

GLOBAL FINANCE

GLOBAL FINANCE names the Safest Banks In Western Europe: April 2012

NEW YORK, March 1, 2012 — *Global Finance* magazine (GFmag.com) has named the top 10 “Safest Banks in Western Europe: April 2012” in an exclusive survey to be published in the April 2012 issue. The banks were selected through a comparison of the long-term credit ratings and total assets of the largest banks. Ratings from Moody’s, Standard & Poor’s and Fitch were used.

The full report covers the safest banks in Western Europe, Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, the Middle East, North America, Latin America and Australasia. “More than ever, customers around the world are viewing long-term creditworthiness as the key feature of the banks with which they do business,” says Joseph D. Giarraputo, publisher of *Global Finance*. “These banks have solid capital positions and superior risk management capabilities.”

Safest Banks In Western Europe: April 2012

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|------|---|--|-----|---|
| 1. | KfW
(Germany) | Tie* | 6. | Nederlandse Waterschapsbank
(Netherlands) |
| 2. | Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten (BNG)
(Netherlands) | | 7. | Banque et Caisse d’Épargne de l’État
(Luxembourg) |
| 3. | Zürcher Kantonalbank
(Switzerland) | | 8. | Rabobank Group
(Netherlands) |
| 4. | Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank
(Germany) | | 9. | NRW.Bank
(Germany) |
| 5. | Caisse des Dépôts Consignations (CDC)
(France) | | 10. | HSBC
(United Kingdom) |
| Tie* | 6. | Landeskreditbank Baden-Württemberg–Förderbank (L-Bank)
(Germany) | | |

*A tie is assigned when two banks with the same score have total assets within a \$5 billion range.

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The reach of *Global Finance*

Global Finance, founded in 1987, has a circulation of 50,050 and readers in 163 countries. Its circulation is audited by BPA. *Global Finance's* audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers and other senior financial officers responsible for making investment and strategic decisions at multinational companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 international portfolio investors responsible for more than 80% of all global assets under professional management. Its website — GFmag.com — offers analysis and articles that are the heritage of 25 years of experience in international financial markets, and provides a valuable source of data on 192 countries. Headquartered in New York, with offices in London and Milan.

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