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ACI THE FINANCIAL MARKETS ASSOCIATION

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ACI BRIEFING

NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL MARKETS ASSOCIATION

http://www.aciforex.com

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Features:

Board of Education to Conduct Survey of ACI Members

"The Certification ACI offers should create added value for its members and the profession as a whole."

It is this simple idea that has led the ACI Board of Education to develop a series of questionnaires to assess what education programs its members need and what they, as well as various stakeholders, consider essential. Based on the collected information the Board will analyse its existing offerings and adapt or design new ones as necessary.

For the member survey the Board depends on your support. The survey is Web-based, interactive, and it takes approximately 15 minutes to complete all the questions. The respondent must choose an answer before he/she can proceed to the next question. Certain answers may trigger open answer boxes asking for further information.

The survey is accessible through the ACI homepage, www.aciforex.com, or via a direct link www.crewcheck.com/aci_public/survey.asp?s=S1Y2D45B7

ACI's Board of Education stresses that a high level of responses to the survey would be of great help in tracing a highly professional and a well defined educational strategy in the near future…and beyond the altruistic motives, the National Association with the highest percentage of members participating in the survey will win one free ticket to the upcoming ACI World Congress in Montréal 2007 which has been generously offered by host Association the Financial Markets Association of Canada (FMAC).

Iceland Hosts Nordic Congress

ACI Iceland proved that although it is only 6 years old, it is more than capable of staging a successful ACI Congress by hosting the sixth Nordic Congress on August 25-26 for some 300 delegates from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark.

After an opening ceremony on Friday night at Kjarvalsstaoir Art Museum, Iceland's Minister of Finance, Arni Mathiesen, welcomed the delegates on Saturday with an opening statement that provided an overview of the Icelandic economy. Since Iceland's independence in 1944, economic dependence from Denmark has remained high on the agenda. When the country jointed the EEA (European Economic Area) the over-reliance on fishery products forced rationalisation and innovation on the industry. At that time the export market was also tackled, he said.

The government diversified into aluminium plants as this industry is known to be a very high user of energy. Given the natural resources in Iceland this industry continued to grow with currently three major plants on the island.

The second diversification took effect in the financial system when in 1969 private pension funds were created which are now close to being fully funded for future generations. Together with increased finance to the fishery industry, expansion was guaranteed.

Panel One gets to grips with its theme

From 1990 onwards a reduction of taxes and a further strengthening of the private sector through privatisation of the banking sector created the foundations of today's success, Mathiesen pointed out.

All EEA regulations have been adopted which allows Icelandic participation in the single market. The increased know-how of people and a new generation of highly educated people is helping the growth of the financial services industry. With a population of 280.000 it is clear the stock exchange cannot survive without foreign participation. Two thirds of the profits come from abroad which help the markets even further.

Iceland is one of the top OECD countries in adopting recommendations, which has resulted in one of the lowest state deficits of this group of developed countries. The IMF and Moodys have given a positive outlook for the economy. In his conclusion the Minister stated his belief that Iceland is facing further strong, sustainable development.

The first panel discussion around Financial Stability debated the current challenges in this field. Panellists under the expert chairmanship of Jens Peter Neergaard from Den Danske Bank were:

Anders Moller Christensen, Nationalbanken
Birger Vikoren,Norges-Bank
Ingimundur Fridriksson, Sedlabanki Islands,

Mattias Persson, Sveriges Riskbank
Sampo Alhonsuo, Suomen Pankki

As leverage increases and competition continues unabated, the risk to credit prudence can also be increased. Deregulation has taken place but we do have a better system, the panel argued, adding that the difference between the 1990s and now taught three lessons:

- the banking business is highly specialised (and central banks need to keep track)
- financial markets are volatile
- a crucial role of asset price movements in the economy is established

The Basel II proposal will change the regime of the banking business and bring better risk management, it was further noted, but no country is immune to a financial crisis. As such, co-operation between central banks needs to be strengthened. This will reduce the likelihood of a financial crisis but can never be foolproof.

