

# Press release

Brussels / Utrecht, 5 September 2008.

## **European Multilateral Clearing Facility (EMCF) processes a record high of 1 million transactions a day**

**European Multilateral Clearing Facility (EMCF), a wholly-owned Fortis subsidiary, which started its operation in March 2007, is growing significantly. EMCF has processed a record number of 1 million transactions on 5 September 2008.**

EMCF offers central counterparty clearing services for stocks on the Austrian, Belgium, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Norwegian, Swedish, Swiss and the UK market. Initially EMCF processed 200 transactions a day, while this increased to a daily average of 70,000 transactions in December 2007. In August this year the daily average was 693,000 transactions.

*“The growing number of transactions proves that we have a solid business strategy. Presently we are providing clearing services for Chi-X Europe. On 26<sup>th</sup> September we will also be providing central counterparty clearing services to Nasdaq OMX Europe and BATS-Trading Europe will follow in November, which will no doubt give an extra boost to the number of processed transactions”*, says Jan Booi, CEO of EMCF.

**Fortis** is an international provider of banking and insurance services to personal, business and institutional customers. We deliver a total package of financial products and services through our own high-performance channels and via intermediaries and other partners. Fortis ranks among Europe’s top 20 financial institutions. We have a presence in over 50 countries and a dedicated, professional workforce of more than 65,000. All this makes us a leader in financial services in Europe, a top 3 private banker and a top tier asset manager. More information is available at [www.fortis.com](http://www.fortis.com).

### **Fortis Merchant Banking**

Fortis Merchant Banking provides high-value tailor-made services to medium-sized companies, large corporates and institutionals. As a worldwide organisation, we have developed special expertise in cash & treasury management, debt, equity and structured finance, trading & financial risk hedging, financial advisory and structuring. We serve commodity producers, traders and distributors all over the world. We are a world leader in fund administration, global custody, securities lending and clearing services. Thanks to an integrated network, the Business combines the strength of an international group with local expertise and proximity. Dedicated Relationship Managers coordinate all banking facilities and can call on specialists in all fields.

**EMCF**, a wholly-owned Fortis subsidiary, is an independent central counterparty clearing house and offers central counterparty services for equity trading on exchanges and multilateral trading facilities. EMCF is regulated by the AFM and the Dutch Central Bank.

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