



PRESS RELEASE

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UNICREDITO ITALIANO SELLS ITS 50% STAKE IN FIDITALIA TO SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE

UniCredito Italiano and Société Générale, equal shareholders at 50% of Fidelity, announced the acquisition by joint agreement, on December 27th 2001, of UniCredito's stake in Fidelity by Société Générale.

Société Générale will become the only shareholder of Fidelity. The consumer credit company operates in Italy with approximately 6% market share (2.2 billion euros of loans outstanding) and employs 700 persons.

The acquisition of UniCredito's stake values Fidelity at 80 million euros for 100%.

Fidelity will continue to be headed by Jean-Yves Bruna, Chief Executive Officer since July 31st 2001.

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