Swissquote revenues for the first half of the year increase by 185% over 1999

Swissquote Group (SWX: SQN) - one of Switzerland’s most important providers of online financial information and Internet development services in Switzerland - today announced that revenues for the first half of 2000 increased by 185% over the same period in 1999 reaching CHF 7.0 million. Net earnings for the first six months of 2000 are close to break-even, as the company reports a net loss of CHF 24,000. Swissquote Group is listed on the SWX New Market since May 29, 2000.

Swissquote Group employed 90 collaborators as of June 30, 2000. The company is active in two business segments:

- Online financial services: include the supply of real-time financial information and a user friendly online trading platform accessible through the site www.swissquote.ch. For the first semester 2000, revenues for this segment amounted to CHF 4.2 million, representing an increase of 195% compared to the first semester of 1999. The number of clients for the online trading platform reached 6,134 on 30 June 2000. 2,505 new clients were registered during the second quarter of 2000.

- Web Intelligence services: include consultancy activities for the technological integration, design and promotion of Internet sites, as well as the development of Business to Business (B2B) and Business to Consumer (B2C) solutions. This segment is placed under the responsibility of Marvel Communications Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Swissquote Group. Revenues of Marvel Communications Ltd for the first semester of 2000 amount to CHF 2.8 million, representing an increase of 173% compared to the first semester of 1999.

On June 30, 2000, Swissquote Group had cash and cash equivalents amounting to CHF 73.1 million. These will mainly be used to accelerate growth in the Group’s two core business segments. On-going developments in the area of online financial services are focused on the implementation of an Internet bank and the expansion of operations in France. In the field of Web Intelligence, key developments objectives for the next few months include the launch of miINTEGRATE, a web publishing software used to facilitate maintenance of Internet sites, as well as expansion to France and to the German part of Switzerland.

The full consolidated interim financial statements as of June 30, 2000 are available at the following address: http://private.swissquote.ch/static/pdf/report/report_0800.pdf
Swissquote Group’s interim results are published 45 days after the end of each quarter. Annual financial statements are published 75 days after year-end closing.