

Media release

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SIX to provide new Swiss money market for SNB and financial institutions

Since 2 May 2014 SIX operates the new Swiss money market trading platform. The Swiss National Bank (SNB) uses the SIX trading platform to execute all monetary policy transactions and to auction Confederation bonds and registered money market claims. The trading platform represents a key contribution to the stability and efficiency of the Swiss financial system.

Repurchase agreements are a collateralized lending instrument. Repo transactions are a valuable tool that allow financial institutions and the SNB to manage liquidity and money supply. The SNB has decided to execute all monetary policy transactions using the SIX trading platform from May 2014. The transactions were previously executed on the Eurex platform. Trading, securities settlement and payment processing will now be available in 13 different currencies on the fully integrated one-stop solution. The SIX trading platform is available to all Swiss and European financial institutions that wish to take part in public market transactions and use existing SNB facilities.

SIX will extend the platform and processing infrastructure in the next development phase. New functionalities and additional market segments are scheduled to be rolled out in autumn 2015. There are also plans to enhance the collateral management features. As a Swiss financial market infrastructure operator, SIX is contributing to the stability of the Swiss financial center and its ability to withstand crises.

Dr Urs Rüegsegger, Group CEO SIX: "We are proud to be operating the central Swiss money market trading platform used by the financial institutions and the SNB. As part of the Swiss value chain, the SIX money market trading platform constitutes state-of-the-art technology that will help to maintain the Swiss financial system's competitive edge."

If you have any further questions, please contact Dr Alain Bichsel, Head Media Relations.

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Repurchase agreements

Repurchase agreements are a collateralized lending instrument that involve selling and subsequently repurchasing securities. When the transaction is executed, the seller agrees to repurchase the securities from the borrower on a specific date at the same price. An interest rate is agreed for the lending transaction, known as the repo rate. The term of repurchase agreement can be anything from one day to several months.

SIX

SIX operates Switzerland's financial market infrastructure and offers on a global scale comprehensive services in the areas of securities trading, clearing and settlement, as well as financial information and payment transactions. The company is owned by its users (approximately 140 banks of various size and orientation) and, with its workforce of more than 3,700 employees and presence in 24 countries, generated an operating income of 1.58 billion Swiss francs and a Group net profit of CHF 210.2 million in 2013.

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