

PRESS RELEASE

Budapest, 31st May, 2007

Erste Bank offers Simple Loan

No valuation, notarial deed and handling fee

Budapest, 31st March, 2007 – Erste Bank Hungary has introduced a new freely used mortgage, the Erste Egyszerű Hitel [Simple Loan]. The loan is offered with substantially lower fees and charges, and little paperwork, which allows clients to raise funds quicker. When applying for an Erste Simple Loan no handling fees are charged, there is no need for valuation and the loan need not be countersigned by a notary. Furthermore, the bank will acquire two copies of property sheet on behalf of the client for no charge.

Erste Bank retail division head Imre Sztanó said the Erste Simple Loan has been developed for clients looking for a loan to finance spending which they do not, or cannot finance from a dedicated loan. The loan can be used to finance home renovation or modernisation projects, weddings, children's tuition abroad, or even vehicle purchases. The Erste Simple Loan can be used to redeem existing loans provided by financial institutions registered in Hungary, or provided by any financial institution or business and refinanced by a Hungarian bank.

Mr Sztanó said the Erste Simple Loan was far cheaper than other loans, and required far less paperwork, as no valuation was necessary, and the contracts did not have to be countersigned by a notary. There is no fee for acquiring two copies of property sheet on behalf of clients, and no handling fees are charged, Mr Sztanó said. The bank also waives half of the disbursement commission for clients who receive their wages on an account managed by Erste Bank, and have at least two standing order arrangements with the bank.

The minimum loan amount is HUF 500,000, or the equivalent Swiss franc or euro-denominated sum. The maximum loan is HUF 4m, or the equivalent in Swiss francs or euros, whether the loan is based on income or collateral. The loan amount cannot exceed 50 per cent of the value of the property insurance. The loan runs for a minimum one year, and a maximum 20 years.

Mr Sztanó said the bank will accept as collateral any unburdened, freehold properties of a minimum 28m² located in cities, towns or communities approved by the bank. The properties must be completed, and must be covered by property insurance in the six months prior to application.

Further information:

Adrienn Illés – Communication specialist
Erste Bank Hungary Nyrt.
1138 Budapest, Népfürdő u. 24-26.
Tel: (06 1) 268 4371 Mobile: (+36) 20 468 8709
Fax: (06 1) 268 4085
e-mail: adrienn.illes@erstebank.hu

Linda Szabó – Spokesperson
Erste Bank Hungary Nyrt.
1138 Budapest, Népfürdő u. 24-26.
Tel: (06 1) 268 4347 Mobile: (+36) 20 468 8782
Fax: (06 1) 268 4085
e-mail: linda.szabo@erstebank.hu