

Press Release

Budapest, 22. July 2005.

Erste Bank Hungary is opening new branches

Budapest, 22nd July 2005 – Erste Bank Hungary has recently opened a new branch office in Budapest, in József körút 86. and on July 25th the bank is opening its newest office of its branch network in Monor (near to Budapest). The bank plans to open 20 more branches in and around the capital city this year.

Tátrai Bernadett, head of retail division, explained: in the intensifying market competition next to the growing importance of electronic services the branch network still plays an important role. Therefore Erste Bank Hungary plans to increase the number of its branch offices from the current 143 to 160 by the end of the year. Next to the new branches the bank is about to open so called CreditCentres in several shopping centres. (such as Batthyány Square Vásárcsarnok, Duna Plaza). These „mini branches” with 3-4 employees would deal exclusively with consulting, credit services and would offer other services in connection with these.

The head of retail division had the following comments: they will offer special bonus in the new branches and longer opening hours in branches located in shopping centres for the clients. For example at the opening of a bank account there is no account keeping fee and there is no direct debit fee for 6 months and at the issuing of a bankcard (Electron/Cirrus) the card fee of the first year is cancelled. For 6 month term deposits above 1 million Forints a +0.5% interest rate extra is given to customer

For further information please call:

Linda Szabó – spokesperson Erste Bank Hungary Rt.
1075. Budapest, Rumbach S. u. 19-21.

Tel: (+36-1) 268-4347 Mobil: (+36) 20-468-8782 Fax: (+36-1) 268-4085

e-mail: linda.szabo@erstebank.hu

www.erstebank.hu