

## Press Release

Paris, 17 July 2006

### **Société Générale named “Bank of the Year” and “Best Bank in France” in *Euromoney* Awards for Excellence**

Société Générale has been named “Bank of the Year” by *Euromoney* magazine\* in its annual Awards for Excellence. Société Générale was also named “Best Bank in France” and “Best Debt House in France.” These prestigious awards recognize the remarkable growth and transformation achieved by Société Générale, which has doubled in size over the past 6 years while consistently delivering high profitability, operating efficiency and rigorous risk management.

According to *Euromoney*, “Société Générale has used its independence to its advantage, putting together a strategy that leverages the steady income from its French retail banking network to build newer, high-growth and high-return businesses in emerging Europe and investment banking.”

*Euromoney* commends the bank's choice “to concentrate on becoming a first-class operation in areas and businesses where its corporate and investment bank could make a difference, notably in equity derivatives, securitization and structured finance.”

Daniel Bouton, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, said “This ‘Bank of the Year’ award recognizes Société Générale’s success in creating value by capitalizing on growth opportunities in high-potential markets, and the excellence of our teams. Société Générale has become increasingly international, with close to half of our 103,000 staff working outside France, while retaining a strong corporate culture and tradition of innovation and entrepreneurialism in the 76 countries where we operate.”

Daniel Bouton continued, “We are equally pleased to be named ‘Best Bank in France’ and ‘Best Debt House in France’ in acknowledgement of our achievements in our French home market.”

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\* *Euromoney* is a leading monthly publication for the global banking, finance and capital markets. Its Awards for Excellence, now in their 15th year, recognise the best-performing financial institutions in every significant financial market and product sector, as well as the leading banks in well over 100 countries.

PRESS RELATIONS  
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SOCIETE GENERALE  
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capital of EUR 542,860,226,25  
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**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](http://www.socgen.com)