

Jitka Schmiedová to Again Manage Human Resources at Ceska sporitelna as of March

After a hiatus of two and a half years, Jitka Schmiedová is returning to the position of Director of the Human Resources (HR) Department of Ceska sporitelna on 1 March 2014. She held the same position from July 2007 through to October 2011. In the position of HR Director, she will be replacing Luboš Tejkl, who has led HR at Ceska sporitelna since December 2011 and who is now moving to another strategic position within the bank.

Jitka Schmiedová is returning to Ceska sporitelna after a successful two-and-a-half year stint at Vodafone Czech Republic, where she worked as Vice President for HR, Corporate Communication, and Asset Management.

“I am returning to Ceska sporitelna and Erste Group with great enthusiasm and energy. I am looking forward to working with a team of HR experts, and at the bank and in the Group in general. And I believe that I can usefully combine my knowledge of Ceska sporitelna with the experience I gained at Vodafone, thereby bringing the bank and the people in it new views and impulses,” said Jitka Schmiedová.

Jitka Schmiedová is a proven HR manager, she has gathered experience in HR management since 1991. In this field, she has worked at many renowned international companies – aside from Vodafone CZ and Ceska sporitelna (Erste Group), she has also been with Mitsubishi Electric Automotive Czech s.r.o. and the Norwegian company Norsk Hydro, to name a few. During her previous engagement at Ceska sporitelna, she successfully transformed Human Resources into an innovative strategic HR model. Subsequently she accepted the offer to work for Vodafone Czech Republic as Vice President for HR, Corporate Communication, and Asset Management. Her mission at Vodafone has now been successfully completed.

For further information please contact the Press Centre of the Ceska Sporitelna Financial Group (CSFG):

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Ceska Sporitelna's Profile

Ceska Sporitelna is a modern bank focused on retail clients, small and medium-sized enterprises, and towns and municipalities. The financing of large corporations and the provision of financial market services also play an integral role. Ceska Sporitelna, whose history reaches back to **1825**, is a **member of Erste Group**, one of the largest providers of financial services in Central and Eastern Europe. In the Czech Republic, it has the greatest number of clients and the most extensive network of branches and ATMs of all of the banks.

Benefits that Česká spořitelna has brought to its clients in 2012:

In 2012, Ceska sporitelna provided its clients with housing loans amounting to **CZK 41.8 bn**, which nearly **40,000** families used to purchase a new home or renovate their existing one. During the same period of 2012, **139,000** households made their dreams come true and bought something that made them happy or eased their lives – clients fitted out their households, renovated their cottages, bought a car, made their world nicer or travelled to different countries thanks to a loan from Česká spořitelna. Česká spořitelna is also the first bank in the Czech Republic to launch the widespread introduction of touch-free technology: more than **600,000** ČS clients can already use touch-free payments. As of the launch in October 2011, these clients carried out over **3.2 mil.** transactions using touch-free cards worth a total volume of more than **CZK 813 million**.

Ceska Sporitelna in Figures

Almost **1.5** million clients use Ceska Sporitelna's direct banking; the **No. 1** bank in the Czech Republic as for Total Assets (CZK 958.17 bn with a profit of CZK 4.20 bn); **3** main direct banking channels – SERVIS 24 (Telephone, Internet, and GSM); **4** main groups of clients – retail, small and medium-sized enterprises, municipalities, and large corporations; over **5.3** million clients – the largest number of clients in the Czech Republic; clients have **6** ways of servicing their accounts: in person at branches, through collection boxes, via a telephone, the Internet, ATMs, or a mobile telephone; **25** branches throughout the country are open 7 days a week, available to any client (overall, CS has 653 branches) because CS clients are not tied to a single branch; **11** subsidiaries covering the entire spectrum of financial services and client needs; **15** Regional Corporate Centres for SME clients; **153** ATMs for the visually impaired, throughout the country; more than **180** years of history and tradition; **1,497** ATMs and Transaction terminals; **10,925** professional employees. *Figures as of 30 June 2013. Financials are consolidated, and calculated according to the International Financial Reporting Standards.*

Ceska Sporitelna's Investment Advisory Services: The Optimal Solution for Everyone!

Ceska sporitelna has been involved in investing for **20 years**, aiming for the best possible appreciation of its clients' funds. Each client's wishes, needs, and approach to risk are different, which is why Ceska sporitelna **approaches each client individually and helps him find the optimal investment solution**.

Erste Group

Erste Group is the leading financial services provider in the Eastern part of the EU. Approximately **46,000** employees serve **16.6** million clients in around **2,900** branches in **7** countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia). As of HY 2013 Erste Group has reached EUR **210.2** billion in total assets, a net profit of EUR **301.2** million and a cost-income-ratio of **52.8** %.