

Global Finance names the World's 50 Safest Banks 2012

NEW YORK, August 16, 2012 – Bank stability remains a pressing concern for the world's corporations and investors. It is within this context that **Global Finance** announces its **21st Annual Ranking of the World's 50 Safest Banks**.

Europe's sovereign debt crisis and slowing growth are having a significant impact on bank ratings. Global instability is also in the spotlight. Companies are watching closely to see how these events are affecting their counterparties.

Canadian banks are the best performing in North America with seven banks in the top 50 compared to six from United States. Banks from Singapore are the strongest in Asia and from Chile in Latin America. Credit ratings and rankings of most European banks have suffered except for those at the very top of the list which have explicit guarantees from AAA rated governments.

With the Top 10 banks unchanged as of an April 2012 update to last year's rankings, the **Global Finance** list shows that most of the top echelon of banks are truly worthy of the distinction of being named **World's Safest Bank**. Winners were selected through an evaluation of long-term credit ratings—from Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch—and total assets of the 500 largest banks worldwide.

Global Finance's annual ranking of **World's 50 Safest Banks** has been a recognized and trusted standard of creditworthiness for the entire financial world for more than 20 years. "Counterparty creditworthiness is a critical issue for companies and investors worldwide," says **Global Finance** publisher Joseph D. Giarraputo. "More than ever, companies around the world are reevaluating the long-term credit strength of their banks, and partnering with only those banks that have proven strength and stability."

The full results of this exclusive survey will be published in the October issue of **Global Finance**. The banks ranked 1-10 will be presented awards at a special ceremony to be held during the Annual Meetings of the IMF and World Bank in Tokyo in October.

Find the full list of
Global Finance's World's 50 Safest Banks 2012
on the following page.

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The reach of Global Finance

Global Finance, founded in 1987, has a circulation of 50,050 and readers in 163 countries. Its circulation is audited by BPA. *Global Finance's* audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers and other senior financial officers responsible for making investment and strategic decisions at multinational companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 international portfolio investors responsible for more than 80% of all global assets under professional management. Its website — Gfmag.com — offers analysis and articles that are the heritage of 25 years of experience in international financial markets, and provides a valuable source of data on 192 countries. Headquartered in New York, with offices in London and Milan.

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Global Finance names the WORLD'S 50 SAFEST BANKS 2012

1. **KfW**
(Germany)
2. **Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten (BNG)**
(Netherlands)
3. **Zürcher Kantonalbank**
(Switzerland)
4. **Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank**
(Germany)
5. **Landeskreditbank Baden-Württemberg - Förderbank (L-Bank)**
(Germany)
6. **Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations(CDC)**
(France)
7. **Nederlandse Waterschapsbank**
(Netherlands)
8. **NRW.Bank**
(Germany)
9. **Banque et Caisse d'Épargne de l'État**
(Luxembourg)
10. **Rabobank Group**
(Netherlands)
11. **TD Bank Group**
(Canada)
12. **Bank of Nova Scotia**
(Canada)
13. **DBS Bank**
(Singapore)
14. **Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp**
(Singapore)
15. **United Overseas Bank**
(Singapore)
16. **Caisse centrale Desjardins**
(Canada)
17. **Royal Bank of Canada**
(Canada)
18. **National Australia Bank**
(Australia)
19. **Commonwealth Bank of Australia**
(Australia)
20. **Westpac Banking Corporation**
(Australia)
21. **Australia and New Zealand Banking Group**
(Australia)
22. **Kiwibank**
(New Zealand)
23. **HSBC Holdings**
(United Kingdom)
24. **Nordea**
(Sweden)
25. **Bank of Montreal**
(Canada)
26. **Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce**
(Canada)
27. **Svenska Handelsbanken**
(Sweden)
28. **China Development Bank**
(China)
29. **Bank of New York Mellon Corp**
(United States)
30. **Agricultural Development Bank of China**
(China)
31. **National Bank of Abu Dhabi**
(United Arab Emirates)
32. **CoBank ACB**
(United States)
33. **Pohjola Bank**
(Finland)
34. **National Bank of Kuwait**
(Kuwait)
35. **DZ Bank**
(Germany)
36. **Banque Fédérative du Crédit Mutuel (BFCM)**
(France)
37. **U.S. Bancorp**
(United States)
38. **National Bank of Canada**
(Canada)
39. **Northern Trust Corp**
(United States)
40. **Qatar National Bank**
(Qatar)
41. **Samba Financial Group**
(Saudi Arabia)
42. **BancoEstado**
(Chile)
43. **La Banque Postale**
(France)
44. **Bank of Taiwan**
(Taiwan)
45. **Shizuoka Bank**
(Japan)
46. **Banco de Chile**
(Chile)
47. **BNP Paribas**
(France)
48. **Wells Fargo**
(United States)
49. **Standard Chartered**
(United Kingdom)
50. **SEB**
(Sweden)

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