

Erste Group wins Investor Relations Award 2011

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On 30 June, the winners of the annual Investor Relations Awards were announced in London. The IR team of Erste Group won the award for the best investor relations of all Austrian companies.

The Investor Relations Magazine Europe confers an annual award to IR teams for outstanding investor communications work. The IR awards are conferred in 60 categories, including investor relations for public offerings, corporate governance and transparency, and corporate social responsibility. Surveys and interviews with 731 analysts from 21 countries provide the information required for determining the winners of each category

"We are proud to have received this award for our work," stated Thomas Sommerauer, Head of Group Investor Relations at Erste Group very pleased. *"The award is shows that we actually do achieve the standards we have set ourselves as goal. Transparent and competent communications with our investors are given highest priority,"* explained Mr. Sommerauer who has headed the IR team of Erste Group since the beginning of this year.

Erste Group adopted the Austrian Code of Corporate Governance in 2003 that requires transparency toward investors. The confidence of investors in listed companies is important for the general trust placed in the economy. Transparent information and publications play a key role in the confidence-building process with investors. The primary goal of Erste Group will continue to be to give investors the best possible insights into the company's processes.