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3 London Wall Buildings
London Wall
London EC2M 5SY
Tel +44 (0)20 7638 9571
Fax +44 (0)20 7628 3444

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OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL
CORPORATE FINANCE

To Paul Dudek
Chief Officer of International Corporate Finance
International Corporate Finance Division

Company SEC Headquarters

Fax 001 202 772 9207

From Lucie Holloway

Return fax +44 20 7282 2811

Reference **Erste Bank, Commission file no. 82-5066**
"Rule 12g3-2 promulgated under the Securities Exchange
Act 1934, paragraph (b)(1)(i)"

Date 29/08/06

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Citigate
Dewe Rogerson

SUPPL

Please find attached a recent press releases from Erste Bank.
Kind regards,

Lucie Holloway
Citigate Dewe Rogerson

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INVESTOR INFORMATION

Vienna, 29 August 2006

Vienna Insurance Group and Erste Bank will not participate in the bidding process for BAWAG

WIENER STÄDTISCHE Versicherung AG (Vienna Insurance Group) and Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG announce that they will definitely not be placing a bid during the current process for the sale of trade union bank BAWAG.

After examining the available sales documents in detail, both companies have come to a joint decision not to participate in the bidding process. This decision was made because the specified sales terms put Austrian banks and insurance companies at a disadvantage vis-à-vis foreign bidders.

For more information, please contact:

Erste Bank, Investor Relations

Graben 21, 1010 Vienna, Austria, Fax: ++43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 13112

Gabriele Werzer, Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 11286, E-mail: gabriele.werzer@erstebank.at

Thomas Sommerauer, Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 17326, E-mail: thomas.sommerauer@erstebank.at

Josef Kerekes, Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 16878, E-mail: josef.kerekes@erstebank.at

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