Iceland has had a number of stress tests in its financial industry and have panel stressed. Previous crises in the Nordic region had provided a good schooling to the financial industry and regulators alike.

Panel Two warms to its task

It was pointed out that an open question remains around stability and transparency in financial markets. The hedge fund business has an impact with trends and influences that reach outside the traditional banking business. The debate about the possible regulation of hedge fund is still there, but the general conclusion of the panel is that hedge funds are a good thing as they inject liquidity. However, banks should try to understand how to deal with this counterparty exposure. More international (and EU) regulatory cooperation will be needed, the panel stressed.

The second panel discussed Global Investments with the CEO's of Iceland's top 3 banks:

Bjarni Armannsson, Glitnir
Sigurour Einarsson, Kaupthing Bank
Sigurjon Arnason, Landsbanki.

The overall question of what is going on and what are the reasons of success was answered by the CEOs in a very modest fashion: “We are just normal bankers but have a number of factors that helped us.”

The panel suggested there was a kind of renaissance in Iceland created by the fall of the Berlin wall, technology and globalisation. Iceland also had a need to liberalise its society and privatise its industry upon joining the EEA. The home market’s lack of potential forced the banks to go elsewhere.

Work ethics in Iceland are also different, the panel argued, citing statistics that reveal 30 to 50% longer working hours and the highest birth rate in Europe, (not to mention the hunting mentality). With a population of only 70,000 in the early 19th century to 280,000 now, the total population has recorded only 1.5 million people on the island in its history. Icelandic people are proud of their heritage and return to the Iceland after finishing studying or working abroad. The ample resources allocated to education have helped the quality improvement of the workforce as internationalisation came out of necessity, the panel said. Banks are run in a very transparent way in a market driven economy, especially over the last 10 years.

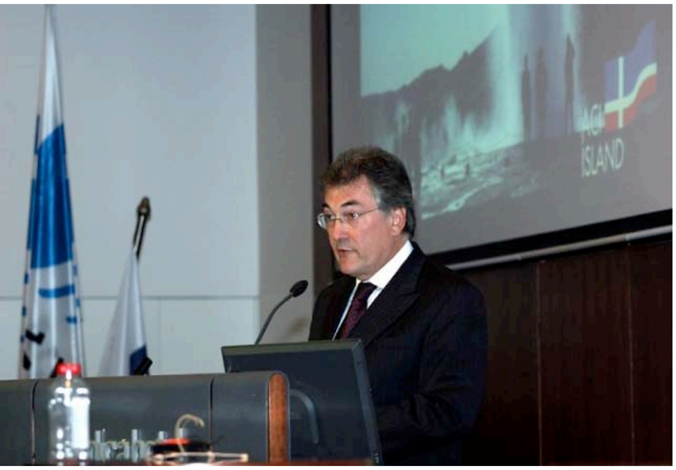
Delegates let of steam while discussing the Congress!

The quota system in the fishery industry created opportunities to create wealth, the panel added. Fisheries were forced to rationalise and became more profitable equal to forestry in other countries.

As far as investing is concerned, the panel believed that risk appetite and entrepreneurial spirit is the driving force. As investors want growth and the customer base is too small in Iceland the banking system goes to countries where they can contribute and bring value. Starting from the fishing industry and the renewable energy sources in Iceland, the search was on for more diversification, with Norway the first step for new investments. This is similar to other Scandinavian banks that also have small markets and have needed to look abroad.

Iceland is a mixed economy with the US-Europe influence and also risk taking tolerances are mixed, the panel observed, adding that it doesn’t mean that the banking sector takes on more risks than its competitors. The current business generation is in the age group of 35 to 50, whereas the rest of Europe is 45 to 60. Younger people tend to move faster and have a different mentality. That might help explain the success of Icelandic banking, the panel argued.

