

Press release

New Chief Executive Officer for Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA

Geneva, 16 November 2011 / Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer, Hervé Catala, along with several other new senior management appointments.

The appointment of Hervé Catala signals a new stage in the Bank's development

Hervé Catala has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA. The appointment, based on Mr Catala's acknowledged expertise in the banking and financial sector, gained over many years, will be a strong asset in developing the strategy and image of a solid, sustainable international bank. Mr Catala takes over from Christophe Gancel, recently named Head of the Private Banking business line of Crédit Agricole SA in Paris. The decision was approved by the Bank's Board of Directors on 10 November 2011.

Before joining Crédit Agricole Suisse, Mr Catala was Chief Executive Officer of Banque de Gestion Privée Indosuez (BGPI). He began his career at Banque Indosuez in Paris in 1980 where, after a year in the Legal Affairs and Equity Holdings department of Compagnie Financière de Suez, he joined the Central Risk Management division. In 1982 he moved to the Large Corporates division as an account adviser. This was followed by his appointment as Director of the Nancy branch (1987) and then Regional Director in Lille (1990), before moving on to Lyon as Regional Director for Rhône-Alpes. In 1994 he was promoted to Banque Indosuez's head office in Paris to serve as Director of French Regions. In 1999 he was named Director and Chief Executive Officer of Crédit Foncier de Monaco.

Born in 1956, Hervé Catala holds a Master's degree in public law from the University of Sophia Antipolis in Nice.

Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA also announces the following appointments, aimed at furthering its strategic development in Switzerland and around the world:

- Aline Kleinfercher, Head of Human Resources
- Elvio Gasparin, Head of Swiss Branches and the Eastern Europe area
- Thomas Wittlin, Head of the Zurich Branch
- Serge Janowski, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Branch

Aline Kleinfercher, Head of Human Resources

Aline Kleinfercher has been appointed Head of Human Resources and a member of senior management, effective 1 September 2011. Her main duties are to make human resources a strategic partner within the Bank, optimise the culture of excellence to help employees achieve their top level of performance, and recruit and develop talent in Switzerland and internationally. She takes over from Michel Terrapon, who has retired after 11 years as head of Human Resources.

After heading up the Recruitment & Strategic HR Projects department for Pictet & Cie, Ms Kleinfercher served as Regional Human Resources Director for UBS for the French-speaking Switzerland region from 2008 to the present. Prior to this, she held a variety of posts in the legal affairs and compliance departments of Lombard Odier & Cie and Deutsche Bank (Suisse) SA for 10 years.

Born in 1968, Aline Kleinfercher has a bilingual Master's degree in law from the University of Fribourg and is a qualified as lawyer.

Crédit Agricole Suisse CEO Hervé Catala said: "Her experience in human resources in the banking sector and her entrepreneurial spirit will be very useful to us as we accelerate our development and optimise our processes with a view to recruiting new talent".

Elvio Gasparin, Head of a division encompassing branches in Switzerland (Zurich, Basel and Lugano) and the Eastern Europe area

Elvio Gasparin has been appointed Head of Swiss branches and the Eastern Europe area, effective 1 August 2011. Mr Gasparin is taking on expanded responsibilities in order to optimise the organisation and development of the private banking business in Switzerland. His remit is to manage strategic development and operational coordination of the activities carried out by the Swiss branches and in the Eastern Europe area.

Head of the Zurich branch since 2005, Mr Gasparin has worked in the banking industry for 25 years, eight of them at Crédit Agricole Suisse in Zurich, which he joined in 2003. He began his career in 1986 at Peat Marwick Mitchell (now KPMG) in Zurich, where he specialised in banking audit. In 1988 he joined Banque Leu in Zurich as Head of institutional clients and correspondent banks. In 1991 he became Corporate Secretary of IntesaBci Bank (Suisse), which was bought by Crédit Agricole Suisse in 2003.

Born in 1961, Elvio Gasparin was awarded a Bachelor's degree in economics from HEC Saint-Gall with a major in Finance and Accounting; he also holds a degree from the Swiss Banking School.

Commenting, Youssef Dib, Head of Private Banking at Crédit Agricole Suisse, said: "Elvio Gasparin's extensive experience in wealth management and his professional skills will be great assets as he works to meet his challenges, in collaboration with the teams at the Swiss branches,"

Thomas Wittlin, Head of the Zurich branch

Thomas Wittlin has been appointed Head of the Zurich branch, effective 1 August 2011. His remit is to continue developing the Bank's activities in Zurich, focusing on two principal growth markets: Eastern Europe and Latin America. He takes over from Elvio Gasparin.

Mr Wittlin has extensive experience in banking. He first joined the Crédit Agricole Group in 2007 and has headed the Independent Wealth Manager business at Crédit Agricole Suisse since late 2008. Previous experience includes, Deputy Director of Banque Sarasin Europe S.A. in Luxembourg from 2004 until its acquisition by Crédit Agricole Luxembourg. He also previously served as CEO for Luxembourg and then Managing Director in Geneva of Banque Ferrier Lullin (now Julius Baer).

Born in 1957 Thomas Wittlin graduated from HEC Lausanne and went on to earn a degree from the Swiss Banking School and an Executive MBA in General Management.

Commenting, Elvio Gasparin, Head of Swiss Branches and the Eastern Europe area, noted: "We are very pleased to be benefiting from the professional skills of Thomas Wittlin in Zurich. This will enable us to continue optimising the activities of that branch, principally in the rapidly growing regions of Eastern Europe and Latin America".

Serge Janowski, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong branch

Serge Janowski has been appointed Chief Executive of the Hong Kong branch, effective 14 September 2011. He takes over from Georges Zecchin, Chief Executive of Crédit Agricole Suisse in Asia, who held the position in the interim.

Mr Janowski has 20 years' experience in the financial sector, more specifically in private banking. His broad international experience includes Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. Throughout his career, he has served in a variety of strategic positions and has always put special emphasis on improving results.

Commenting, Georges Zecchin, Chief Executive of Crédit Agricole Suisse in Asia, said: "The arrival of Serge Janowski, who has built up vast experience in the field of private banking, is essential to our development in Hong Kong".

Born in 1965 Serge Janowski has a Master's degree in finance from the University of Lyon III.

About Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA

Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA, a subsidiary of Crédit Agricole CIB, is active in private banking, capital markets, transactional commodity finance and banking logistics. Headquartered in Geneva and supported by the Group's financial strength and extensive international network, Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA is one of the top five foreign banks in Switzerland in terms of assets under management, total assets and shareholders' equity. With over 1,400 employees, the Bank has four branches in Switzerland – Basel, Lausanne, Lugano and Zurich – and numerous international business locations, including Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Beirut, Doha, Dubai, Hong Kong, Montevideo, Singapore and Tel Aviv. Further information is available on www.ca-suisse.com.

Media contacts:

Crédit Agricole Suisse

Marie Dangles Tel: +41 58 321 62 11 / marie.dangles@ca-suisse.com
Seraina Christen Tel: +41 58 321 95 97 / seraina.christen@ca-suisse.com

Blossom Press Agency

Laurence De Cecco Tel: +41 22 344 79 02 / laurence.dececco@blossom-com.ch