

## PRESS RELEASE

Budapest, 4 November 2008

### Erste Bank raises deposit rates

Budapest, 4 November 2008 – Matching a recent change in the Hungarian prime rate, Erste Bank Hungary has modified the interest rate conditions of deposit products, effective from 3 November 2008. According to the decision of the financial institution, standard deposits with terms of 3, 6, and 12 months are paying an annual rate of 10 per cent (AER: 10.14 per cent) irrespective of amount ranges for sums up to HUF 30 million deposited. In the scope of special-offer deposits, the interest rate of KamatBiztos Betét [Secure Interest Deposit], a revolving savings design with the yield added to the principal amount, has been raised to 13.5 per cent annually (AER: 14.41 per cent) when external funds are deposited for three months, and the interest of Nagy Dobás Betét [Great Deal Deposit] has been increased to 11 or 11.5 per cent (AER: 11.47 to 12.00 per cent, respectively), subject to terms and conditions.

Imre Sztanó, Managing Board member of Erste Bank Hungary in charge of retail division, says the unexpected 300-basis-point prime rate hike executed by the National Bank of Hungary on 22 October has made it necessary to modify deposit rate conditions. It remains a top priority for Erste Bank to retain its lead in the banking race for retail funds, therefore particularly attractive interest rates have been defined for some of its products.

Imre Sztanó highlights the Erste KamatBiztos Betét [Erste Secure Interest Deposit], a revolving savings design with the yield added to the principal amount, which debuted on 13 October and has been serving as a pool to receive external funds. The raised interest rate of the deposit product is now 13.5 per cent annually (AER: 14.41 per cent) in the first interest term. One of the conditions of this product prescribes that the entire amount to be deposited shall be originated from sources outside Erste Bank, which means it could not have been managed either by Erste Bank Hungary Nyrt. or Erste Befektetési Zrt. [Erste Investments Hungary], either in a sight account, or fixed in a deposit or invested otherwise prior to 31 August 2008. The minimum amount to be fixed is HUF 100,000 and the upper cap is HUF 25 million.

An annual interest of 11.5 per cent (AER: 12.12 per cent) can be achieved without having to deposit any external funds in the four-month Erste BetétMester [Erste Deposit Master] design, provided the conditions for credit card usage and automatic debits are met.

Imre Sztanó underlines another significant modification. In the case of standard deposits with 3, 6 and 12 month terms, a standard 10-percent interest rate is applied (AER: 10.14 per cent) with no amount ranges defined.

#### Additional information:

**Ms. Adrienn Illés** – Communication Specialist  
Erste Bank Hungary Nyrt.  
1138 Budapest, Népfürdő u. 24-26.  
Phone: (06 1) 268 4371 Mobile: (+36) 20 468 8709  
Fax: (06 1) 373 2705  
E-mail: [adrienn.illes@erstebank.hu](mailto:adrienn.illes@erstebank.hu)

**Ms. Emese Danks** – Communication Director  
Erste Bank Hungary Nyrt.  
1138 Budapest, Népfürdő u. 24-26.  
Phone: (06 1) 268 4347 Mobile: (+36) 30 499 6358  
Fax: (06 1) 373 2705  
E-mail: [emese.danks@erstebank.hu](mailto:emese.danks@erstebank.hu)