

## Press release

Paris, November 22, 2007

### **SGAM Alternative Investments strengthens Eastern Europe Private Equity team**

SGAM Alternative Investments (SGAM AI) announces the appointment of two partners within its Emerging Markets Private Equity team. The two new members join the seven-strong Eastern and Central European team which is currently investing the €156 million SGAM Eastern Europe Fund following its final closing in early 2007.

Vinarom Vilaihongs, based in SGAM AI's Paris office, joins SGAM AI as a partner and member of the investment committee for the SGAM Eastern Europe Fund. He was previously at Cobalt Capital in Paris. Vinarom brings over 9 years of private equity experience in the buy-out market, a sector that has seen rapid growth in Eastern Europe. His appointment reflects SGAM AI's commitment to develop its Eastern European buy-out capabilities as the region increasingly offers opportunities for these types of transactions in the mid-market.

Piotr Misztal joins SGAM AI's Warsaw office from Riverside Europe Partners, where he was a founding partner of the Warsaw office. Piotr brings wide experience as a private equity investor, and has worked extensively with portfolio companies post investment, a particular focus of the SGAM AI investment approach. Piotr's experience in buy-out and expansion capital transactions both in Poland and Europe adds to SGAM AI's existing capabilities in the Warsaw office. His mandate is to develop opportunities in Poland and throughout the Eastern European region. He is a member of the investment committee for the SGAM Eastern Europe Fund.

SGAM AI's Eastern Europe team targets mid-market buy-out and expansion capital transactions in the countries that have recently joined the European Union or are on a path to membership in the future. Operating from offices in Warsaw, Bucharest and Paris, the team pursues a regional strategy of investment in a variety of industries and sectors.

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Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 120,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services: Société Générale serves 27.6 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 (€2,585bn, Sept 2007) and under management (€450.1bn, Sept 2007).
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**Société Générale Asset Management** is one of the world's leading asset managers, with €375bn of assets under management as at 30 Sept 2007.

A subsidiary of the Société Générale Group, SGAM is a global player with a balanced and robust business model based on:

- its multi-center structure: 2,910 employees, including 722 managers and analysts, are located at the heart of the markets in Europe, in the United States and in Asia;
- a business that covers all asset classes: equities, fixed income, balanced, and alternative investment where SGAM is among the leaders with €68.5bn in assets under management;
- access to all types of investors: institutions, distributors, corporates and individuals, all of whom benefit from SGAM's leading edge expertise and a local service.

Thanks to cross-selling, a focus on quality and constant innovation, SGAM has developed value-added management solutions tailored to clients' specific needs and which optimize performance and risk control.

SGAM is rated M2 by Fitch Ratings, thus retaining since 2000 the top rating awarded to an asset management company for the whole of its international structure. For investors, this rating is a guarantee of the professionalism of SGAM's teams and the quality of its international organization.

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**SGAM Alternative Investments** (SGAM AI) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Societe Generale Asset Management. SGAM Alternative Investments has developed successfully by combining active asset management processes with a capital market culture that mixes innovation and risk management. With €56.1bn in assets under management as at 30 Sept 2007, 387 employees worldwide and the strategic and financial backing of Société Générale Group, SGAM Alternative Investments has become one of the leading global specialists in alternative investments. SGAM Group as a whole (SGAM AI, TCW and BAREP) manages €68.5bn in alternative investments assets as at 30 Sept 2007.

SGAM AI launched its Private Equity platform in 1999 and now offers a comprehensive range of funds: New Technologies and Biotech venture capital, expansion capital, LBO and fund of funds, investing in Europe and Emerging countries. As at 30 Sept 2007, SGAM Alternative Investments had €1.8bn under management in private equity.

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