

Banorte and American Express sign an alliance to issue corporate cards

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México, D.F., July 30, 2008.- Banco Mercantil del Norte S.A. (Banorte), one of the most important banking institutions in Mexico, and American Express Company (Mexico), S.A. de C.V., a leading company in corporate cards, signed an agreement that will make American Express the issuer of corporate cards for the Bank.

Through this alliance, Banorte's corporate clients will have access to American Express' products and services that provide benefits such as savings' generation, expense control, financing and other exclusive user benefits. Miguel Huller, Banorte's Managing Director of Consumer Products, said "the importance for Banorte of signing this alliance with the leader in corporate cards, is that it will add to our institution's wide array of products and services, a flexible financial instrument backed by American Express".

Antonio Ortiz Cobos, Banorte's Managing Director of Corporate and Entrepreneurial Lending said, "This alliance complements our business product and service offering, with high quality service and value added."

Pablo Ribas, American Express' VP of Corporate Cards for Middle Market and Acquisitions, commented "for American Express it is very important to be recognized by one of the most important banks in the country with their Corporate Card because it proves the consolidated leadership of our products and services. We are certain that this agreement will be successful because it allows us to join forces with a solid institution, and of great tradition, that has earned the trust of its customers in Mexico".

About Banorte

Grupo Financiero Banorte is the only large bank in Mexico that is not controlled by a foreign financial institution. It ranks fifth in terms of assets and has a market capitalization of over US\$8.0 billion at the close of June 2008.

Currently, it ranks fourth in terms of loans, having a 12% market share, and fifth in terms of deposits, having a 13% market share.

Banorte offers a full range of banking services, insurance, long-term savings, leasing, factoring and microlending services, serving nearly 13 million customers, of which 6.5 belong to the Bank, 3.3 million to the Afore (Pension Funds) and 3.2 million to the Insurance Company.

The Bank provides an extensive range of commercial and consumer banking activities through its nationwide footprint, consisting of over 1,000 branches, nearly 4,000 ATMs and around 100 microlending branches.

Banorte also has presence in the US Hispanic market through Inter National Bank (INB), based in Texas, and the remittances companies, Motran and Uniteller, based in California and New Jersey, respectively. For more information, visit our website: www.banorte.com.

About American Express

American Express Company (México) S.A. de C.V. is an international Financial and Travel Services company that offers to its corporate clients in Mexico the American Express® Corporate Card, American Express® Gold Corporate Card, American Express® Platinum Corporate Card, American Express® Corporate Purchasing Card, American Express® Meeting Card, and the American Express® Gasoline Card, as well as American Express®, Travelers Checks and Foreign Exchange Services. For more information, visit:

www.americanexpress.com.mx

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