

Erste Bank's first 500 ATMs

Zagreb/Rijeka, October 26, 2009 – Erste & Steiermärkische Bank d.d. has installed and put into function its 500th ATM in Croatia, namely at Zagreb's Pleso Airport. Thus the expansion of the Bank's ATM network throughout Croatia continued. Over the past year, the number of installed ATMs has gone up by approximately 15 percent, while another dozen should be put up by the end of the year. The Bank has been systematically putting up ATMs while making sure at the same time that all geographic regions in Croatia are covered. With a close to 15-percent stake in the overall number of ATMs in Croatia, Erste Bank ranks amongst the top of the Croatian banking system in terms of its own ATMs. The largest number of ATMs has been put up in Primorsko-Goranska County (126), the city of Zagreb and Zagreb County (99) and in Istria County (59).

“Erste Bank's first 500 ATMs in Croatia are merely yet another way for us to show our desire and care to offer our services to our clients anytime and anywhere, in a manner suited to them. Therefore, thanks to the 500th ATM, i.e. the one at Zagreb's Pleso Airport, our clients will now be able to withdraw cash, check their balance, change their PIN code and buy GSM top-up vouchers when they take a plane somewhere or return, and they can be sure that Erste Bank is always close by to meet their financial needs. In the header, we used the term “the first 500” because we do not intend to stop here, because our clients are always our priority”, pointed out the director of the Erste Bank's Distribution Channel Management Department, **Igor Strejček**

In the first nine months of this year, the overall number of financial transactions in HRK carried out via ATMs amounted to close to 40 percent in the retail segment compared to other distribution channels. The services Erste Bank offers clients at its ATMs include cash withdrawals, deposits, information about current account balances and the option to change PIN codes, while in terms of non-banking services, clients can purchase top-up vouchers for their mobile phones on ATMs.

A total of 9,811,193 transactions were carried out on Erste Bank ATMs in this nine-month period. In the first nine months of this year, a 6.23-percent increase in transaction volume was marked in relation to the same time period last year, while the number of transactions went up by 4.31 percent. Out of the overall number of transactions carried out on Erste Bank ATMs, 21 percent were carried out by people holding cards that were issued by other banks. On average, around 95 percent of transactions are carried out via debit cards, the remainder via credit cards.

It is worth pointing out that Erste Bank clients in Croatia can use the ATMs of banks that are part of Erste Group Bank in Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Serbia and Montenegro without additional fees. Clients of banks that are part of Erste Group Bank from Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Serbia and Montenegro can also use all Erste Bank ATMs in Croatia without additional charges.

The first ATM on the territory of the Republic of Croatia was installed on Rijeka's Jadranski Trg 3a in May 1984, i.e. where Erste & Steiermärkische Bank's headquarters are located today.

For additional information:

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