Leverage, even with the recent drop in the value of the stock exchange by about 25 % and a similar size of devaluation of the currency did not trigger unusual problems as to margin calls. Icelandic banks are regulated as any bank in Europe, so there is a solid base. Financial engineering has been the key, the panel stressed, citing the banking industry's use of innovative products to alleviate leverage issues. Leverage should not be seen as good or bad, but it obviously needs to be managed, the panel concluded.



Paul Mercier discusses the euro entry process

The business session ended with a closing statement by Paul Mercier from the European Central Bank on the topic, "What should you know prior to joining the Euro?" He started his comments outlining the difference between different countries represented in this Nordic Congress:

- Denmark has not adopted the euro, but is an ERM II member and "an honorary member" of the Eurozone as its monetary policy is not detached from the Eurozone
- Sweden is ready to join but apparently doesn't want to do so and is not a member of ERM II
- Norway and Iceland are not even members of the European Union.

Therefore, his answer to the question above is challenging and in his speech he made 5 points.

1. The euro is not simply a present to the new entrants: adopting the euro entails both hard work and, sometimes, difficult choices.
2. Adopting the euro is a process. It requires time and patience. Even before starting the process, any candidate for adopting the euro has to be a member of the European Union. And after a country accedes to the EU, it continues to be fully responsible for its monetary and exchange rate policies. Yet, EU Member States are required to treat their exchange rate policies as a matter of common interest and they have to pursue price stability as the primary objective of monetary policy.
   More generally, the candidate is expected to undertake major policy adjustments in order to already prepare for the next steps of monetary integration. The convergence process thus starts.
   Then comes the participation in ERM II. At the moment eight countries are participation in ERM II. Two important features are that participation can be requested at any time by the Member State and that the Treaty foresees a minimum of two years prior to the examination of convergence but a Member State may remain within the mechanism for more than two years.
   Successful participation in ERM II is not a sufficient condition for joining the euro area. To qualify to join, each country must achieve a high degree of sustainable economic and legal convergence.

3. In order to guide the process, general principles are defined by the Maastricht Treaty and other key documents. One basic principle is that there is no single trajectory towards the euro that can be identified and recommended to all EU Member States at all times. As a consequence of diversity, the economic situations and strategies of the respective Member States and their readiness to adopt the euro are assessed on a case-by-case basis. The last principle is equal treatment.
4. Adopting the euro implies changes for the central bank and for the market participants. The central bank will have to integrate itself within the Eurosystem, share targets, the strategy and implement procedures of Eurosystem monetary policy. This implies no loss of sovereignty. For the market many activities will be affected. Some forex activities will disappear but because of integration of financial markets, the banks play a more crucial role in the monetary policy transmission process.
5. The fifth and last point was a personal reflection on the euro. The euro, target as such. It is a tool that can contribute to the political integration of Europe. The euro is a "social contract". The ECB's role is to preserve the integrity of the currency. The euro is not only a financial instrument. It is a political instrument that can serve peace and prosperity. Adopting the euro implies also that you share some values.

He concluded his speech with these words: "What you should really know prior to joining the euro is whether you, as citizens, would like to share the main values while respecting the many cultural differences."

Sweden and Denmark congratulate each other after their football match. The tournament was won by host nation Iceland

On Saturday afternoon, the traditional Nordic football tournament took place at the Prottur soccer field in Laugardalur. The home team won the competition but was promised revenge at the next Nordic Forex, to be hosted by ACI Norway in 2009.

The traditional Viking dinner ended a successful gathering in the most northern capital of the world. On offer was the ancient delicacy of the Vikings, "rotten shark". Unknown to most of us this is an excellent cure against stomach ulcers, but the drink served at the same time known as the black death probably reversed the healing effect of the food!

Later in the evening some VIPs were ordered by the Vikings to report when called for future battles and received a document with their registration number. If not killed on the battle field of our financial markets, there is a good chance all of them will turn up in Norway in 2009.

