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# INVESTOR INFORMATION

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## Annual General Meeting: Erste Bank increases dividend to EUR 0.55 per share

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The Annual General Meeting of Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG, held in the "Austria-Center" in Vienna today, has decided on a dividend at the amount of EUR 0.55 per share for the previous financial year 2005. This represents an increase of 10 percent on the dividend paid out for the financial year 2004.

As from 24 May, 2006, the shares of Erste Bank will be quoted ex dividend. At the same time, the new shares from the capital increase in January 2006 (ISIN AT 0000506217), which had not carried dividend rights for the financial year 2005, will be combined with the shares listed on the Vienna and Prague stock exchanges (ISIN AT 0000 652011).

The payment date for the 2005 dividend (coupon number 18) will be 26 May, 2006.

At today's Annual General Meeting, Ms. Gabriela Zuna-Kratky, head of the "Technisches Museum" in Vienna, was elected to the Supervisory Board of Erste Bank. She succeeds to Mr. Werner Hutschinsky, who retired as member of the Supervisory Board having reached the age limit for board membership.

The reports of the Management Board and of the Supervisory Board were adopted by the shareholders by a large majority, as were the other (routine) items on the agenda.



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This release is also available on our website at <http://www.erstebank.com/IR> in the Download Centre.

APPENDIX 3B

New issue announcement,  
application for quotation of additional securities and agreement

Information or documents not available now must be given to ASX as soon as available. Information and documents given to ASX become ASX's property and may be made public.

Name of entity

SANTOS LTD

ABN

80 007 550 923

We (the entity) give ASX the following information.

Part 1 – All issues

NOT APPLICABLE

1 Class of securities issued or to be issued

Fully paid ordinary shares.

2 Number of securities issued or to be issued (if known) or maximum number which may be issued.

5,850

3 Principal terms of the securities (eg, if options, exercise price and expiry date; if partly paid securities, the amount outstanding and due dates for payment; if convertible securities, the conversion price and dates for conversion)

Consistent with all other ordinary shares on issue, except that the shares are subject to further restrictions on dealing.

4 Do the securities rank equally in all respects from the date of allotment with an existing class of quoted securities?

Yes.

If the additional securities do not rank equally, please state:

- the date from which they do
- the extent to which they participate for the next dividend, (in the case of a trust, distribution) or interest payment
- the extent to which they do not rank equally, other than in relation to the next dividend, distribution or interest payment

5 Issue price or consideration

Nil per share.

6 Purpose of the issue  
(If issued as consideration for the acquisition of assets, clearly identify those assets)

Issue of shares on the vesting of Share Acquisition Rights (SARs) granted pursuant to the Santos Employee Share Purchase Plan.

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7	Dates of entering securities into uncertificated holdings or despatch of certificates	18 May 2006	
8	Number and class of all securities quoted on ASX (including the securities in clause 2 if applicable)	595,766,311	Fully paid ordinary shares.
		6,000,000	Franked Unsecured Equity Listed Securities (FUELS).
9	Number and class of all securities not quoted on ASX (including the securities in clause 2 if applicable)	<b>Number</b>	<b>Class</b>
			Fully paid ordinary shares issued pursuant to the Santos Employee Share Purchase Plan:
		49,800	(i) held by eligible employees; and
		102,153	(ii) held by Sesap Pty Ltd as trustee for the benefit of eligible executives.
		46,500	Executive share plan '0' shares of 25 cents each paid to 1 cent.
		41,500	Executive share plan '2' shares of 25 cents each paid to 1 cent.
		610,800	Share Acquisition Rights issued pursuant to the Santos Employee Share Purchase Plan.
		2,048,428	Executive options issued pursuant to the Santos Executive Share Option Plan.
		8,650	Fully paid ordinary shares issued pursuant to the vesting of SARs
10	Dividend policy (in the case of a trust, distribution policy) on the increased capital (interests)	Rank equally with existing fully paid ordinary shares.	

