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Erste banka opens its branch office in Petrinja

Petrinja, June 8, 2010 – Erste&Steiermärkische Bank d.d. (Erste banka) has opened a new branch office in Petrinja, located at Turkulinova 33. This is 125th business unit of Erste banka in Croatia. The branch office employs six people and it offers its clients all types of financial services in retail banking, from the opening of current accounts, to savings, loans, credit cards, financial consulting as well as a wide range of Erste Group products. Despite challenging market conditions, Erste banka continues to extend its business across Croatia.

The branch office has a surface area of almost 118 square meters and one of the three bank counters is adapted for the disabled. Here, special additions have been installed in order to make the bank's services more accessible to the disabled clients.

The bank has installed special equipment, such as height-adjustable desk and special audio system adapted for the hearing-impaired (microphone + frequency suitable for the hearing aid range). The branch office has ground-level access which makes it more convenient for all categories of citizens. Furthermore, inside the office there is tactile paving which directs the movements of the blind and visually impaired.

In the first three months, by the end of August, the new branch office will offer special benefit to its new clients which include the following cases when a client:

- 1) opens a current account and directs his/her regular income to the account – the client will receive a bank card and a PIN code free of charge and will be able to use an alternative distribution channel of his/her own choice (Erste NetBanking, Erste mBanking or Erste Fon) in the first six month.
- 2) takes out a loan – all clients or those who become clients will pay 50% lower one-off loan processing fee for any Erste banka loan.
- 3) signs up for a new credit card of his/her choice (Diners, Visa, MasterCard) - the credit card will be issued free of charge and without a registration and membership fee for the first year.

“I am certain that the residents of Petrinja and the surrounding area will acknowledge Erste banka as their reliable partner in the same way that citizens across Croatia have recognized and accepted the products and high-quality services of Erste banka. Residents of Petrinja, Glina, Hrvatska Kostajnica and Topusko will no longer be forced to use the branch office in Sisak, instead, they will be able to conduct their business at our branch office. I am confident that we will prove worthy of the confidence of all our clients”, pointed out the Head of the new branch office, Darko Bjelica, on the occasion.

The opening hours of the new Erste banka branch office in Petrinja are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., except on Wednesdays, when the bank opens between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and on Saturdays between 8 a.m. and noon. At the new branch office, clients will be able to use an ATM and a day-and-night safety deposit vault 24/7.

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