ACI UK to Honour Bridge with 50th Anniversary Lecture

Paul Tucker

ACI UK is to celebrate its 50th anniversary by staging the latest R.A.O. Bridge Memorial Lecture at the Honourable Artillery Club, City Road, London on Monday 11th December. Roy Bridge provided invaluable support to ACI's Founding President Maurice Plaquet during the Association's formative years and became its second President in 1962 when Plaquet stepped down.

A full programme of events for foreign guests and dignitaries is planned, culminating in the Lecture which, appropriately given Bridge's long tenure at the Bank of England, is being delivered by Paul Tucker, an Executive Director at the Bank of England and a member of its Monetary Policy Committee. He has responsibility for the Bank of England's implementation of monetary policy via open market operations, its foreign exchange market operations, including management of the UK Government's foreign currency reserves, and related risk management; as well as for market intelligence and analysis supporting the Bank's monetary and financial stability core purposes.

Tucker is also a member of the Governor's Executive Team, the Bank's Asset and Liability Committee, and of the Financial Markets Law Committee and also chairs London's Money Markets Liaison Group.

Roy Bridge's spirit and memory is celebrated each year by ACI UK in the prestigious R.A.O. Bridge Memorial Lecture, which was inaugurated in January 1980, when the then-Governor of the Bank of England, Sir Gordon Richardson, delivered the first lecture.

Since that day, the list of luminaries honoured with an invitation to deliver the RAO Bridge Memorial Lecture includes seven central bankers (from four countries), the head of the IMF, a former Prime Minister of Great Britain, a European Commissioner, ex-Chancellors of the Exchequer and the Chairmen of four global banks.

For details of how to apply to attend, contact aciukmembers@aol.com, or go to the Association's website.

ACI Macedonia Holds 11th GA

ACI Macedonia recently held its 11th General Assembly at which members were addressed by among others, the Vice Governor of the National Bank of the Republic of Macedonia (pictured talking with ACI President Godfried de Vidts).

The assembly took place in Ohrid, where the lake is one of the largest biological reserves in Europe. Ohrid was declared a UNESCO World Cultural and Natural heritage Site in 1980.

After a welcome speech by the Vice Governor, attendees heard from Godfried De Vidts, President of ACI – The Financial Markets Association on the impact of the official European Central Bank tenders on collateral management in the European repo markets. De Vidts explained the ECB's recently updated monetary operations. A full report on the updated operations can be found at www.ecb.int/pub/pdf/other/gendoc2006en.pdf.

A further address was presented by Elias Mavnikos, Head of Market Analysis and Strategy at the Alpha Bank, Athens, who discussed trends in forecasting currency markets.

With the General Assembly also taking place, a busy day of events was closed out by Igor Velikovski, Head of the Open Market Operations Division at the central bank, who looked at the development of financial markets in Macedonia.

Denmark in Midst of Busy Education Programme

ACI Forex Danmark continues to support a very busy education programme, having recently held its sixth Dealing Certificate course of 2006, from September 12-14 (pictured left). The association has also recently supported the ACI Settlement Certificate examination, which was also fully booked.

The next Dealing Certificate course to be held from October 17-19 is already fully booked, however the association has a full programme scheduled for 2007 with 10 courses already in the diary.

Still to come in 2006 are the ACI Diploma course, which is to be held in two parts from November 7-10 and 14-16 and the ACI Australia Dealing

Simulation Course, which is to be hosted for the third time by ACI Forex Danmark from October 31-November 3.

Full details of how to apply for any course hosted by ACI Forex Danmark go to www.forexdanmark.dk.

Financial Markets on the Crest of a Wave

Surveys of turnover across the financial markets conducted by official bodies over the past few months indicate that the industry is in a healthy state. Surveys seeking to measure activity in the credit derivative, repo and foreign exchange markets have all indicated a strong upswing in 2006.
Most recently, the European Repo Council (ERC) of the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) conducted the 11th in its series of semi-annual surveys of the repo market in Europe.

