

## **The European Magazine Names Investiční společnost České spořitelny as the Best Investment Company in Central and Eastern Europe**

A jury of the specialised international magazine The European rewarded the sustained high quality of the investment process and asset management at Investiční společnost České spořitelny (ISČS) and voted it the best investment company in Central and Eastern Europe for 2015. The European is an internationally recognised magazine with 170,000 regular readers worldwide; its main partner and source is the Thomson Reuters agency.



“This is already the second award from a respectable international periodical in a relatively short period. We see it as a confirmation of the quality of our work and we are naturally very pleased by it. It gives us further cause to maintain our commitment to our clients, that we will try to keep the bar as high as possible in the future,” said Martin Řezáč, Chairman of the Management Board of ISČS.

ISČS is a member of Erste Group, and in the Czech Republic it offers its products through the Ceska sporitelna branch network. ISČS is a specialist in asset management for retail clients, currently managing 36 unit trusts with assets under management worth nearly CZK 77 bn., as well as for private and institutional clients, for whom the volume of assets under management has reached CZK 120 bn. The client base also includes Erste Private Banking and Erste Premier clients.

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### **Ceska sporitelna's profile**

Ceska sporitelna is the largest bank in the Czech Republic • More than 5 million clients use its services: individuals, small and medium-sized enterprises, and municipalities, but we also finance large corporations and provide financial market services • Ceska sporitelna has been a member of Erste Group since 2000, and under that brand, it serves affluent and corporate clients • It boasts the most extensive branch and ATM networks in the Czech Republic • It also plays an important role as an innovator: for example, it was the first bank on the Czech market to start issuing contactless cards comprehensively, and to develop a network for their use • *For additional interesting information about Ceska sporitelna, read here.*

### **Erste Corporate Banking – an exceptionally strong partner in corporate and investment banking and financial markets**

The largest provider of loans to corporations in terms of the aggregate loan amount • Major arranger of syndicated, club, acquisition, and project financing solutions • A leader in arranging domestic and foreign bond issues for local as well as international clients • A major advisor on mergers and acquisitions • The largest trader on capital markets in the Czech Republic, measured in terms of the number of stocks issued (IPOs and SPOs) and their volume • One of the most important partners of the European Investment Bank in Central Europe • A leading M&A consultant for local and regional clients from the business and public sectors • The largest EUR/CZK trader and a leading provider of Treasury services to corporate and public sector clients • The largest asset manager for corporate and institutional clients • *For additional interesting information about Ceska sporitelna's corporate banking, read here.*

### **Erste Group's Profile**

Erste Group is the leading financial services provider in the Eastern part of the EU • Approximately 46,000 employees serve 16.4 million clients in more than 2,800 branches in 7 countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia) • As of Q1 2014 Erste Group has reached EUR 203.9 billion in total assets, a net profit of EUR 103,3 million and a cost-income-ratio of 57.0%.