

Press release

For editorial desks
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Commerzbank strengthens leading position for equity research and sales in Germany

- **Germany Research takes top spot for tenth consecutive year in the Extel survey among approximately 16,000 stock market experts**
- **Commerzbank places the three best equity analysts for Germany**

In the leading survey amongst professionals in the European stock markets, Commerzbank further strengthened its top position in equity research and sales for Germany. The Bank yet again defended its number one position as “Germany: Leading Brokerage Firm” according to the Extel survey. The survey among some 16,000 stock markets’ professionals across Europe also showed that the three best equity analysts for Germany are employed by Commerzbank.

Christoph Dolleschal, Head of Equity Research and Corporate Equity Distribution at Commerzbank, said: “In geopolitically troubled times and against the backdrop of regulatory changes, qualitative research as well as steady and reliable service is more important than ever. Even in a volatile market environment we haven’t let disturbed ourselves to represent our ideas confidently. Therefore, our Extel results, which have been outstanding for years, are an honour and a motivation for us.” Dolleschal added: “Investors and asset managers can take advantage of our strategic approach with a focus on German equities and Commerzbank’s close relationship to large corporates as well as medium-sized businesses.”

For the tenth year in a row, Extel awarded Commerzbank’s equity research the No. 1 in the top category “Germany: Country Research”. Achim Matzke, Head of Technical Analysis & Index Research, again leads the ranks of the best individual equity analysts for Germany, followed by his colleagues Andreas Hürkamp at No. 2 and Petra von Kerssenbrock at No. 3. Thorsten Grisse and Thomas Becker are two more analysts of the Bank to be placed in the top 10 of the individual rankings for Germany.

The Bank again received first place in the sector “Germany: Small & Mid Caps Research” as well as the third place in “Multi Asset Research”. Commerzbank also regained the top spot in the sector “Germany: Equity Sales” after finishing second in the year before. The Commerzbank experts moved up to second place in “Germany: Company & Expert Meetings” as well as “Index Analysis”. They again scored top 3 rankings in “Germany: Small & Mid Caps Sales” and “Equity Technical Analysis & Charting”.

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About Commerzbank

Commerzbank is a leading international commercial bank with branches and offices in almost 50 countries. In the two business segments Private and Small Business Customers, as well as Corporate Clients, the Bank offers a comprehensive portfolio of financial services which is precisely aligned to the clients' needs. Commerzbank finances approximately 30% of Germany's foreign trade and is leading in financing for corporate clients in Germany. Due to its in-depth sector know-how in the German economy, the Bank is a leading provider of capital market products. Its subsidiaries Comdirect in Germany and mBank in Poland are two of the world's most innovative online banks. With approximately 1,000 branches, Commerzbank has one of the densest branch networks among German private banks. In total, Commerzbank serves more than 17.5 million private and small business customers, as well as more than 60,000 corporate clients, multinationals, financial service providers, and institutional clients. The Bank, which was founded in 1870, is represented at all the world's major stock exchanges. In 2016, it generated gross revenues of €9.4 billion with approximately 49,900 employees.

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This release contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. In this release, these statements concern inter alia the expected future business of Commerzbank, efficiency gains and expected synergies, expected growth prospects and other opportunities for an increase in value of Commerzbank as well as expected future financial results, restructuring costs and other financial developments and information. These forward-looking statements are based on the management's current plans, expectations, estimates and projections. They are subject to a number of assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results and developments to differ materially from any future results and developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include the conditions in the financial markets in Germany, in Europe, in the USA and other regions from which Commerzbank derives a substantial portion of its revenues and in which Commerzbank holds a substantial portion of its assets, the development of asset prices and market volatility, especially due to the ongoing European debt crisis, potential defaults of borrowers or trading counterparties, the implementation of its strategic initiatives to improve its business model, particularly to reduce its ACR portfolio, the reliability of its risk management policies, procedures and methods, risks arising as a result of regulatory change and other risks. Forward-looking statements therefore speak only as of the date they are made. Commerzbank has no obligation to update or release any revisions to the forward-looking statements contained in this release to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this release.