The latest survey asked a sample of financial institutions in Europe for the value of their repo contracts that were still outstanding at close of business on June 14, 2006. Replies were received from 79 offices of 71 financial groups, mainly banks. Returns were also made directly by the principal tri-party repo agents and automatic repo trading systems (ATS) in Europe.

The survey found that the total value of repo contracts outstanding on the books of the participating institutions was EUR 6,019 billion, compared to EUR 5,883 billion in December 2005 and EUR 5,319 billion in June 2005.

It is important to note that some of the changes in these headline numbers between surveys represent the entry and exit of institutions into and out of the survey, as well as bank mergers and the consolidation of repo books within banks. The organic year-on-year growth in the European repo market has therefore been measured by comparing the aggregate returns from a sample of institutions that have participated in several surveys. The ERC says that growth measured on this basis was between about 12% and 15% over the year to June 2006. Growth decelerated in the last six months.

The ICMA survey was actively supported by the ACI - The Financial Markets Association, and has been welcomed by the European Central Bank and European Commission. The survey was managed and the results analysed on behalf of ICMA by the ICMA Centre at Reading University in England under the guidance of the ERC Steering Committee.

A Growing Trend

♉ June 2006	EUR 6,019 billion
♉ December 2005	EUR 5,883 billion
♉ June 2005	EUR 5,319 billion
♉ December 2004	EUR 5,000 billion
♉ June 2004	EUR 4,561 billion
♉ December 2003	EUR 3,788 billion
♉ June 2003	EUR 4,050 billion
♉ December 2002	EUR 3,377 billion
♉ June 2002	EUR 3,305 billion
♉ December 2001	EUR 2,298 billion
♉ June 2001	EUR 1,863 billion

Tri-party repos accounted for a record market share of 11.3%, raising the possibility that this section of the market may have entered a new phase of growth and confirming evidence of growing interest in triparty products.

However, after rapid growth in the previous six months, the share of electronic trading fell back to 21.4% from 24.7% in December 2005 and the value of outstanding contracts declined by 11%. Some of this set-back may also reflect the shortening of the average term to maturity of electronic transactions. The share and value of anonymous electronic business suffered even more.

Expectations of rising interest rates appear to have led to a shortening of the average remaining term of maturity of repo business and renewed interest in forward-forward repos.

The share of European Union collateral issued by central governments appears to have resumed its downward trend, reaching 84.3% and reflecting to some degree the growth reported anecdotally in credit repo activity.

Credit Growth

Elsewhere, surveys taken of the credit derivative market show that growth continues to soar. Credit derivative volumes rose 52% in the first-half of 2006 to a record $26 trillion according to a survey by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA). The notional amount outstanding of credit derivatives grew from $17.1 trillion, while the annual growth rate for credit derivatives was 109% from $12.4 trillion at mid-year 2005.

Notional amounts outstanding of interest rate derivatives, which include interest rate swaps and options and cross-currency swaps, grew by 18% to $250.8 trillion from $213.2 trillion. The annual growth rate for interest rate derivatives to mid-2006 was 25% from $201.4 trillion in mid-2005.

Not content with that growth, a report issued by the British Bankers Association (BBA) suggests the credit derivatives market will rise to $33 trillion by the end of 2008. The report, based on a survey of market leaders in credit derivatives, predicts London will remain a dominant centre for credit derivatives products with annual trading volume predicted to pass $7 trillion by the end of 2006.
It also shows that banks continued to dominate the market although hedge funds had doubled their involvement in the market since the 2004.

Forex Volumes Also Soar

Meanwhile, the latest six monthly surveys of foreign exchange market turnover from the world's FX Committees indicate that activity shows no sign of slowing. The surveys are conducted by the foreign exchange committees of the US, UK, Japan, Singapore and Canada, and are compiled according to the location of the trading desk.

