



INVESTOR INFORMATION

Vienna, 19th September 2003

ERSTE BANK INCREASES STAKE IN SLOVENSKÁ SPORITELNA TO 70.01%

Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG announced today that it has increased its stake in Slovenská sporitelna from 67.19% to 70.01%. Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG has acquired the 2.82% stake on Bratislava Stock Exchange in Bratislava. The price paid was SKK 3 250 per share, equating to a total of SKK 584.6m (approx. EUR 14.1m). This corresponds to a price/book multiple of 1.66. The transaction was completed this afternoon.

The remaining shares in Slovenská sporitelna are held by the EBRD (19.99%) and the Slovak Ministry of Finance (10.0%).

Please direct any enquiries to:

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