



Global Finance Names the 2009 World's Best Internet Banks in Central & Eastern Europe

NEW YORK, July 21, 2009 — *Global Finance* has announced the First Round winners in the “World’s Best Internet Banks” competition in Central & Eastern Europe. This is the 10th year *Global Finance* has named the World’s Best Internet Banks. Details on all First Round winners will be published in the September issue. First Round winners include Best Corporate/Institutional Internet Banks and Best Consumer Internet Banks at the country level. The Regional and Global winners for these categories will be announced at an Awards Ceremony in New York City in November and published in the December issue of *Global Finance*. Also announced were Regional winners in Sub-Categories. Global winners in the Sub-Categories will also be announced at the Awards Ceremony and in the December issue. The list of First Round winners follows.

Winners were chosen among entries evaluated by a world-class judging panel. *Global Finance* editors were responsible for the final selection of winners in the First Round.

Only banks that entered the competition were considered for awards, and awards were only given in those regions, countries and categories in which there were entries.

Winning banks were selected based on the following criteria: strength of strategy for attracting and servicing online customers, success in getting clients to use web offerings, growth of online customers, breadth of product offerings, evidence of tangible benefits gained from Internet initiatives, and web site design and functionality. Category winners, such as “best online cash management” were selected based on the relative strength and success of those web products and services.

“In less than a decade, the Internet has transformed the way many consumers and most businesses bank,” says Joseph D. Giarraputo, publisher of Global Finance. “The continuing improvements in Internet offerings represented by this year’s entries show that more significant Internet banking developments are still ahead of us.”

See following for full listing of the World’s Best Internet Banks First Round winners for 2009 in Central & Eastern Europe:



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Country Winners:

Best Consumer Internet Banks:

Czech Republic: HSBC
Estonia – Swedbank
Hungary – Budapest Bank Nyrt
Latvia: SEB banka
Lithuania – SEB bankas
Poland – Bank Millennium
Romania – Garantibank Romania
Russia – ZAO Raiffeisenbank
Slovakia – Tatra Banka

Best Corporate/Institutional Internet Banks:

Bulgaria – Citi
Czech Republic – Citi
Hungary – Citi
Lithuania – SEB bankas
Poland – Bank Pekao
Romania – Citi
Russia – Citi

Slovakia – Citi

Ukraine – Citi

Regional Sub-Category Winners:

Best Consumer Internet Banks:

Best Bill Payment & Presentment –
Swedbank
Best Website Design – Swedbank
Best Integrated Consumer Bank Site –
Swedbank
Best Information Security – SEB banka

Best Corporate/Institutional Internet Banks:

Best Online Cash Management – Citi
Best Trade Finance – Citi
Best Web Site Design – Citi
Best Integrated Corporate Bank Site –
BRE Bank
Best Information Security Initiatives – Citi

Global Finance, which celebrates its 22nd year of publishing in 2009, has 50,000 subscribers and more than 180,000 readers in over 158 countries. This audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers, and other financial officers responsible for making investments and strategic business decisions for large global companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 key portfolio investors who control over 80% of all assets under professional management.

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