With a combined average daily turnover of $1,029 billion the UK is firmly entrenched as the world's biggest FX centre – a position it has held since modern foreign exchange was first conceived. Equally, the US continues its renaissance, seeing overall average daily turnover of $577.3 billion, making it comfortably the second biggest individual FX market centre. Throw in Singapore turnover at $166.1 billion and Tokyo turnover at $227.7 billion and one already has in excess of $2 trillion dollars per day. In other words, these four centres alone are now seeing more average daily turnover than the entire world did in the last Bank for International Settlements Triennial Survey (which measure $1.88 trillion per day).

Everywhere one looks, the numbers are impressive in the UK survey. Spot activity rose from $257 billion per day in October 2005 to $341 billion per day in April 2006 (it registered $233 billion per day in April 2005). FX swap turnover – which constitutes by far the largest segment in the UK survey – rose from $467 billion per day in October 2005 ($396 billion in April 2005) to break the half trillion mark at $506 billion per day; and even outright forwards, traditionally the smallest element in the survey, rose from $66 billion per day (from $50 billion in April 2005) to $96 billion in the latest survey.

Turnover in OTC FX derivatives, which tends to be a more volatile measure in the FX committee surveys, also rose strongly, from $73 billion per day in October 2005 ($69 billion in April 2005) to $87 billion in April 2006. The vast majority of this business is in FX options rather than currency swaps which are also included – the latter remains constant at $5 billion per day, a slight drop on April 2005's $6 billion.

The headline numbers are not the only impressive factor, however. The pace of growth is equally startling with overall turnover 39% higher than in April 2005, and over 56% higher than the inaugural survey in October 2004.

Although not as spectacular as the UK's growth, the Singapore survey registered a 12.8% increase in "traditional" turnover and a much more impressive 43.8% growth in OTC FX derivatives – although as surveys elsewhere have indicated, this segment can be volatile in terms of its returns and as such it is probably wise to await further surveys and a broader picture.

Singapore sees a much more even spread of business across instrument compared to other centres – indeed a global picture is emerging wherein the

UK and Japanese markets are dominated by FX swap turnover (being responsible for 53.7% and 57.3% of all business respectively); the most heavily-traded instrument in the US is spot at 47.8% of turnover (FX swaps only account for 27.3%).

As far as Singapore is concerned the FX swap segment is again the largest at $75.8 billion per day (45.6%), however it is nearly matched by spot turnover at $65.1 billion (39%). Across the two surveys from the SFEMC, spot turnover rose by 16.5% from October 2005 to April 2006; outright forwards by 26.6% (to $25.2 billion per day in April 2006) and FX swaps by 6.1%.

In all, 21 institutions participated in the Tokyo survey which registered average daily turnover at $220.2 billion in "traditional" products and $7.5 billion in FX options. Although the two cannot be compared directly, in the 2004 BIS survey, Japan's average daily turnover was put at $199 billion and $39 billion respectively (the latter includes currency swaps, unlike the TFEMC survey).

FX swap turnover is the largest segment at a daily average of $126.1 billion, followed by spot at $66.1 billion and outright forwards at $12.3 billion. Just under 75% of spot transactions are with other banks, 80.8% of FX swaps, 57.7% of outright forwards, and 70% of FX options.

The big story in the FX world, however, is the comeback of the North American market. Although foreign exchange in North America never really went away, the region's influence in the global market was, either side of the turn of the century, fading fast. In the 2001 FX turnover survey conducted by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the BIS triennial report, the Fed notes a trend on the part of some US banks to shift the focus of their FX operations to London to take advantage of better market liquidity.

In the same BIS report in 2001 (as was the case in the 1998 report), in terms of regional activity, North America was fourth of five regions, only beating the three non-euro Scandinavian nations in terms of daily average turnover. Both the four major centres in Asia-Pacific and the 12 Eurozone nations (plus Switzerland) saw higher turnover.

