

GRUPPO SANPAOLO IMI

PRESS RELEASE

Sanpaolo IMI new institutional website now on-line

Turin, 31 July 2006 – The new web site for the Sanpaolo IMI Group, is now on-line with more content as well as an improved structure and design. The newly released website provides a wealth of detail on the Group and has been designed to enhance navigability, interactivity and usability.

In recent years the web-site has become increasingly important in promoting a direct source of information to the financial community, the media and all the Group's stakeholders. This is borne out by the over two and a half million pages opened last year up from the one million pages in 2004 and in 2005 www.grupposanpaoloimi.com, was 90th in the Hallvarsson & Halvarsson list of the best web-sites in Europe.

The site is now structured into six sections: Group, Investor Centre, Press Centre, Governance, Sustainability and Careers. The main innovations introduced to the site may be summarised as follows:

- **a new site structure**, with a fresh and linear layout;
- a new section, **Careers**, providing information on the people working for the Group, the remuneration policy, the professional development initiatives for employees and the recruitment process;
- **enriched and improved content**, major changes have been made in the Group and Sustainability sections, with the objective of enabling clear and correct understanding of the mission, values, business model and strategy of Sanpaolo IMI;
- development of **accessibility**, so as to make the website accessible to disabled people, in line with the indications provided by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and also to the advantage of all users;
- new **technical features**, such as e-mail and SMS alert as well as a search engine, to favour website usability and interactivity.