

Banorte inaugurates its first ¿SME CENTERS¿

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Mexico, D.F. August 11, 2010. Grupo Financiero Banorte initiated operation of its first two "SME Banorte Centers", where integral attention will be provided to small and mid-size businesses, covering as much their financial needs as those of specialized consultancy agencies and as a link with new business opportunities. In the SME Banorte Centers, highly trained executives with a wide knowledge of the diverse necessities of this important segment will be available.

This day, when heading the cut of the inaugural ribbon, Dr. Alejandro Valenzuela, CEO of Grupo Financiero Banorte, stated: "We are very satisfied with the opening of our first two SME Banorte Centers, because the vision of our institution is to be a strategic business partner to our clients. We are a relational, not transactional bank, providing consultancy and support so that our clients know what their developmental possibilities are, since Banorte will grow stronger when our clients grow stronger."

Through these centers, Banorte seeks to provide services and integral assistance to its SME clients, transforming into much more than just a lender of financial services. Among the main services that the SME Centers will provide are:

- ¿Financing: Crediactivo and Empuje Negocios credit card
- ¿Technology: Internet banking, Banorte payroll, concentration of business payments and Point of Sale Terminals.
- ¿Accounts: Enlace Global checking, promissory notes and demand investments.
- ¿Services: Lines of credit for overdrafts and check protection
- ¿Corporate Insurance (life, car and contents)
- ¿Specialized consultancy in finance options.
- ¿Information on topics of general interest for SMEs. (fiscal, credit, labor, among others)
- ¿Linking clients up with influential chambers and associations of the areas.
- ¿Formation of strategic alliances among businessmen.

The SME Banorte Centers have special simulators so that businessmen can clearly see the advantages and characteristics of the products and services at their disposal. Clients also have access to a network of contacts which highlight representatives of chambers, associations and business organisms that together Banorte¿s consultancy, will help to identify new business opportunities.

The two SME Banorte Centers which were inaugurated today are located at Gustavo Baz Ave. #142-A. Col. Bellavista, Tlalnepantla, and Chimalhuacan Ave. #488, local B, Col. Benito Juarez, Ciudad Nezahualcoyotl, both in the state of Mexico.

Attending the inaugurations of the new SME Centers were the Secretary of Economic Development for the State of Mexico, Lic. Carolina Monroy del Mazo, as well as directors of Grupo Financiero Banorte such as Ing. Jesus O. Garza, Managing Director of Banking and Lic. Andrés Aymes Ansoleaga, Executive Director of Corporate, among others.

The efficient attention that the SME Banorte Centers will provide together with the commitment and professionalism of its executives, will allow a greater bond of trust and security between the institution and businesses.

This is one more step of the strategic plan to support SMEs, a sector in which Banorte has remained as leader in banking. In this sense, it is necessary to point out that in the next few months, openings of more SME Centers will be announced, as well as the launching of additional and innovative products to support small and mid-sized businesses.