



PRESS RELEASE

GLOBAL FINANCE names the World's 50 Safest Banks 2009

New York, February 25, 2009 — Such has been the turmoil in the world's banking industry that, for the first time, *Global Finance* magazine is publishing a mid-year update of its much-respected Safest Banks listing. A full report on the list will appear in the April issue of *Global Finance*.

The "World's 50 Safest Banks" 2009 were selected through a comparison of the long-term credit ratings and total assets of the 500 largest banks around the world. Ratings from Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch were used.

Global Finance has published its "World's Safest Banks" listing for 17 years and this ranking has become a recognized and trusted standard of creditworthiness for the entire financial world.

"The rating agencies have determined these banks have demonstrated a more prudent and sustainable approach to risk than their peers," says *Global Finance* publisher Joseph D. Giarraputo. "More than ever customers all around the world are viewing long term creditworthiness as the key feature of the banks with which they do business."

Please see next page for World's 50 Safest Bank Rankings

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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GLOBAL FINANCE WORLD'S 50 SAFEST BANKS

- KfW**
(Germany)
- Caisse des Depots et Consignations (CDC)**
(France)
- Bank Nederlands Gemeenten (BNG)**
(Netherlands)
- Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank**
(Germany)
- Rabobank**
(Netherlands)
- Landeskreditbank Baden-Wuerttemberg-Foerderbank**
(Germany)
- NRW. Bank**
(Germany)
- BNP Paribas**
(France)
- Banco Santander**
(Spain)
- Royal Bank of Canada**
(Canada)
- National Australia Bank**
(Australia)
- Commonwealth Bank of Australia**
(Australia)
- Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA)**
(Spain)
- Toronto-Dominion Bank**
(Canada)
- Australia & New Zealand Banking Group**
(Australia)
- Westpac Banking Corporation**
(Australia)
- Banco Espanol de Credito S.A. (Banesto)**
(Spain)
- ASB Bank Limited**
(New Zealand)
- HSBC**
(United Kingdom)
- Credit Agricole**
(France)
- Wells Fargo**
(United States)
- Nordea Bank**
(Sweden)
- Scotiabank**
(Canada)
- La Caixa**
(Spain)
- Svenska Handelsbanken**
(Sweden)
- US Bancorp**
(United States)
- Banco Popular Espanol**
(Spain)
- DBS Bank**
(Singapore)
- Pohjola Bank**
(Finland)
- Deutsche Bank**
(Germany)
- Société Générale**
(France)
- Intesa Sanpaolo**
(Italy)
- Bank of Montreal**
(Canada)
- DnB NOR Bank**
(Norway)
- The Bank of New York Mellon**
(United States)
- Caixa Geral de Depositos**
(Portugal)
- United Overseas Bank**
(Singapore)
- OCBC**
(Singapore)
- Axa Bank Europe**
(Belgium)
- Credit Suisse Group**
(Switzerland)
- Landesbank Baden-Wuerttemberg**
(Germany)
- Nationwide Building Society**
(United Kingdom)
- CIBC**
(Canada)
- National Bank Of Kuwait**
(Kuwait)
- Barclays**
(United Kingdom)
- UBS**
(Switzerland)
- JPMorgan Chase**
(United States)
- Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ**
(Japan)
- Banque Federative du Credit Mutuel (BFCM)**
(France)
- Credit Industriel et Commercial (CIC)**
(France)