

**CACEIS, market leader in fund administration in France, targets further growth through the creation of CACEIS Fastnet on 31 March, 2006.**

**(Paris, 4 April 2006) – Assets administered by CACEIS in France - now handled by CACEIS Fastnet following the merger between Fastnet France and IXIS Fund Administration - climbed 14.8% to €627 billion over the last six months. This strong growth reinforces CACEIS' position as France's leading provider of administrative and financial services to the investment community.**

CACEIS has completed the operational merger of its fund administration activities in France. The rapid set-up of a unified, client-driven organisation has already borne fruit, as witnessed by a 14.8% increase in assets administered by CACEIS, from €546 billion on 30 September 2005, to €627 billion on 31 March 2006. This strong growth testifies to the strength of CACEIS' management and personnel, and their ability to consolidate the group's unrivalled leadership on a highly competitive market, by delivering innovative and high value-added financial solutions and services to institutional investors.

The total volume of assets administered by CACEIS across Europe now stands at over €800 billion. In addition to France, CACEIS is also active in the fund administration field via Fastnet's European network in Luxembourg, Ireland, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The value-creating merger operation strengthens CACEIS' overall offering and responds to the needs of asset managers and institutional clients. CACEIS is also the leading custodian in France and ranks third in Europe and in the top 10 worldwide.

The merger marks a further stage in CACEIS' growth strategy, with other external or organic growth opportunities already being studied in France and abroad.

CACEIS Fastnet is managed by Jean-Pierre Michalowski (Managing Director), Jean Devambe (Deputy Managing Director) and Serge Bernard (Deputy Managing Director).

**Press Contacts**

**Paris**

Chloé Lallemand - +33 1 58 55 58 58  
[chloe.lallemand@caceis.com](mailto:chloe.lallemand@caceis.com)

**Luxembourg**

Claude Michaux - +352 47 67 27 92  
[claudemichaux@caceis.com](mailto:claudemichaux@caceis.com)

*CACEIS combines the securities services business lines of Crédit Agricole S.A. and Caisse Nationale des Caisses d'Épargne, dedicated to depositary and custodial services, fund administration and corporate trust services for institutional and corporate clients. Present in six European countries (France, Luxembourg, Ireland, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands) and with a total of 2,400 employees, CACEIS is one of the world's front-ranking providers of custodial services with €1,660 billion in assets, and is one of the leading European fund administrators with a total of €802 billion in assets under administration (figures as at 28 February, 2006).*