



## Erste Bank boosts dividend to EUR 0.65 per share

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**31.05.2007**

The Annual General Meeting of Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG has approved a dividend for fiscal 2006 in the amount of EUR 0.65 per share. This is almost 20 per cent higher than the dividend EUR 0.55 paid for fiscal 2005. Payment date for the dividend (coupon number 19) is 6 June 2007.

The mandates of Supervisory Board Members Josef Kassler, Heinz Kessler and Lars-Olof Ödlund ended on 31 May 2007. Josef Kassler and Lars-Olof Ödlund were no longer available for another term as members of the Supervisory Board. At the Annual General Meeting, bank managers with international experience were appointed to the Supervisory Board. The new members are John James Stack, who stepped down from his position as CEO of Erste Bank subsidiary Česká spořitelna at the end of May and Brian D. O'Neill.

Mr. O'Neill retired on 30 April of this year, at the age of 54. Prior to this, he was deputy chairman for Investment Banking at JPMorgan. During his 30-year career, he was active in the fields of Corporate Banking and Investment Banking, with a focus on the regions Latin America and South America.

John James Stack began his career as a banker in 1977 with Chemical Group, which was merged with Chase Manhattan in 1996. He became CEO of Česká spořitelna in 2000.

The Annual General Meeting also extended the mandate of Heinz Kessler, who has been chairman of the Supervisory Board since September 2003.

The Annual General Meeting also approved an amendment of the statutes, which increases the maximum number of Management Board members from the previous eight to nine members.

The other items on the agenda were approved by an overwhelming majority of the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting.