



Investor Information

Vienna, October 1st, 2002

Erste Bank Shares Commence Trading on Prague Stock Exchange

The trading in shares of Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG at the Prague Stock Exchange starts today. The Erste Bank share is the first foreign share to be traded on the PSE and carries the ISIN AT0000652011 (identical in Austria and in the Czech Republic). The timing for the launch was chosen in conjunction with the requirements of the issuer, the Stock Exchange as well as trading participants (Exchange members).

"The Czech Republic is a crucial market for Erste Bank. It is thus highly logical that Erste Bank wanted its shares to be traded on the PSE. This is without doubt an historic moment for Erste Bank, for the PSE and for local investors. The Erste Bank share offers a combination of stability and growth potential," said Andreas Treichl, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO of Erste Bank, on the occasion of the listing.

"The listing of Erste Bank marks the opening of a new era for the Prague Stock Exchange and we are convinced that the listing will bring new energy to the capital market in the Czech Republic, said Dusan Baran, Chairman of the Prague Stock Exchange and CFO of Erste Bank subsidiary Česká spořitelna. Mr. Baran added that he hopes that the listing of Erste Bank will attract further investors and companies to follow the example of Erste Bank.

The Erste Bank share will be included in the PSE's PX 50 and PX-D indices as of October 2nd, 2002. In the PX 50 index, the liquid index for the 50 most important Czech companies, Erste Bank will have a weighting of 20% (the maximum for the index). In the PX-D index, for blue chip companies, the weighting is expected to be around 33%.

The shares traded in Prague will be fully fungible with the Austrian shares, but will be traded in Czech crowns.

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