



**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

Fortis Bank Global Clearing NV to use Atrium Network's 'Exchange Ring' to connect to exchanges and MTFs

London, 2nd December 2009 - Atrium Network, provider of smarter connectivity for the financial community, today announced that Fortis Bank Global Clearing NV one of the world leaders in global clearing will use Atrium Network's 'Exchange Ring' for ultra low latency connectivity to multiple MTFs including CHI-X and NASDAQ OMX.

In the current landscape of market fragmentation, participant firms trading on MTFs require the lowest possible latency. Each of the MTFs has chosen various data centre locations at which to locate their matching engines. As such, participants may have committed significant capital investment to ensure engine co-location at every venue. If US experience is any guide, the European market may anticipate a number of changes: mergers and acquisitions, new entrants and potential closure of existing entrants. In response to this changing landscape, Atrium Network launched its 'Exchange Ring', an interconnectivity fabric designed to mitigate the risk of any unnecessary co-location investment and ensuring lowest possible latency access to all available trading venues.

Commenting on the announcement, Emmanuel Carjat, CEO of Atrium Network said, "At Atrium Network we are continually innovating to anticipate market developments and are delighted to see Fortis Bank Global Clearing take advantage of Exchange Ring's low latency connectivity. In times of economic uncertainty and market volatility, the pressure to minimise risk and capitalise on the trading opportunities presented by these new MTFs is greater than ever. Exchange Ring's ultra low latency offers firms seeking a competitive advantage over other firms relying on older connectivity technology."

Neil Singleton, Global Head of Market Access Architecture of Fortis Bank Global Clearing, added, "Having compared the market offerings, we are pleased to be connecting to Atrium Network for access to multiple MTFs including CHI-X and NASDAQ OMX. Achieving the lowest possible latency is a key priority and we believe Atrium Network's innovative approach will help us achieve this and we look forward to having a single point of connectivity to the other venues available on the Exchange Ring."

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Notes to Editors:

About Atrium Network

Atrium Network™ provides smarter connectivity solutions for the financial community.

Atrium Network offers client and industry connectivity via its extranet services (a single point of access to exchanges, MTFs, ECNs, clearing houses, CSDs, brokers and market data providers), as well as corporate technology (internet and intranet solutions). With a focus on reducing complexity and improving operational excellence, Atrium Network provides a range of innovative access options and the ability to self-provision.

Atrium Network is the market leader in providing an ultra low latency connectivity solution to multiple trading venues. Their 'Exchange Ring' offers a fabric of dark fibre connectivity to each of the main liquidity venues and is designed to mitigate the risk of any unnecessary co-location investment and ensure lowest possible latency access to all available trading venues.

Atrium Network currently has a presence in Europe, North America and South America. Atrium Network is headquartered in Luxembourg with offices in London, New York and Paris. For more information, please view Atrium Network's website at www.atriumnetwork.com.

About Fortis Bank Global Clearing NV

Fortis Bank Global Clearing NV is part of Fortis Bank Nederland a financial services provider that offers a broad range of products and services to individuals, businesses and institutions in the Netherlands and abroad. Fortis Bank Nederland's main activities are retail banking, private banking, commercial banking and merchant banking.

Fortis Bank Global Clearing NV ranks amongst the world leaders in global clearing, covering 60+ equities, derivatives, commodities and energy exchanges in the world. Fortis Bank Global Clearing NV administers financial and non-financial, exchange-traded and OTC derivative products and offer settlement services for cash securities and derivatives.

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