

## NEWS FLASH

Paris, 22 March 2012

### **SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE RECOGNISED AS "BANK READY FOR CORPORATE ACCESS" FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Société Générale has recently obtained the renewal, for the second straight year, of the "Bank Ready for Corporate Access" certification, granted by SWIFT\*. The certification is awarded to banks that fulfil a list of criteria with regard to providing banking services that use the SWIFT network. It also confirms that Société Générale's sales teams have received training in SWIFTNet, and that clients have been given documentation that provides them with easy access to information on the services being provided and on how those services are carried out. For companies seeking banking partners, this certification ensures that the bank will be able to work alongside them to reach their goals.



This recognition was granted to Société Générale for its Sogecash SWIFTNet solution, which is mainly used by companies that are very active internationally and that seek a single, standardised and highly-secure solution for exchanges with their bank that allows them to manage their cash and sales flows (payments and inflows) and to obtain bank statements.

Société Générale has offered the SWIFT channel for safely exchanging financial information, since 2004 and is positioned as one of the global leaders with 200 Corporate Groups who use the service.

In addition to cash management, the SWIFT platform also allows Société Générale clients to receive confirmation of market and securities transactions and, more recently, to digitize their trade finance transactions.

Société Générale has the opportunity to present these developments to the 600 corporate treasurers attending the Universwiftnet event, the annual "SWIFT for companies" conference, which is held on 22 March at the Palais Brongniart. Pascal Augé, Director of Global Transaction Banking at Société Générale, participates in the plenary conference at 10 a.m. entitled "The three moments of a modern banking relationship project", which is open to all companies conducting business internationally, regardless of their size or business.

To learn more about the Sogecash SWIFTNet solution, please visit [www.cashmanagement.societegenerale.fr](http://www.cashmanagement.societegenerale.fr)

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\* SWIFT is a member-owned cooperative that provides the communications platform, products and services to connect more than 10,000 financial institutions and corporations in 210 countries. SWIFT enables its users to exchange automated, standardised financial information securely and reliably, thereby lowering costs, reducing operational risk and eliminating operational inefficiencies. SWIFT also brings the financial community together to work collaboratively to shape market practice, define standards and debate issues of mutual interest.

### **Societe Generale**

Societe Generale is one of the largest European financial services groups. Based on a diversified universal banking model, the Group combines financial solidity with a strategy of sustainable growth, and aims to be the reference for relationship banking, recognised on its markets, close to clients, chosen for the quality and commitment of its teams.

Around 160,000 employees, based in 77 countries, accompany more than 33 million clients throughout the world on a daily basis. Societe Generale' teams offer advice and services to individual, corporate and institutional customers in three core businesses:

- Retail banking in France with the Societe Generale branch network, Credit du Nord and Boursorama
- International retail banking, with a presence in Central and Eastern Europe and Russia, in the Mediterranean basin, in Sub-Saharan Africa, in Asia and in the French Overseas Territories
- Corporate and investment banking with a global expertise in investment banking, financing and global markets.

Societe Generale is also a significant player in specialised financing and insurance, private banking, asset management and securities services.

Societe Generale is included in the main international socially-responsible investment indices: FTSE4Good, ASPI, DJSI World and DJSI Europe.

For more information, you can follow us on twitter @societegenerale or visit our website [www.societegenerale.com](http://www.societegenerale.com).

### **Global Transaction Banking**

Global Transaction Banking (GTB) integrates, within the Societe Generale Group, business activities such as cash management, correspondent banking, international trade finance, factoring and related currency services. These different competencies are offered to financial institutions and companies including multinational corporations as well as large- and medium-size companies that conduct business internationally.

Active in more than 50 countries across the globe, GTB teams offer bespoke and secure domestic and international solutions to optimise and manage daily financial transactions and sales operations.

The expertise of its teams is regularly recognised: in 2011, GTB was elected, for the 3rd consecutive year, "Best Eastern European Bank for Cash Management" in the "bank" and "cash management" category at the Innovation and Excellence Awards (TMI Magazine), #1 Trade Bank in France and 8th worldwide (Source: SWIFT), "Best customer service in Europe" (Euromoney FX 2011). In June 2011, CGA – Compagnie Générale d'Affacturage, a fully-owned Societe Generale subsidiary was elected 1st French factor in import-export activities (FCI ranking).