

# **Press release**

Paris, 13 October, 2004

## Société Générale ranked No.1 in *Global Custodian* Magazine Survey

SG Global Securities Services for Investors (SG GSSI) has been ranked number 1 global custodian in 2004 by the *Global Custodian* magazine annual survey. This survey, which was completed by the clients of the main banks active in the securities industry (700 fund managers and institutional investors), compares thirteen providers.

Bruno Prigent, Head of Investors Securities Services, SG GSSI commented "Recognition among the industry leaders is a sign that our product offer is competitive. We see this ranking as further encouragement and on behalf of the teams, I would like to thank our clients for their confidence".

Alain Closier, Global Head of Securities Services for Investors, SG GSSI added "Société Générale has always been a strong player in the securities industry. The creation of SG GSSI earlier this year underlines the Société Générale Group's commitment to offering clients securities services with high addedvalue".

SG GSSI combines brokerage, custody, trustee, fund and portfolio administration and other securities services for investors.

SG GSSI was ranked No.2 in 2003 in the *Global Custodian* magazine survey and No.1 for 2004 in the survey conducted by R&M Consultants' Global Custody survey.

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#### Société Générale Group

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 88,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services : Société Générale serves more than 15 million retail customers worldwide.

- Asset Management, Private Banking & Securities Services : Société Générale is one of the largest banks in the euro-zone in terms of assets under custody (more than USD 1350 billion) and under management (USD 300 billion, June 2004).

- Corporate & Investment Banking : SG CIB ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

Société Générale is included in the four major socially responsible investment indexes. www.socgen.com

### SG GSSI (Global Securities Services for Investors)

SG GSSI offers a full range of securities services in:

- Execution, clearing, delivery and settlement,
  - Custody, trustee, fund and portfolio administration,
  - Management of Employee Shareholder and Stock Option Plans

SG GSSI currently ranks 4th among securities custodians in Europe, and 10th worldwide with USD 1,350 billion in assets under custody. SG GSSI provides custodial & trustee services to 2,300 funds and its subsidiary, Euro-VL, undertakes the pricing for over 3,300 funds representing assets of USD 300 billion. Fimat Group, another GSSI subsidiary, acts as broker in nearly 7% of international listed derivatives transactions. SG GSSI ranks among the European leaders in stock option administration, serving more than 470,000 beneficiaries.

SG GSSI employs 3,500 people in 18 countries in Europe, the United States and Asia.

SG GSSI, alongside Asset Management and Private Banking is the 3rd business line within GIMS, the Global Investment Management and Services division of Société Générale.

www.sggssi.com