

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Metzler Bank anticipates a trend with FIX-Protocol from Swissrisk**

Frankfurt, 24 May 2007 – **Swissrisk Financial Systems, European banking software specialists, announces Metzler Bank has gone live using the X-Gen FIX-Protocol solution, “FIX-STP” - satisfying both clients and MiFID – and becomes one of the first equities brokers in Germany/Austria/Switzerland to offer FIX-Protocol connectivity.**

Thomas Nolten, Head of Equity Trading, Metzler explained: *“Our clients confirmed to us that there is a real need for innovative solutions for the optimisation of trading services. Moreover there are indications FIX will become a standard in Germany similar to the U.S., so we decided to anticipate this trend and gain a lead over our competitors.”*

FIX-STP is powered by X-Gen, the business process engine for financial messaging and STP. At Metzler, the bank’s traditional Order Management System, MERIAN, could not automatically read FIX-messages. Now X-Gen transforms order and order change requests to a format that MERIAN can understand.

Stefan Ellmer, Head of IT, Metzler adds: *“Using X-Gen, we can convert standard formats like FIX or SWIFT to XML. And if we need to make modifications, e.g. new client entries or new standards, we can easily adapt via X-Gen, without having to reprogram our system.”*

Metzler optimized their trading processes by combining FIX-Protocol with an STP solution to automate order workflow, leaving open the possibility of human intervention where necessary. Ellmer remarked: *“With the combined capability of X-Gen and FIX-Protocol to automate trading processes, we are able to manage complex data flows and handle exceptions more efficiently and more rapidly than ever before. We truly optimized our STP rate. Today we can provide connectivity to external brokers and custodians, higher efficiency and diminished latency. Customers can directly adjust quantity and limit to their orders. Thanks to X-Gen and FIX, straight-through-processing has become a reality for Metzler and our clients.”*

The implementation of FIX connectivity was straightforward and protected Metzler’s investment in existing OMS (MERIAN) and back office systems. Metzler’s Head of IT confirmed, *“The implementation was very fast and caused no disruption to our systems. The solution was installed, integrated to MERIAN and tested in the record time of only three weeks start to finish. Our service went live on 11 April 2007 – and it works”.*

**Additional information** can be found on [www.swissrisk.com/asset/swift\\_fix-stp.php](http://www.swissrisk.com/asset/swift_fix-stp.php)

#### **About B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co. KGaA**

The Frankfurt-based B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co. KGaA is the oldest private bank in Germany with an unbroken tradition of family ownership. Since its establishment in 1674, Metzler has evolved into a modern investment bank and asset management institution, specialising in individual advice for institutional customers and demanding private clients in its core areas of business: Asset Management, Corporate Finance, Equities, Financial Markets and Private Banking. Metzler is a member of Xetra and the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and has access to all major European equity markets.

#### **About Swissrisk Financial Systems**

Swissrisk is a European market leader of specialized banking software for Wealth Management, Issuance, Trading & Market Making and Financial Messaging & STP.

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