



GRUPPOMONTEPASCHI

PRESS RELEASE

Approval of 2010 Results

Net Income amounts to 15.2 million euro. ROE attains 6.45%. 13 million euro dividend.

Biella, 31 March 2011. Today, the Meeting of Biverbanca's Shareholders – Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena SpA, the Foundation Cassa di Risparmio di Biella and the Foundation Cassa di Risparmio di Vercelli - chaired by its President, Mr. Alfredo Monaci, has approved Biverbanca's 2010 Annual Report.

In summary, 12M highlights evidence:

- **net profit for the year: 15.2 million euro**, in line with budget forecasts, and a 6.45% ROE (85% payout);
- **13 million euro dividend distributed among shareholders**, as follows:
 - 7.7 million euro to Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena;
 - 4.5 million euro to the Foundation Cassa di Risparmio di Biella;
 - 0.8 million euro to the Foundation Cassa di Risparmio di Vercelli;
- **overall assets entrusted to the Bank: 6,052 million euro** (+3.6 YoY), with **direct funding** amounting to **2,809 million euro** and **indirect funding** totalling **3,243 million euro**;
- **aggregate customers' loans: 2,376 million euro** (+7.2% vs 2009);
- customer growth: **more than 10,000 new retail customers** (+8% over the previous year) and about **1,300 new corporate clients** (+10% YoY).

After the approval of the balance sheet, pursuant to the allocation of net profit for 2010, **the Bank's equity capital increased to 234.9 million euro**, with further strengthening of capital ratio: **Tier 1 and Total Capital Ratio** stood at excellent levels, both being **13.36%**.

In the course of the year under review, Biverbanca considerably expanded its branch network: after the opening in February 2010 of a branch in Strambino in the province of Turin, 13 branches were acquired from Antonveneta, all located in Piedmont, namely in the provinces of Turin, Alessandria, Novara and Verbania. Meanwhile, the branch in Rome, deemed non strategic, was sold to Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena.

After the recent opening of a new branch in Chivasso, Biverbanca's **network numbers 122 branches** (+12% over the previous year), three private centres and three corporate centres. Moreover, during the year four outlets with reduced opening hours were transformed into full-service branch locations, situated in the municipalities of Cerrione and Viverone in the province of Biella, and of Rovasenda and Scopello in the province of Vercelli.

As at 31 December 2010 total staff was equal to **770 employees** (+8% YoY).

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