**Part 2 – Bonus issue or pro rata issue *NOT APPLICABLE***

11	Is security holder approval required?	
12	Is the issue renounceable or non-renounceable?	
13	Ratio in which the securities will be offered	

New issue announcement,  
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- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 14 | Class of securities to which the offer relates  |  |
| 15 | Record date to determine entitlements   |  |
| 16 | Will holdings on different registers (or subregisters) be aggregated for calculating entitlements?  |  |
| 17 | Policy for deciding entitlements in relation to fractions   |  |
| 18 | Names of countries in which the entity has security holders who will not be sent new issue documents  |  |
| 19 | Closing date for receipt of acceptances or renunciations  |  |
| 20 | Names of any underwriters   |  |
| 21 | Amount of any underwriting fee or commission  |  |
| 22 | Names of any brokers to the issue   |  |
| 23 | Fee or commission payable to the broker to the issue  |  |
| 24 | Amount of any handling fee payable to brokers who lodge acceptances or renunciations on behalf of security holders  |  |
| 25 | If the issue is contingent on security holders' approval, the date of the meeting   |  |
| 26 | Date entitlement and acceptance form and prospectus or Product Disclosure Statement will be sent to persons entitled  |  |
| 27 | If the entity has issued options, and the terms entitle option holders to participate on exercise, the date on which notices will be sent to option holders |  |
| 28 | Date rights trading will begin (if applicable)  |  |

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- 29 Date rights trading will end (if applicable)
- 30 How do security holders sell their entitlements *in full* through a broker?
- 31 How do security holders sell *part* of their entitlements through a broker and accept for the balance?
- 32 How do security holders dispose of their entitlements (except by sale through a broker)?
- 33 Despatch date

### Part 3 – Quotation of securities

*You need only complete this section if you are applying for quotation of securities*

34 Type of securities  
(tick one)

(a)  Securities described in Part 1

(b)  All other securities

Example: restricted securities at the end of the escrowed period, partly paid securities that become fully paid, employee incentive share securities when restriction ends, securities issued on expiry or conversion of convertible securities.

### Entities that have ticked box 34(a)

#### Additional securities forming a new class of securities

*Tick to indicate you are providing the information or documents*

- 35  If the securities are equity securities, the names of the 20 largest holders of the additional securities, and the number and percentage of additional securities held by those holders
- 36  If the securities are equity securities, a distribution schedule of the additional securities setting out the number of holders in the categories
- 1 – 1,000
  - 1,001 – 5,000
  - 5,001 – 10,000
  - 10,001 – 100,000
  - 100,001 – and over
- 37  A copy of any trust deed for the additional securities

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Entities that have ticked box 34(b)

38 Number of securities for which quotation is sought

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39 Class of securities for which quotation is sought

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40 Do the securities rank equally in all respects from the date of allotment with an existing class of quoted securities?

If the additional securities do not rank equally, please state:

- the date from which they do
- the extent to which they participate for the next dividend, (in the case of a trust, distribution) or interest payment
- the extent to which they do not rank equally, other than in relation to the next dividend, distribution, or interest payment

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41 Reason for request for quotation now

Example: In the case of restricted securities, end of restriction period

(if issued upon conversion of another security, clearly identify that other security)

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42 Number and class of all securities quoted on ASX (including the securities in clause 38)

Number	Class

43 Number and class of all securities not quoted on ASX

Number	Class

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Quotation Agreement

1. Quotation of our additional securities is in ASX's absolute discretion. ASX may quote the securities on any conditions it decides.
2. We warrant the following to ASX.
  - The issue of the securities to be quoted complies with the law and is not for an illegal purpose.
  - There is no reason why those securities should not be granted quotation.
  - An offer of the securities for sale within 12 months after their issue will not require disclosure under section 707(3) or section 1012C(6) of the Corporations Act.
  - Section 724 or section 1016E of the Corporations Act does not apply to any applications received by us in relation to any securities to be quoted and that no-one has any right to return any securities to be quoted under section 737, 738 or 1016F of the Corporations Act at the time that we request that the securities be quoted.
  - We warrant that if confirmation is required under section 1017F of the Corporations Act in relation to the securities to be quoted, it has been provided at the time that we request that the securities be quoted.
  - If we are a trust, we warrant that no person has the right to return the securities to be quoted under Section 1019B of the Corporations Act at the time that we request that the securities be quoted.
3. We will indemnify ASX to the fullest extent permitted by law in respect of any claim, action or expense arising from or connected with any breach of the warranties in this agreement.
4. We give ASX the information and documents required by this form. If any information or document not available now, will give it to ASX before quotation of the securities begins. We acknowledge that ASX is relying on the information and documents. We warrant that they are (will be) true and complete.

Sign here:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
18 May 2006

Print name:

JOHN CHARLES ELLICE-FLINT