

MEDIA RELEASE

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SIS x-clear to provide clearing services for SWX Swiss Block

Zurich – August 4th, 2008 – SIS x-clear AG, the Central Counterparty (CCP) and licensed Swiss bank, has extended its services to provide clearing for SWX Swiss Block, the non-displayed liquidity service from SWX Europe.

SWX Europe, the London-based securities exchange owned by SWX Swiss Exchange, is due to launch SWX Swiss Block, a non-displayed liquidity service for Swiss blue-chip equities, in early August.

Complementing SWX Europe's existing public limit order book, SWX Swiss Block will help market participants execute wholesale business anonymously and in bulk with reduced market impact. SIS x-clear already serves as the CCP for SWX Europe and SWX Swiss Exchange.

Marco Strimer, CEO of SIS x-clear AG, commented:

"In an increasingly competitive market the demand for alternative execution venues is rising steadily. As a user-owned, user-governed organisation we develop the services our clients want us to and are seeing huge interest in this burgeoning arena. Clients executing trades through the new SWX Swiss Block service will be able to clear and settle as they would through our traditional channels, with the benefit of post-trade anonymity and robust risk management naturally provided by our services."

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SIS x-clear AG is part of Swiss Financial Market Services AG. The company acts as the Central Counterparty for SWX Europe Limited and SWX Swiss Exchange and is in charge of risk management within the Securities Services



division. SIS x-clear is licensed as a bank under Swiss law and enjoys the status of a Recognised Overseas Clearing House in the United Kingdom. SIS x-clear offers efficient and cost-effective Central Counterparty and clearing services in the field of securities settlement.

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