

Press Release

Paris, 23 May 2006

OPTIMISATION OF THE STOCK-OPTION PLAN HEDGING POLICY

As part of its capital management policy, Société Générale has announced its decision to optimise the hedging of its two most recent stock-option plans, implemented in 2005 and 2006. Originally hedged using Société Générale shares, these will henceforth be hedged using call options on Société Générale shares, as permitted under AMF regulations.

In line with this new policy, on May 18th 2006, Société Générale purchased 5.5 million call options. Also on that date, it sold a total of 6.3 million Société Générale shares in blocks, outside the market (representing 1.4% of its share capital); these shares had previously been held to hedge the stock-option plans.

Date	Buy/Sell	Number of shares	Average weighted price (EUR)	Amount (EUR m)
May 18th 2006	Sell*	6,276,286	114.50	718.6

* Sale of blocks of shares outside the market

Date	Buy/Sell	Options/Term	Number of shares	Maturity	Market
May 18th 2006	Buy	Call options	3,995,907	January 12th 2012	OTC
May 18th 2006	Buy	Call options	1,536,149	January 17th 2013	OTC
Total			5,532,056		

As a result of these transactions, Société Générale now holds a total of 19.8 million of its own shares, both directly and indirectly (representing 4.7% of its share capital), not including shares held for trading activities.

The Group's share buyback policy is still intended to neutralise the dilutive impact of share issues reserved for employees (mainly for the Global Employee Share Ownership Plan) and to cover its commitments to deliver Société Générale shares to employees (notably under the restricted share plans).

PRESS RELATIONS
SOCIETE GENERALE

Stéphanie CARSON-PARKER
+33 (0)1 42 14 95 77
Laura SCHALK
+33 (0)1 42 14 52 86

Hélène AGABRIEL
+33 (0)1 42 14 97 13
Mireille MOURTADA
+33 (0)1 42 14 58 19

COMM/PRS
Tour Société Générale
92972 Paris La Défense cedex
France
Fax: +33 (0)1 42 14 28 98
www.socgen.com

SOCIETE GENERALE
A French corporation with share
capital of EUR 542,860,226,25
552 120 222 RCS PARIS

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 19,8 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 1,521 billion, March 2006) and under management (EUR 402 billion, March 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.

www.socgen.com