



## **Erfolgreicher Abschluss der größten belgischen PPP-Finanzierung für das 841 Mio. EUR Projekt „Liefkenshoek Rail Tunnel“ in Antwerpen**

München - Am 5. November 2008 haben die Banken Banco Santander, S.A., N.V. Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten (BNG), BayernLB, ING Bank, European Investment Bank, Fortis Bank SA/NV, Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking und Locorail erfolgreich die Verträge für die 714 Mio. EUR Finanzierung des „Liefkenshoek Rail Tunnel“ Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projektes in Antwerpen unterzeichnet.

Das Locorail Konsortium setzt sich aus den drei führenden Marktteilnehmern des europäischen PPP Marktes Vinci Concessions Grands Projets (France), CFE (Belgium) und Koninklijke BAM (The Netherlands) zusammen.

Der Auftrag wurde von Infrabel, dem staatlichen Unternehmen für das Management der Eisenbahn-Infrastruktur in Belgien, vergeben. Dieses Projekt ist das bislang größte unterzeichnete PPP-Projekt in Belgien.

Der zwischen Infrabel und Locorail abgeschlossene DBFM-Vertrag für das „Liefkenshoek Rail Tunnel Projekt“ umfasst das Design, die Konstruktion, die Finanzierung und den Betrieb einer neuen Bahnstrecke für den Frachtverkehr im Hafen von Antwerpen.

Die Gesamtlänge der neuen Teilstrecke wird inklusive einem 6 km langen Tunnel unter dem Fluss Schelde und dem Hafen von Antwerpen 16,2 km betragen. Der DBFM-Vertrag läuft über 42,2 Jahre und beinhaltet 4,2 Jahre Bauzeit sowie den darauf folgenden 38 Jahre dauernden Betrieb.

Die 6 kommerziellen Banken wurden als Mandated Lead Arranger und Hedge Provider von Locorail mandatiert. Fortis Bank SA/NV wurde auch als Facility Agent, Sicherheitentreuhänder, Intercreditor Agent, Account Bank und Technical Bank mandatiert. BayernLB ist Insurance Bank. Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking übernimmt das Financial Modeling, ist Hedge Koordinator und Market Hedge Provider. ING Bank und N.V. Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten (BNG) sind Documentation Banks.

Folgende Berater unterstützen die Transaktion:

- Für das Konsortium :
  - Legal Advisor : Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
  - Financial Advisor : ING Bank
  - Tax and Accounting : Tiberghien and Mazars
- Für die Kreditgeber:
  - Legal Advisor : Clifford Chance

- Technical Advisor : Mott McDonald
- Insurance Advisor : AON

**Banco Santander, S.A.** (SAN.MC, STD.N), headquartered in Madrid, engages primarily in commercial banking with complementary activities in global wholesale banking, cards, asset management and insurance. Santander had over EUR 1.079 trillion in funds under management at Sept. 30, 2008, from more than 65 million customers served through 11,685 offices – more branches than any other international bank. Founded in 1857, Santander is the largest financial group in Spain and Latin America and has a significant presence in Western Europe and in the United Kingdom, through its Abbey subsidiary. In the first nine months of 2008, Santander registered €6,935 million in attributable net profit, an increase of 16% from 2007, excluding capital gains.

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**N.V. Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten (BNG)** is the bank of and for local authorities and public sector institutions. BNG's mission is to help to minimise the cost to the public of social provisions. Half of the bank's share capital is held by the State of the Netherlands, the other half being held by municipal authorities, provincial authorities and a water board. The shares are not listed. BNG's clients are comprised of local authorities, housing, healthcare and educational institutions and public utilities. BNG provides customised financial services ranging from loans and funds transfers to consultancy, electronic banking and investments. BNG also participates in projects within the framework of public-private partnerships.

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### **BayernLB**

BayernLB is the central institution of Bavarian savings banks and the principal bank to the Free State of Bavaria and serves state and local governments, financial institutions, medium and large companies and real estate customers. With more than EUR 415 billion in total assets, BayernLB is one of the largest banks in Germany. Operating in close association with the 75 Bavarian savings banks and the other partners of Sparkassen-Finanzgruppe Bayern it is the market leader in Bavaria. BayernLB focuses on its core market of Bavaria and bordering regions, and operates its own entities and representative offices in selected international financial centres, such as London, Luxembourg, Milan, Paris, Montreal, New York, Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Tokyo. This network is supplemented by numerous partnerships with well-known, leading banks in their home markets. Its outposts in Eastern Europe are MKB Bank and Hypo Group Alpe Adria. The market development within the Group is supported by national and international subsidiaries. The Deutsche Kreditbank AG, Berlin, acts as an internet based, multifunctional bank that is very successful in the direct banking segment. BayernLB is jointly owned by the Free State of Bavaria and the Association of Bavarian Savings Banks, each with a 50 percent stake.

[www.bayernlb.de](http://www.bayernlb.de)

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### **European Investment Bank (EIB)**

The European Investment Bank is the long-term finance arm of the European Union and is wholly-owned by the EU's 27 member states. It uses its triple-A credit rating to raise funds on capital markets for on-lending to projects that support or reflect EU policies and objectives. The EIB signed loans in Belgium worth EUR 928 million in 2007, bringing total lending in the country in the past five years to EUR 3.5 billion.

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**Fortis Bank SA/NV**

Fortis Bank SA/NV provides a total package of banking services to personal, business and institutional customers through its own high-performance channels and via partners. We have developed a European footprint in the retail banking market, operating through a variety of distribution channels. We offer financial services to companies, institutional clients and high net worth individuals and provide integrated solutions to the enterprise and the entrepreneur. Finally, we successfully combine our skills through bancassurance in Belgium, in partnership with Fortis Insurance Belgium. Fortis Bank has a presence in 50 countries and a dedicated, professional workforce of more than 50,000.

As a result of the international financial crisis, Fortis Bank SA/NV has been acquired by the Belgian State and will be acquired by BNP Paribas subsequently. By joining forces with BNP Paribas, one of Europe's leading financial groups with a stable and financially healthy organisation, we will create a strong combination for our customers.

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**ING Profile**

ING Wholesale Banking is one of the six business lines of ING Group and is responsible for providing financial products and services to corporate and institutional clients across Europe, the Americas and Asia. We are a truly international team of more than 18,000 banking professionals with local knowledge and a presence in 40 countries. We provide tailored banking solutions in areas including structured finance, corporate finance, leasing, commercial finance, equity markets and debt capital markets in addition to the basic banking services of lending, payments & cash management and treasury.

ING Group is a global financial institution of Dutch origin offering banking, investments, life insurance and retirement services to over 85 million private, corporate and institutional clients in more than 50 countries. With a diverse workforce of about 130,000 people, ING is dedicated to setting the standard in helping our clients manage their financial future.

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**Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking**

A leading player present in over 45 countries across Europe, the Americas and Asia-Pacific, Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking is the bank of reference for:

- Euro capital markets. A top 5 player across euro debt capital markets (bonds, securitisation, loans), and a leader in French Equity Capital Markets with European reach.
- Derivatives. A world leader in equity derivatives, and with forefront positions in many interest rate, credit, foreign exchange and commodities derivatives.
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Tailoring solutions in terms of capital raising, financing, risk management and investment, Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking combines expertise, innovation and advisory skills coupled with quality of execution to both issuers and investors clients across debt and equity.

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