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New launch of VSMI® index currently calculated by Banca del Gottardo

Lugano (ots) -

Banca del Gottardo has been calculating and publishing the VSMI® volatility index since 8 January 2003. This index has allowed investors to follow market volatility in real time. In addition, volatility certificates have been issued, making implied volatility available to a wide circle of investors as an additional investment category. These investments have covered an obvious need among investors.

In a joint initiative of Deutsche Börse AG, STOXX Ltd. and SWX Swiss Exchange, which owns the rights to the brand VSMI(r), Deutsche Börse AG will take over the calculation of VSMI® starting 20 April 2005 together with the introduction of additional volatility indices. A new method for calculating the index will be used, which will make it difficult to compare the figures with the current index numbers.

Banca del Gottardo will continue to calculate the VSMI® volatility index using the current method until Tuesday, 3 May 2005. On this date the outstanding volatility certificate VSMID will expire.

Banca del Gottardo, with headquarters in Lugano, has a well-established network of national and international offices.

With subsidiaries, branches and representative offices in Zurich, Geneva, Lausanne, Bellinzona, Chiasso, Locarno, Bergamo, Milan, Rome, Treviso, Turin, Athens, Luxembourg, Madrid, Monaco, Paris, Hong Kong and Nassau (Bahamas), Banca del Gottardo is positioned to offer top-of-the-line global financial services, delivered by a team of highly qualified specialists, to its local and international clientele.

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Media Release

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