

## Micro, Small & Medium-sized Industrials of Mexico will benefit from Banorte-Canacintra agreement

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México, D. F., August 29, 2006. Today Grupo Financiero Banorte and the National Chamber of the Transformation Industry (Canacintra) signed an agreement to collectively promote the financial institution's products as part of its loan portfolio to the micro, small and medium companies of the country.

The agreement states that the Canacintra affiliates will be eligible to receive the benefits of Créditos ProNegocio, S.A., a Special Purpose Financial Institution, a subsidiary of Banorte that specializes in serving micro-companies made up of less than five persons, and CrediActivo Banorte, that offers funds to small and medium companies.

This joint collaboration includes communicating and informing the Chamber affiliates about the loan products' features that Banorte has to offer as well as such services as checkbook, Sales Point Terminals, Telephone Banking, and Internet Banking. Complete information about the requirements for contracting the product of their choice is available at the Bank branches.

Luis Peña Kegel, the CEO of Grupo Financiero Banorte, pointed out that the agreement with Canacintra is completely consistent with the efforts that Banorte started over twelve months ago, "when we decided that the bank's greatest effort would be to offer support to micro, small and medium companies as one of the most viable options to continue driving the country's development."

Through ProNegocio Loans, micro-companies will be able to get loans, without having to give a surety, ranging from 10 thousand to 70 thousand pesos to be used as working capital and fixed assets. Fixed interest rates and up to a two-year term make these loans even more attractive for the Canacintra affiliates who have access to them at any one of the 50 branches throughout the country.

For the SMBs associated with this business chamber, Banorte offers CrediActivo loans between 100 thousand and 11.5 million pesos, although higher sums are available under a different loan scheme.

The loan can be in Mexican pesos or US dollars, and is to be used as working capital and fixed assets, with the possibility of no surety required for loans of up to one million pesos at fixed and variable rates for terms ranging from 1 to 5 years. The product includes an overdraft line of up to 10 percent of the working capital credit line, in the event of a contingency.

CrediActivo is available through the 980 branches of the Banorte network throughout the country.

The agreement was signed by Luis Peña Kegel, CEO of Grupo Financiero Banorte, and Cuauhtémoc Martínez García, National Chairman of Canacintra.