



**EFG International Receives Banking Licences  
in the Bahamas and in Luxembourg,  
Opens Trust Administration Office in Hong Kong**

*Zurich, March 1, 2006* – EFG International today announced that its group entities **EFG Bank & Trust (Bahamas) Limited** and **EFG Bank (Luxembourg) S.A.** have been awarded a banking licence by the respective local regulatory authorities. In addition, EFG International announced the opening of **EFG Trust (HK) Limited**, a new trust administration office for Asian clients. These important milestones will help EFG International to further enhance organic growth in key markets.

**EFG Bank & Trust (Bahamas) Limited**, which has been awarded a banking and broker-dealer license by the Central Bank of the Bahamas, will specialize in providing private banking and trust services to an international client base. The newly licensed bank will allow EFG International to both grow organically in the region and to serve the Bahamian private banking clientele acquired from Barcelona-based Banco Sabadell in 2005.

**EFG Bank (Luxembourg) S.A.**, which has been awarded a banking licence by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier in Luxembourg, will specialize in providing private banking services to an international client base. The newly licensed bank will allow EFG International to grow organically in Luxembourg.

**EFG Trust (HK) Limited** is a subsidiary of EFG Offshore Limited, one of the largest trust companies in Jersey, Channel Islands. From its Hong Kong base, it will market EFG Offshore's trust and fund administration services to clients and provide trust support to EFG International's offices in Asia. In addition to the new trust office, EFG Bank already has a branch in Hong Kong.

Lawrence D. Howell, CEO of EFG International, said: “With the addition of two fully licensed banks in the Bahamas and in Luxembourg we are continuing our pursuit to grow organically, in addition to growth through acquisitions. Our Client Relationship Officers in 34 offices worldwide now have a total of 13 booking centres in major financial centres of the world at their disposal to serve their global clientele. We are also very pleased to announce the opening of our new trust office in Hong Kong, which will allow us to offer locally advised comprehensive trust solutions tailored to the needs of our clients in Asia.”

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### **About EFG International**

EFG International is a global private banking group offering private banking and asset management services, headquartered in Zurich. As of 31 December 2005, EFG International's group of private banks operated in 34 locations, it had assets under management of approximately CHF 47.3 billion and assets under administration of approximately CHF 6.5 billion, and it employed around 1,100 staff, including 268 Client Relationship Officers who are at the core of EFG's business model. EFG International's registered shares (EFGN) are listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange.