

Athens, 15 September 2009

Press Release

HSBC: 42 awards at the World Best Internet Banks competition

HSBC received new awards and distinctions for the Group's Internet Banking within the framework of the 10th **World Best Internet Banks** competition for 2009 that is organised annually by the internationally renowned American magazine Global Finance.

HSBC Group earned a total of 42 awards. Specifically, HSBC earned distinctions, *inter alia*, in the broad categories of *Corporate/Institutional Internet Banking* and *Consumer Internet Banking* and in the sub-categories of *Best Trade Finance Services*, *Best Investment Management Service* and *Best Online Cash Management* and *Best Online Consumer Credit*, *Best Online Deposits Acquisition* and *Best Information Security Initiatives*.

In order to evaluate the Banks that took part in the competition, a committee composed of members of international repute was formed, while the final winners were selected by the editors of *Global Finance* on the basis of criteria such as the potentiality of the strategy applied to attract and serve online customers, the range of banking products, services and transactions, the benefits that the Bank's customers gain from using the service, the development of the Bank's online clientele and the design and functionality of the website.

HSBC Greece has secured for its customers the user-friendly and award-winning internet banking system of the HSBC Group. Through the website www.hsbc.net.com, for corporate customers, and www.hsbc.gr, for private individuals, users can access their accounts, remotely and in real time, on a 24/7 basis, 365 days a year, as well as the other unique banking services that are offered via the internet, quickly and with maximum security.