

SERVICE DIVISIONS

Bank Services

AS A WHOLE, THE FUNCTIONAL UNITS OF BANK SERVICES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT PROCESSES run smoothly and professionally, as well as for the necessary operating infrastructure. The close cooperation between Bank Services and the business divisions once again made a substantial contribution to Sal. Oppenheim's success in 2006. The Facility Management, Finance, Product Services and Operations, Corporate Communications and PR, Legal and Tax, and Audit units form a key foundation for everyday operations.

PRODUCT SERVICES AND OPERATIONS

The restructuring of Information Technology and Operations to form the integrated Product Services and Operations unit began in 2005, and was successfully completed in 2006. We significantly improved transparency and efficiency by clearly separating Operations from the Support and System and Process Development units.

We implemented high-performance computing systems for the first time in the Derivatives Settlement unit to account for its strong and sustained growth. The Bank is implementing measures to improve security and infrastructure in order to support the use of up-to-date information technology, such as workflows in IT operations in accordance with the internationally recognised IT Infrastructure Library Standard (ITIL). By linking the foreign subsidiaries more closely to the central Group IT platform, in research, sales or trading, for example, the Bank can improve the integration of its foreign activities.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

The attention devoted to the Bank in the national and international economic press was increased in the eventful and successful reporting year. For example, the Bank's analysts were represented with 2,100 quotes in the press and on TV and radio.

Various events – at the Salzburg Festival, exciting equestrian sport at the German Polomasters on Sylt and the investment conference with over 470 visitors – presented a picture of the Bank as competent and committed.

LEGAL AND TAX

Equity investment and capital market business were once again the focus of the Legal and Tax unit's activities in 2006. As far as the capital market business is concerned, support was provided for a large number of German and foreign IPOs, takeovers and squeeze-outs.

Group-wide preparations for the implementation of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID), and the conversion of the Austrian branch into an independent subsidiary were particular focal points.