



Aareal Bank

Press Release

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Aareal Energy Forum: Launch panel analyses “Competitive developments in the European power market“

Wiesbaden/Düsseldorf, 25 April 2008 – “Aareal Energy Forum“ is the platform Aareal Bank Group will use from time to time to bring together experts from the European power industry for an exchange of ideas on topical issues. The launch event took place on 24 April 2008 in Düsseldorf in the presence of Christa Thoben, Minister of Economics, Medium-sized Companies and Energy of the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia and was entitled “Competitive developments in the European power market“. In a panel discussion leading representatives of the German energy industry, among them the President of the Federal Network Agency, Matthias Kurth, talked about this issue.

”The Aareal Energy Forum is intended to enhance the dialogue and the discussion in the energy and power sector – a sector which has to face the challenges of an increasing and transnational competition as a result of new European guidelines“, explains Thomas Ortmanns, Member of the Management Board at Aareal Bank AG and responsible for the Consulting/Services segment, whose clients include power and other energy trading companies. “In a strongly regularised market like the power market, it is vital for the players to constantly optimise their processes in order to maintain a sustainably competitive position“, adds Ortmanns.

Aareal Bank AG is Germany’s market leader for payment services solutions for the institutional housing industry, offering customised payment solutions oriented in the specific needs of the energy industry, thus making use of the synergy effects arising from both sectors. “Our premium solution BK 01 is well established in the institutional housing industry since many years“, states Ortmanns. “On the basis of our long standing expertise, we are able to successfully offer this standard product to the power industry and disposal companies.“

Aareal Bank provides the module „BK 01® mit SAP for Utilities®“ to optimise the process of mass payment transactions, a tool that has been customised for the needs of the public utilities and disposal industry. It has been developed by SAP for Aareal Bank and is a payment solution integrated into SAP. The system offers SAP-customers an automatic allocation of all business transactions related to payment transfers, with a match rate of nearly 100 %. It leads to a considerable reduction of time, effort and costs. To this target group, Aareal bank offers the product “BK 01 immoconnect“ as a customer retention tool.

Information for the editorial department :

We will be glad to provide photos of the event on request.

Launch event Aareal Energy Forum:

”Competitive developments in the European power market”

24 April 2008 in Dusseldorf

Presentation:

Dirk Lindgens, Chief editor e/m/w, Journal for Energy, Market, Competition (Zeitschrift für Energie, Markt, Wettbewerb)

Opening remarks:

Dr. Volkhard Riechmann, Head of the section “Energy, Climate Protection and Mining” in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, North Rhine-Westphalia

Panel discussion:

Matthias Kurth, President of the Federal Network Agency for Electricity, Gas, Telecommunications, Post and Railway

Dr. Thomas Mecke, Chairman of the Management Board
NUON Deutschland GmbH

Hans-Joachim Reck, CEO of the VKU,
Association of Municipal Companies (Verband kommunaler Unternehmen)

Dr. Jürgen Kroneberg, Member of the Management Board RWE Energy AG

Thomas Ortmanns Member of the Management Board Aareal Bank AG

Aareal Bank Group

Aareal Bank AG is one of the leading international property specialists listed in Deutsche Börse's MDAX index. In the business segment Real Estate Structured Finance the bank is active across three continents. Based on the successful European business model, we have developed a similar platform in North America and Asia/Pacific. We provide property financing solutions in more than 25 countries. In the business segment Consulting / Services Aareal Bank offers comprehensive services for the administration of housing portfolios and the processing of money transfer for companies with mass payment transactions. It is market leader in Germany for payment transactions in Real Estate companies.