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Embargo

Thomas Rufer to become TOB member

4 May 2007 – The Swiss Federal Banking Commission (SFBC) elected Mr. Thomas Rufer to become member of the Takeover Board (TOB).

Thomas Rufer is an economist and a certified accountant. He practices as an independent counsel since July 2002. Furthermore, Thomas Rufer is a member of the board of the Bern Cantonal Bank and of the Swiss Authority for Accounting Supervision.

<u>TOB</u> is a federal authority. It ensures compliance with the provisions applicable to public takeover offers. TOB newly counts ten members.