

## Press Release

Paris, February 12, 2007

### **Société Générale Consumer Finance expands its pleasure boat financing activity in the United States**

Société Générale Consumer Finance, via CGI Group, announces the acquisition of 100% of **Scott Financial Services\***, a broker specialised in pleasure boat financing in the United States.

**Scott Financial Services**, headquartered in Baltimore (Maryland), is one of the top four boat financing specialists in the United States. With 20 years of experience and branches across the nation, **Scott Financial Services** enjoys a very solid reputation on the market.

This acquisition will allow CGI Group, Europe's leading pleasure boat financing company\*\*, to gain a foothold in the world's largest pleasure boat market. In 2005, there were over 861,000 new boat sales in the US, with boat loans totalling more than USD 6 billion.

By acquiring **Scott Financial Services**, CGI Group will now be able to offer not only boat financing solutions to individual buyers, but also inventory solutions to boat resellers in Europe and the United States.

This transaction is evidence of Société Générale's determination to be a major player in pleasure boat financing. The acquisition of **Scott Financial Services** will boost CGI Group's loan volume by 60% on the boat financing segment.

Hervé Bonnet, a specialist in Société Générale's US expansion projects, will be appointed Chief Executive Officer of **Scott Financial Services**, whose name will remain unchanged. William Scott, the company's founder, will assist Hervé Bonnet in his duties.

Through this acquisition, Société Générale Consumer Finance will expand its consumer credit activities in the United States and provide financing solutions in 21 countries.

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\*[www.scottloans.com](http://www.scottloans.com)

\*\* Via CGMer and SGB Finance (a subsidiary shared with Bénéteau).

### **Société Générale**

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 more than 21 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 2 155 billion, September 2006) and under management (EUR 411 billion, September 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)

### **Société Générale Consumer Finance**

Société Générale Consumer Finance manages the international consumer finance activities of the Group. It employs more than 11,000 persons, manages subsidiaries in 21 countries and around EUR 21 bn outstanding.

It provides financing solutions to individuals through various distribution channels :

- Point of sale financing
- Financing in car dealerships
- Direct financing

Société Générale Consumer Finance regularly ranks among the main players on the local markets where it operates : in France, Italy, Germany, Morocco, and Russia for example.

### **CGI**

Created in 1951, CGI Group, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Société Générale, specialises in financing solutions for automobiles, motorcycles, boats and recreational vehicles. It is also one of France's leading personal loan restructuring companies.

With 700 employees, spread across 29 different locations in France, Europe and recently the United States, and over 200,000 clients, le CGI is today's leading boat financing specialist in Europe.