Since the inaugural FX Committee survey, however, average daily volume has risen by more than 55%. In the most recent survey, turnover registered $577.3 billion per day, itself a 31.5% increase on the previous year.

It is not just in the US that the benefits are felt either, for the Canadian Foreign Exchange Committee has also started collating turnover and the second survey saw an 8.5% increase in turnover in Canada with all "traditional" products seeing an increase and only FX options turnover declining from October 2005 to April 2005. The beneficial picture for Canada can be highlighted by the fact that at US$52.6 billion per day, turnover is only just short of the BIS 2004 reading of US$54 billion and the latter would have been boosted by the presence of many sales "spokes" feeding into US trading "hubs".

Studying the data across the various FX committees now reporting turnover, one is struck by the importance of the client in North America. In the latest survey, a daily average of $240.9 billion is transacted with Other Financial Customers or Non-Financial Customers. This amounts to 41.7% of all business and is itself as a measure on the up, from the previous April when it represented 37.4% of turnover.

A large part of this growth can be attributed to the high frequency trading community that has sprung up in the US in particular over the past two years, however it also appears that more traditional customers are also more proactive in hedging currency risks.

Overall then, with survey in the fixed income market also showing reasonable strength, the financial markets appears to be in healthy shape. "These recent surveys demonstrate the growth in interest across all financial markets," says Godfried De Vidts, President of ACI – The Financial Markets Association. "ACI will continue to work on behalf of its members and institutions worldwide to promote the best practices and educational programmes, without which, such growth would be difficult."

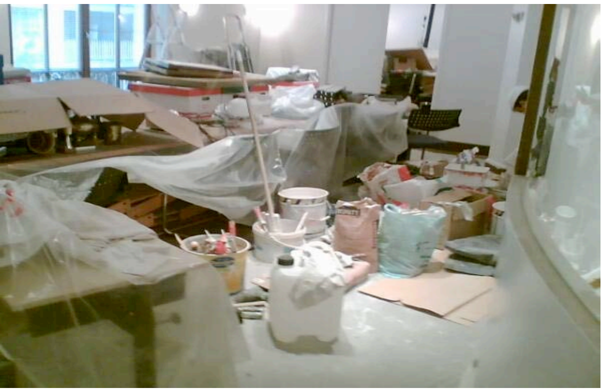
Market Monday Open Unchanged

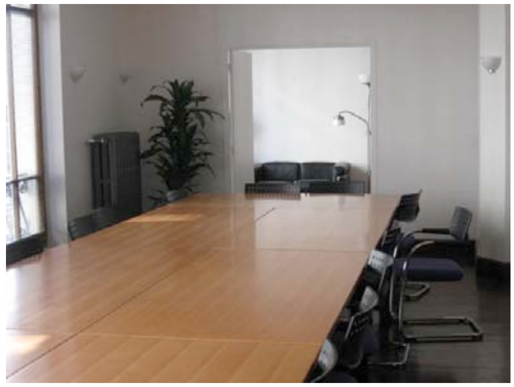
ACI Australia reports that following a meeting of the Australian Foreign Exchange Committee, (AFXC), it has been decided that the AFXC would no longer endorse a proposed change to the Monday morning Foreign Exchange opening time.

There has been lengthy debate on this topic, both within the region and globally, and a small majority of banks operating in the Sydney market still favour a change. It was determined, however, that in our unregulated market, effecting such a change with the operational burden of updating existing documentation would require a significantly higher level of support and enthusiasm than was evident from global market participants.

Consequently, normal market conditions will continue to be measured from 5 a.m. Sydney time each Monday as currently defined in the ACI Model Code and in a range of bilateral documentation.

ACI HQ Has its Own "Makeover"





With "makeover" shows all the rage in television the world over, ACI – The Financial Markets Association has played its part, having its headquarters in Paris redecorated recently.

