

## **Press Release**

Paris, 5 January, 2007

## Société Générale Securities Services boosts its custody offer in the Mediterranean and Central European regions.

The recent developments in the financial markets in the Mediterranean and Central Europe regions, with the establishment of a joint trading platform between the Cyprus Stock Exchange and the Athens Stock Exchange, enable **Société Générale Securities Services** (SGSS) to strengthen the custody hub it created in Athens in June 2006 and expand its agent bank services offered to the Cyprus Stock Exchange.

This regional custody hub in Athens offers domestic and international financial institutions a single, easy access entry point into Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Hungary, Cyprus, Turkey and Egypt and provides three main advantages to clients investing in emerging countries :

- simplified access to Central European and Mediterranean countries,
- continuous and direct market information, and
- consolidated statements in European single currency.

"By combining the know-how of our team of experts in Athens and the geographic proximity of these markets which are all situated in a narrow range of time zones, we can offer clients easy access to a whole new range of markets and growing opportunities," said Etienne Deniau, Deputy Head of SGSS Investor Services.

Panagiotis Papapetrou, Head of SGSS Investor Services in Athens, added: "These developments are indicative of the efforts towards harmonisation and concentration that are taking place in the region. These countries are now accessible via a single euro-denominated entry point and we can provide our clients with a consolidated statement showing all their assets in a single currency."

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## 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 more than 21 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 2 155 billion, September 2006) and under management (EUR 411 billion, September 2006).
- 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.

## Société Générale Securities Services

Société Générale Securities Services offers a full range of securities services in:

- Execution, clearing, delivery and settlement
- Securities back-office outsourcing services
- Custody, trustee, transfer agent, fund and portfolio administration
- Employee Share Plan Management

Société Générale Securities Services currently ranks 3rd among securities custodians in Europe, and 9th worldwide with more than EUR 2,155 billion\* in assets under custody. Société Générale Securities Services (Euro-VL) provides valuations for 3,957 funds\* representing assets under administration of EUR 302 billion\*. Fimat, a Société Générale Securities Services subsidiary, acts as broker for 7.2% of the global transactions on listed derivatives on the major markets for which Fimat is a member for the third quarter 2006. Société Générale Securities Services ranks among the European leaders in stock option management, serving nearly 480,000 beneficiaries.

Société Générale Securities Services employs more than 5,000 people\* and has a presence on more than 30 financial marketplaces across Europe, the Americas and Asia Pacific.

Société Générale Securities Services is part of Global Investment Management and Services (GIMS), one of the three key businesses of the Société Générale Group, which also includes asset management (Société Générale Asset Management), private banking (SG Private Banking) and on-line brokerage (Boursorama). www.sg-securities-services.com

\* at end of September 2006