of assets under custody (EUR 1,418 billion, December 2005) and under management (EUR 386 billion, December 2005).
- Corporate & Investment Banking: Société Générale ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

Société Générale is included in the five major socially-responsible investment indexes.

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