

"The Banker" names Banorte "The Bank of the year"

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London, England. November 26, 2008. In the years 2000, 2005, 2006 and now in 2008, the London-based Financial Times Group's specialized magazine The Banker has recognized BANORTE as "Bank of the Year in Mexico 2008".

In order to be a candidate for this prestigious recognition, BANORTE competed with all the banks currently operating in the country, among which The Banker considered that BANORTE was the best for its innovation, customer service capability, wise risk-taking and proper administration.

For Dr. Alejandro Valenzuela del Río, CEO of Grupo Financiero Banorte, being awarded this recognition, "is clear proof of the hard teamwork we have been doing at Banorte and is a great encouragement to continue driving a wise and innovative administration, based on in-depth knowledge of the features and special needs of the Mexican market."

"The Banker's Country Awards" takes into consideration the overall performance of the financial institution, their latest results, technology usage level, degree of innovation and development strategies that have had an impact on the institutions' market position and long-term development.

The Banker's editorial board makes an annual evaluation of over 500 banks in at least 130 countries worldwide.

The bank, a wholly Mexican-owned institution, offers a wide variety of banking, insurance, long-term saving sector, leasing, factoring, and micro-credit services and serves nearly 13 million customers, of which the Bank covers 6.5 million, the Afore Pension Fund takes care of 3.3 million and the Insurance Company attends 3.2 million.

About Banorte:

Banco Mercantil del Norte, Banorte was established in 1899 in Monterrey, Nuevo León. It covers the most important cities across the Mexican Republic with over 1000 branches and 3 thousand 674 ATMs. It has a work force of over 17 thousand employees.