

# Press release

Amsterdam, 11 February 2009

## **Fortis Bank Nederland continues to support the Green Award Foundation.**

### **Fortis Bank Nederland continues to support its clients that have vessels, certified by Green Award.**

In 2008 Fortis Bank Nederland became the first bank to be a Green Award Incentive provider. Green Award certifies seagoing vessels that are recognized as achieving superior standards of cleanliness and safety. In return, various (financial) benefits such as discounts on nautical services and port dues can be achieved.

Fortis Bank Nederland has decided to continue this support in 2009 as it is its objective to conduct and promote business in a sustainable manner. As part of the support provided, Fortis Bank Nederland offers incentives to its clients to become Green Award certified by providing reimbursement for:

- 25% of the annual Green Award fees for vessels that are financed by Fortis Bank Nederland, and
- 25% of the Green Award office audit fees for the (shipping) companies that are a client of Fortis Bank Nederland.

This reimbursement is paid at the end of each calendar year.

Harris Antoniou, CEO of Energy, Commodities and Transportation within Fortis Bank Nederland said: "We aim to conduct business in a responsible manner and have made an effort to integrate sustainability into our ship finance business. Doing business has an impact on the world around us and we therefore continue to promote the Green Award program amongst our customers".

In 2008, Fortis Bank Nederland reimbursed part of the costs for several clients, a.o. A.P. Møller-Maersk A/S. Jan B. Kjaervik, Head of Group Finance of A.P. Møller- Maersk Group commented: "We very much appreciate Fortis Bank Nederland's recognition of our ambition to promote initiatives improving cleanliness and safety and in general increase our efforts to conduct business in a sustainable manner. This is an area of focus for the A.P. Møller-Maersk Group and continuous improvement initiatives will be pursued and prioritized further henceforth."

#### **Press contacts:**

*Utrecht:*

+31 (0)30 226 32 19

Fortis Bank Nederland

Prins Bernhardplein 200  
1097 JB Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

[www.fortis.nl](http://www.fortis.nl)

**Fortis Bank Nederland (HOLDING) N.V.** is the holding company in the Netherlands for a variety of businesses providing (inter)national banking and financial services and is present in over 20 countries.

Fortis Bank Nederland offers a comprehensive package of products and services to private, corporate and (alternative) institutional clients. The broad services vary from consumer finance and credit cards to factoring, trust, corporate, energy, commodities and shipping finance, transaction banking, clearing, custody and fund services, investment banking and financial markets services.

#### **Merchant Banking**

Fortis Bank Nederland's Merchant Banking provides bespoke financial solutions to companies and institutional clients based in the Netherlands and abroad. We have developed special expertise in cash & treasury management, debt, equity and structured finance, trading & financial risk hedging, financial advisory and structuring. Merchant Banking serves commodity producers, traders and distributors and is a leader in fund administration, global custody, securities lending and clearing services. Dedicated Relationship Managers coordinate all banking facilities and can call on specialists in all fields.

#### **About Energy, Commodities & Transportation (ECT) and Principal Finance**

ECT is a business line within Merchant Banking that serves a wide range of customers and prospects in the energy, commodities and transportation industries. Our extensive market knowledge have made us leaders in these industries.

Energy is engaged in offshore oil and gas services, oil and gas, power and utilities, renewables (wind and solar energy) and carbon banking. Fortis Groenbank in Utrecht is a separate legal entity within Energy, providing green financing to companies that invest in sustainable projects in the Netherlands. Commodities finances the physical flow of agri, metals, steel and energy products, from the pre-production stage through to storage & delivery. The Transportation arm offers structured and innovative financing solutions to companies active in deep-sea shipping, container transport and the aviation sector.

Principle Finance (PF) is responsible for all direct investment activities (where FBNL acts as Principal) in the ECT sectors. PF acquires (portfolio's of) assets at attractive valuations, provides subordinated debt or preferred equity with upside sharing and invest selectively in companies or projects of core clients of the bank, oftentimes on the basis of tangible collateral and diversified cash-flows