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## OVB Holding AG strengthens Executive Board

- Supervisory Board appoints Mario Freis to the Executive Board of OVB Holding AG
- Many years of experience in sales



(A photograph of Mario Freis is available on demand)

**Cologne (Germany), 7 December 2009** – The Supervisory Board of OVB Holding AG has appointed Mario Freis, currently the authorised signatory and departmental director for international business at OVB Holding AG, to the Executive Board of the Company with effect from 1 January 2010.

The 34-year-old will be responsible for the area of International Sales and will thus support the Executive Board, which currently comprises two members, with the strategic and operational challenges associated with continuing the growth course of a company that has attained the size of OVB.

"Mario Freis is a recognised expert in sales who has proven his competence at OVB over many years," commented Wolfgang Fauter, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of OVB. "Through his appointment, the Supervisory Board is supporting continuity and rejuvenation."

Freis, who joined the OVB Group in 1995, has been authorised signatory and departmental director for international business since January 2002. The certified insurance specialist, who gained the Chamber of Industry and Commerce's higher insurance qualification, began his career at OVB in the Controlling department. Since 2001, Mario Freis has been responsible for managing and monitoring foreign sales companies as a managing director, an executive board member or a supervi-

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sory or advisory board member. At OVB, his work has always primarily focused on sales.

As the Executive Board member responsible for International Sales, Mr Freis will contribute his many years of sales experience, concentrating in particular on driving forward further international expansion. Over the last few years, Freis has been heavily involved in developing the European national companies and was responsible for preparing and implementing new market entries.

## **About OVB Group**

OVB Group, with its holding company headquartered in Cologne, is one of Europe's leading financial sales organisations. Since the formation of OVB Vermögens-beratung AG in Germany in 1970, customer-oriented consulting for private house-holds in the areas of insurance coverage, asset building and appreciation, pension provision and real estate acquisition have formed the focus of OVB's business activities. Currently OVB advises some 2.8 million customers across Europe and works together with more than 100 renowned product partners. OVB is presently active in 14 countries, with some 4,700 full-time financial consultants working for the Group. In 2008, OVB Holding AG − which has been listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (Prime Standard, ISIN DE0006286560) since July 2006 − and its subsidiaries generated total sales commission of €260.2 million and EBIT of €28.8 million.

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