



Lviv

02.09.2008

This press-conference is devoted to the change of Electron Bank name to VOLKSBANK. Such change is connected with final integration of OJSC "Electron Bank" to Volksbank International AG Group (Austria).

History of Volksbank AG (VBAG) starts in 1922 when several regional credit unions united into one structure. Corporate philosophy of trust and partnership relations with the customers in this bank were formed and tested by time.

In 1991 Volksbank International AG (VBI) was created on the basis of Volksbank AG.

As of today network of Volksbank International AG has about 600 branches in 9 countries of Central and Eastern Europe: Romania, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Slovenia, Serbia, Czech Republic and Ukraine. People on staff – 5500 employees.

By its results of performance, VBI is one of five largest banks of Austria, namely:

- Assets: EUR 12.9 billion
- Own capital: EUR 1.4 billion
- Credit portfolio: EUR 9.3 billion

VBI strategy is first of all development of SME and granting retail banking services.

In April of 2007 Volksbank International AG came into Ukraine and became owner of over 98% of shares of OJSC "Electron Bank", which at that time had had leading position on the market of banking services in Western Ukraine for 15 years and was considered as one of the best regional banks.

Involvement of powerful investments of foreign bank made it possible for "Electron Bank" to double main annual results of its development: assets, capital, credit portfolio and profit. From the moment the investor came, bank's network increased from 33 to 65 branches, and by the end of 2008 their number will be 100 sales outlets. During this year new branches have been opened in Lutsk, Rivne, Khmelnytsky, Odesa and the cities that had regional branches of the bank – Kyiv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk and Uzhorod.

As of today the main indices of bank's activity are:

- Bank's assets – UAH 2.0 billion
- Statutory capital – UAH 0.3 billion
- Credit portfolio – UAH 1.7 billion

Foreign investor – Austrian Volksbank International AG opens new possibilities for development of Ukraine's economy and for each average citizen in particular. As of 01.09.2008 VBI made investments for the amount of EUR 252 mln., and by the end of 2008 the volume of granted investments will be EUR 332 mln.

Long organization process preceded the change of name of OJSC "Electron Bank" to "VOLKSBANK". It was necessary to conform the internal process of bank's activity to the standards of VBI group. First of all this is transfer of bank's organization structure from three-level to two-level (transformation of affiliates into regional branches), implementation of the most modern software and banking technologies, reorganization of risk management systems with taking into account principles and requirements of Basel 2, professional development of staff on the basis of trainings and study of European experience, etc.

As the Chairman of the Managing Board of the Bank Larysa Zahorodnya said, the bank has gained a considerable experience on the market of banking services for 17 years of its activity, and now it is ready for changes. Changes are not only limited to change of name, they also include change of thinking and approach to customers servicing. Bank comes to country level not only with new name "VOLKSBANK", but also with new ideas, approaches, original solutions and development strategies.

New name of the bank – "VOLKSBANK" – has been well known abroad, since Volksbank International is present in 9 countries of Central and Eastern Europe. This name means "PEOPLE'S BANK" and it is associated with openness, accessibility for each, additional possibilities, profitable offers and exclusively positive emotions. Also, blue color of logo creates atmosphere of safety and trust. This is color of creativity, truth, loyalty, trust, peace and wisdom. Blue color makes one feel good, stimulates positive thoughts and transfers great inner strength.

Volksbank International AG having significant positive experience of work on financial market of Central and Eastern Europe, brought into Ukraine a number of original and tested by time techniques and innovations that allow to work confidently in the segment of loan and deposit services for individuals, focusing on the comfort of customers servicing. Everything that VOLKSBANK offers – is customer-oriented. "When we create new product, we always think of customer – how new product will help the customer, what good it will make to them. We are trying to maximally simplify customer's life", says Member of the Managing Board of the Bank Iryna Pokhodzyaeva.

VOLKSBANK has the purpose to enable people to receive rapid and quality servicing, and also emphasizes on reliability of preserving funds of its customers. "We make the products and the whole complicated banking process maximally understandable and simple. We offer individual products and reasonable solutions", says Deputy Chairman of the Managing Board Yuriy Klachanyy.

VOLKSBANK is a universal bank. Its product range includes mortgage and car loans, deposits for individuals and also services for legal entities. "Thanks to resources of Volksbank, Ukrainian can receive affordable 25 year mortgage loans, car loans, loans for business development and to make deposits in reliable stable Austrian bank; and, of course to use all other banking services: currency exchange, money transfer abroad and to receive complex settlement and cash desk servicing", says Head of Corporate Banking Division Liubov Zhynko.

Bank's main value is its staff, which helps the Bank to develop starting from 1991, and now it makes it possible to achieve Bank's goals. New and promising employees play a significant role and they considerably reinforced the experienced management of the bank's institution. Also constant trainings for the staff, new techniques of products promotion and effective marketing communications are very important. "The biggest investment of VOLSKBANK is investment into its staff", says the Chairman of the Managing Board. So, the Bank's doors are open for professionals from different regions of Ukraine who want to achieve success and professional growth.

Together we will succeed!