

Paris, 18 October 2006

Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking launches the Private Equity Index (PRIVEX) with Dow Jones Indexes / STOXX

Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking and Dow Jones Indexes / STOXX Ltd. have partnered to create a private equity index. The Private Equity Index (PRIVEX) provides investors with access to the upside of diversified private equity performance combined with daily liquidity.

PRIVEX tracks the performance of globally listed private equity stocks and is composed of the 25 largest and most liquid stocks of private equity companies listed on the world's stock exchanges. Dow Jones Indexes is responsible for the selection of the index components, the index calculation, the ongoing maintenance and the index dissemination.

Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking is responsible for offering investors exposure to PRIVEX through various capital protected investments and listed certificates. The first certificate indexed to PRIVEX was launched on 12 October in Frankfurt (Smart Trading) and Stuttgart (EUWAX).

Private equity historically provides strong returns over the long term. Traditional (unlisted) private equity funds have liquidity and minimum investment constraints while listed private equity stocks are more liquid, accessible and permit better risk management.

PRIVEX is the next step in private equity investing and represents an important portfolio diversification tool with low correlation to traditional assets. PRIVEX offers investors access to a homogenous benchmark reflecting the whole private equity universe. As private equity investments cover a large array of activities (venture capital, development capital, LBO) sectors and regions (Europe, Asia, USA), risk is thus diversified to a basket of securities.

Commenting on the launch of the index, Arnaud Sarfati, Head of Equity Linked Structured Products for Société Générale Corporate and Investment Banking said, "PRIVEX is innovative in that it provides transparent exposure to private equity with no entry / exit constraints and no minimum investment amounts, unlike traditional unlisted private equity."

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A French corporation with share
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Lars Hamich, managing director of STOXX Ltd., confirms, "The introduction of the PRIVEX index is the newest addition to the successful pool of indexes already developed jointly by Société Générale and Dow Jones Indexes/STOXX. It proves the increasing demand for specialised indexes which guarantee independence and transparency for investors and follow the proven standards of our own index family."

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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 20 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 1,516 billion, June 2006) and under management (EUR 397.2 billion, June 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

Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking

Present in over 45 countries across Europe, the Americas and Asia, Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking is a reference bank specialising in:

- Euro capital markets. A top ten player in debt and equity segments (bonds, securitisations, syndicated loans, equity-linked and equity issues).
- Derivatives. Among the world leaders in equity derivatives and in many interest rate, credit, foreign exchange and commodities derivatives.
- Structured finance. A worldwide leader in export, project and structured commodity finance.

Combining innovation and quality of execution, Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking provides corporates, financial institutions and investors with value-added integrated financial solutions.

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