

Press Release

London, 13 May 2003

SG Builds up Leveraged Finance Capabilities with three new appointments in London, Paris and Frankfurt

SG, the Corporate and Investment Banking arm of the Société Générale Group, is pleased to announce the appointments of Nick Corrigan in London, Carole Burlot in Paris and Marco Schunder in Frankfurt to reinforce its European leveraged finance franchise.

Nick Corrigan [30] is joining the UK Leveraged Finance team as Vice President. He will report to René de Laigue, Global Head of Leveraged and Acquisition Finance, also based in London.

Before SG, Nick worked at Scotiabank Europe as Associate Director of Acquisition and Leveraged Finance. Prior to this he worked in global risk management in Toronto and as an analyst in Corporate Banking. Nick started his career in 1996 at Mellon Bank where he was responsible for credit analysis on investment grade corporates.

Carole Burlot [31] has joined as Vice President in the Paris team, where she will report to Patrick Sandray, Head of Leveraged Finance for France. Carole started her career at SG 9 years ago: she acquired a strong banking background as a relationship manager, initially for SMEs and then for large corporates in France. Carole was most recently an Associate Banker within SG's European and Asian Corporate Group in New York.

Marco Schunder [31] is joining the German Leveraged Finance team in Frankfurt as an Associate. He will report to Claus Peter, Head of Leveraged Finance for Germany.

Before joining SG, Marco worked at ING BHF Bank for three years in credit risk management for specialised finance, with a particular emphasis on leveraged finance transactions.

SG's leveraged finance teams in London, Frankfurt, Madrid and Paris work hand in hand with sponsor coverage, advisory, equity capital market and other debt finance professionals to offer a value-generating platform to leading private equity sponsors active in Europe.

SG has recently arranged highly visible financings for Bain Capital (SigmaKalon) and LGV (Moliflor) in France; Capvest (Young's Bluecrest) Compass Partners (Eastern) and Bridgepoint (Alliance Medical) in the UK; as well as CVC (Colomer and Dorna) and 3i (Hitecsa) in Spain. All three recruitments will strengthen SG's capabilities to deliver debt finance arrangements to the private equity community across Europe.

Société Générale

Stéphanie CARSON-PARKER, Tel 33 1 42 14 95 77 COMM/PRS Tour Société Générale 92972 Paris - La Défense Cedex France Fax 33 1 42 14 28 98 Web: http://www.sg-ib.com

Société Anonyme au capital de EUR 537, 712, 831. 25 552 120 222 R.C.S. Paris

Note to editors:

Société Générale Group

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the eurozone. The Group employs more than 80,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking : Société Générale serves 14,5 million retail customers worldwide.
- Asset Management & Private Banking : Société Générale ranks third in the eurozone in terms of assets under management (EUR 270 billion in 2002).
- Corporate & Investment Banking : SG is the third largest bank in the eurozone based on net banking income.

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

SG

SG is the corporate and investment banking arm of the Société Générale Group. Present in over 50 countries and with expertise in capital markets, advisory and origination services, structured finance and commercial banking, SG builds innovative, integrated financial solutions for its corporate, institutional and public sector clients. www.sg-ib.com

Debt Finance

SG's Debt Finance division provides both issuers (corporates, financial institutions, sovereigns) and investors with a global, solution-driven approach to their debt finance or investment needs based on an integrated debt and treasury product offer including syndicated loans, bonds, securitisations, structured credits, specialised finance (project, export, asset, commodity, media & telecom, acquisition, and leveraged finance), together with interest rate, currency and commodity hedging and treasury operations. More than 2,000 people work in Debt Finance worldwide with an established presence in all the major financial centres around the world and expanding operations in European countries.

In 2002, SG accomplished its overall strategy to be a top ten player among euro capital and derivative market houses strengthening its position in key debt market segments (no.7 bookrunner in all bonds in euros, no. 7 bookrunner in securitisations, no.10 bookrunner in syndicated loan *source Thomson Financial*). SG also confirmed its leading edge in derivative products and its world leadership position in specialised finance.

Press contacts

Maria Brookes – Communication, Debt Finance – Tel: 331 42 13 68 99 Sandra Geslin – Communication, Debt Finance – Tel: 33 1 42 13 32 68