



GLOBAL BANKING
SERVICES

Press Release

Paris, Tuesday 2 September 2003

SG JOHANNESBURG LANDS CUSTODY DEAL FROM ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

SG Global Securities Services in Johannesburg (SG GSS) has won a USD 150 million custody deal to exclusively provide sub-custodial and securities services for South African securities to the global custody arm of Canada's largest financial institution, Royal Bank of Canada, operating under the global brand name RBC Financial Group (RBC). RBC provides global custody services through its specialized transaction management platform, RBC Global Services, and its Global Private Banking business.

"This is a remarkable accomplishment - it's the second major global custody win in 2003 for our South African operation. For RBC to have awarded this business to us justifies the hard work our Johannesburg team has done in upping their performance levels over the past few years," said Bruno Prigent, managing director of SG GSS in Paris. He added, "we are indeed privileged to have RBC Financial Group on board as one of our key clients, and look forward to a mutually rewarding relationship."

RBC is one of North America's leading diversified financial services companies and is among the world's 20 largest banks by market capitalization (as at May 31, 2003). In total, RBC serves more than 12 million personal, business and public sector clients worldwide from offices in more than 30 countries.

Rob Wright, managing director, RBC Global Services in London stated "Our priority when appointing a sub-custody provider and partner for our business is to find the sub-custodian that best fits our organisation. SG Global Securities Services was the right choice in the South African market". He further commented that "SG provides flexible reporting, a high level of corporate actions automation, operational effectiveness, depth of industry expertise, and a similar relationship management/client service partnership culture to our own."

As the only foreign custodial bank in South Africa, SG GSS provides services to leading international broker-dealers and global custodians, as well as prominent local stockbrokers and institutional investors. Their main financial and securities products include clearing and custody of all financial instruments and cash, corporate actions processing, income collection, proxy voting, cash management, investment administration, and securities lending and borrowing.

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Note to the Editor

Société Générale Group

Société Générale is one of the leading financial service groups in the Eurozone. The Group employs more than 80 000 people worldwide in three core businesses:

- Retail Banking: 14.7 million customers in France and abroad;
- Asset Management and Private Banking: the Group is the 3rd largest euro-zone bank by assets under management (EUR 270 billion at the end of 2002);
- Corporate and Investment Banking: SG is the 3rd largest player in the Eurozone by net banking income.

Société Générale is included in the worlds four major sustainable development indices.

www.socgen.com

SG Global Securities Services

Ranks eleventh worldwide with EUR 860 billion in assets under custody at the end of December 2002. It provides trustee and custody services for over 2000 funds and offers a range of internet tools, which allow clients to access their transactions directly. Its services are built on a vast sub-custodian network (67 countries) and include value added services including securities lending, collateral management, and tax reclamation.

www.sg-gss.com

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