



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following is a company announcement issued by HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. pursuant to Listing Rule 8.6.14.

Quote

HSBC Life Assurance (Malta) Limited has on the 16 September 2005 increased the Issued Share Capital by five hundred thousand Maltese Liri (Lm500,000) divided into one million (1,000,000) ordinary shares of fifty cents (Lm0.50) each fully paid up. The shares were fully subscribed by HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. The share capital was increased by an injection of capital in cash by the parent company HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.

Unquote

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Brancalone".

Dr. George Brancalone LL.D.
Company Secretary
19 September 2005

HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.

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Registered in Malta number C3177. Registered Office: 233 Republic Street, Valletta VLT 05

Regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority and listed on the Malta Stock Exchange.

Licensed to conduct Investment Services business by the Malta Financial Services Authority.