



Press Release from Zurich Bank International Limited

Immediate Release

ZURICH GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Date: 5 August 2008

Following the so called credit crunch and the experiences of Northern Rock in the UK, Zurich Bank International Limited (ZBI), along with most other banks, has been receiving an increase in requests for information regarding its financial strength and rating.

According to Graham Sheward, Managing Director, ZBI, "This shows that customers are now quite rightly concerned about the security of their funds and not just the interest rate they receive." ZBI are able to provide adequate reassurance to customers asking these questions. They're in a unique position compared to other banks that have parents in the UK or Ireland. ZBI is a subsidiary of Zurich Financial Services, an insurance-based financial services provider with headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland. The Zurich Financial Services Group has recently announced strong results for the first quarter of 2008 including a business operating profit of \$1.76bn. As at 31 December 2007, the consolidated balance sheet of Zurich Financial Services Group showed gross assets in excess of USD389 billion and shareholder funds of USD28 billion. The Group has 60,000 employees serving customers in more than 170 countries.

Graham Sheward continues, "Most importantly Zurich Financial Services also confirmed that the Group continues to have no material exposure to US sub-prime debt or CDOs in its investment portfolio. And as if any more evidence of our strong position were needed Standard & Poor's has just recently reaffirmed its credit rating of AA-/Stable to our immediate parent, Zurich Bank; a rating that bucks the trend. ZBI is also covered by the Isle of Man Depositors Compensation Scheme."

Graham Sheward concludes; "Given these facts it's not surprising that ZBI finds itself in a strong position providing new and existing customers with the peace of mind of banking with a solid global financial services organisation that's going from strength to strength."

For more information call +44 (0) 1624 671666 or visit www.zurichbankinternational.com

-ENDS_

Press Information

Mark Waterhouse

+44 (0) 1624 691277

Notes to Editors

Zurich Bank International Limited is licensed by the Isle of Man Financial Supervision Commission for banking business.

Registered in the Isle of Man, Number 22847. Registered Office: 43-51 Athol Street, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM99 1ET, British Isles.
Telephone calls may be recorded.