Credit Suisse announces the purchase of Fortis Bank Nederland’s Prime Fund Solutions business

Credit Suisse has entered into an agreement to purchase from Fortis Bank Nederland its Prime Fund Solutions business (“PFS”), a global leader in hedge fund administration services. The acquisition enhances Credit Suisse’s offering to the alternative investment community through PFS’ leading services, which include independent administrative services, investor services, net asset value calculation, banking, custody and financing solutions.

“Credit Suisse and PFS will work together to provide hedge fund managers and their investors best-in-class solutions, and to address the growing demand for asset transparency, consolidated client reporting and improved operating standards for administrators. PFS is a strong fit with Credit Suisse’s client-focused, capital-efficient strategy and further strengthens our Investment Bank’s leading equities franchise by creating a more complete solution for our hedge fund clients,” said Philip Vasan, Head of Prime Services at Credit Suisse. Credit Suisse currently provides a wide range of services to hedge funds and institutional clients, including prime brokerage, start-up services, capital introductions, securities lending, synthetics and innovative financing solutions.

PFS has been a leading service provider to the alternative investment industry for over 40 years and currently services single-manager and fund of hedge funds from centers in Dublin, the Cayman Islands, Hong Kong and several other global locations.

Jan van Rutte, Vice-Chairman of Fortis Bank Nederland, said: “We believe Credit Suisse’s leading brand and global reach, together with PFS’ industry-leading service proposition, will further enhance service to clients of PFS and Credit Suisse and propel the business globally.”
The closing of the transaction is subject to regulatory approvals and other customary conditions. Upon closing, the purchase of PFS is expected to have a de minimis impact on Credit Suisse’s goodwill and regulatory capital.

Credit Suisse AG
Credit Suisse AG is one of the world’s leading financial services providers and is part of the Credit Suisse group of companies (referred to here as ‘Credit Suisse’). As an integrated bank, Credit Suisse offers clients its combined expertise in the areas of private banking, investment banking and asset management. Credit Suisse provides advisory services, comprehensive solutions and innovative products to companies, institutional clients and high-net-worth private clients globally, as well as to retail clients in Switzerland.

Credit Suisse is headquartered in Zurich and operates in over 50 countries worldwide. The group employs approximately 48,300 people. The registered shares (CSGN) of Credit Suisse’s parent company, Credit Suisse Group AG, are listed in Switzerland and, in the form of American Depositary Shares (CS), in New York. Further information about Credit Suisse can be found at www.credit-suisse.com.

Investment Banking
In its Investment Banking business, Credit Suisse offers securities products and financial advisory services to users and suppliers of capital around the world. Operating in 57 locations across 30 countries, Credit Suisse is active across the full spectrum of financial services products including debt and equity underwriting, sales and trading, mergers and acquisitions, investment research, and correspondent and prime brokerage services.

Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking information
This press release contains statements that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act. In addition, in the future we, and others on our behalf, may make statements that constitute forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements may include, without limitation, statements relating to the following:
– our plans, objectives or goals;
– our future economic performance or prospects;
– the potential effect on our future performance of certain contingencies; and
– assumptions underlying any such statements.

Words such as “believes,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “intends” and “plans” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. We do not intend to update these forward-looking statements except as may be required by applicable securities laws. By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, and risks exist that predictions, forecasts, projections and other outcomes described or implied in forward-looking statements will not be achieved. We caution you that a number of important factors could cause results to differ materially from the plans, objectives, expectations, estimates and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements. These factors include:
– the ability to maintain sufficient liquidity and access capital markets;
– market and interest rate fluctuations;
– the strength of the global economy in general and the strength of the economies of the countries in which we conduct our operations, in particular the risk of a continued US or global economic downturn in 2010 and beyond;
– the direct and indirect impacts of continuing deterioration of subprime and other real estate markets;
– further adverse rating actions by credit rating agencies in respect of structured credit products or other credit-related exposures or of monoline insurers;
– the ability of counterparties to meet their obligations to us;
– the effects of, and changes in, fiscal, monetary, trade and tax policies, and currency fluctuations;
– the ability to increase market share and control expenses;
– political and social developments, including war, civil unrest or terrorist activity;
– the possibility of foreign exchange controls, expropriation, nationalization or confiscation of assets in countries in which we conduct our operations;
– the ability to retain and recruit qualified personnel;
– our success at managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

We caution you that the foregoing list of important factors is not exclusive. When evaluating forward-looking statements, you should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other uncertainties and events, as well as the information set forth in our Annual Report 2009 under IX – Additional information – Risk Factors.

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