

**PRESS RELEASE**

**WELT and WELT am SONNTAG honour the elite portfolio managers:  
BHF-BANK receives highest accolade of “summa cum laude” for second  
consecutive year and is number one in Germany**

**Frankfurt, 5 December 2006.** The renowned German newspapers DIE WELT and WELT am SONNTAG once again examined the advisory quality of banks and portfolio managers in Germany, Luxembourg, Austria, Liechtenstein and Switzerland this year, conducting a comprehensive test to identify the elite institutes in this sector. Their findings: of the 268 banks and portfolio managers visited by undercover test clients, BHF-BANK came out on top in the “WELT Elite Report 2007”, scoring 359 out of a possible 400 points in Germany. No other institute posted a higher score than BHF-BANK. BHF-BANK is one of just seven German institutes to receive the highest honour of “summa cum laude”. It was the second year in succession in which the bank attained the best ranking in the most important benchmark study measuring the quality of advisory services offered by portfolio managers in the German-speaking countries. BHF-BANK scored top marks in nearly every category. The “Elite Report” confirmed BHF-BANK as a leading private bank, particularly in the areas of

- client focus,
- wealth culture and depth,
- advisory quality and a consistently structured approach,
- service and convenience, and
- product transparency and quality.

“Clients are catered for in a fair and open manner,” wrote the authors of the Elite Report in their assessment. “Entrepreneurs, freelance professionals and wealthy individuals – in short, key performers will find that this prestigious bank offers a level of understanding,

open-mindedness and expertise that is the precondition for impartial high quality advisory services.”

Furthermore, BHF-BANK ranked among the top 20 institutes awarded a golden pyramid in the latest special report on the elite of inheritance optimisation specialists. “This esteemed bank has thus once again confirmed that it leads the way when it comes to outstanding portfolio management as well as advisory-intensive topics such as anticipated inheritance solutions,” the authors wrote in their appraisal of the bank.

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