As the pictures indicate, an "interesting" time was involved for ACI Managing Director Jean Pierre Ravisé and ACI Deputy Manager Natalie van Drenth, who describes the experience "dusty, smelly and bruising", but in true ACI spirit, they overcame all obstacles thrown at them during the month that it took to redecorate Rue du Mail.

In the end it was all worth it, for as the new pictures show, a splendid job was done and things are back to normal.

Madrid Hosts Next Repo Course

The very popular Professional Repo Market Course is to be held in Madrid on November 22-23. The Course is an educational initiative aimed at promoting the orderly growth and development of the European repo markets by advancing the professional competence of the individuals active in these markets. More specifically, the course aims to provide a comprehensive and practical understanding of the repo product and its uses, the European repo markets and their conventions, operational and legal issues, as well as the regulatory and accounting framework.

As a prominent international financial centre, Spain is a particularly appropriate venue for this year's ICMA-ACI Professional repo market course. This is the first time the course, which is sponsored by the European Repo Council and ACI – The Financial Markets Association, has been held in Spain.The teaching faculty includes experienced market practitioners, legal professionals, high-level academics as well as central bank officials. It is being coordinated by the ICMA Centre at the University of Reading in England.

This is the fifth year the course has been organized and it continues to attract strong demand from members of ICMA and the ACI. Following the success of the previous events, all of which received excellent feedback, ICMA and ACI are pleased to be able to offer this course to their members at reduced rates, reinforcing the commitment of both organisations to market education.

Demand for this course is heavy and for this event, the organisers are forced to limit the attendance to a maximum of 125 participants. They would also like to express their gratitude for the financial support for this event by Caja Madrid, Spain and in particular thank them for their active participation and considerable time and resources dedicated towards the organisation of course in Madrid.

Model Code Available in Russian

Russian became the latest language in which ACI's Model Code has been translated. For details of how to obtain a copy, please contact ACI Russia or the ACI Secretariat.

New Excom for Lebanon

ACI Lebanon recently held at Extraordinary General Meeting, to fill a vacant position in its Executive Committee.

Mrs Amal Saleh has been elected as a new member of the Executive Committee and following this election, the Excom held a meeting on the same day.

The new committee's composition is as follows:

- President:	Nakhlé Khoneisser
- Vice President:	Karim El Khoury
- Secretary:	François Akl
- Treasurer:	Edouard Farran
- Members:	Nagi Echo, Wassim El Khodr, Mona Gabriel, Amal Saleh, Nabil Tannous

FMAC Members to Hear from Central Bank

David Longworth

As well as continuing its build up to the ACI World Congress in Montreal in May 2007, the Financial Markets Association of Canada (FMAC) continues to hold members' events, the next of which is a cocktail evening at the National Club in Toronto on November 7, at which David Longworth, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada will speak.

The Deputy Governor's theme will be Canada's Monetary Policy Report and Monetary Policy Framework. He is responsible for domestic and international financial market issues and the Bank's fiscal agency role for the federal government.

As a member of the Bank's Governing Council and the Executive Management Committee, he shares responsibility for decisions with respect to monetary policy and the management of the business of the Bank of Canada.

The vent is exclusive to FMAC members and is free of charge to attend. For details of how to join FMAC, or to register for what promises to be a very interesting evening discussion, see the Association's website, www.fmac.ca.

Web Listing

ACI - The Financial Markets Association
www.aciforex.com
Forex Club Argentina
www.forexclubargentino.com.ar
ACI Australia
www.aciaustralia.com.au
ACI Austria
www.aci-austria.com
ACI Forex Belgium
www.acibelgium.com
Financial Markets Association of Canada
www.fmac.ca
ACI Channel Islands
www.acici.com
Forex Croatia
www.banka.hr/forex
ACI Czech Republic
www.aciforex.cz
ACI Forex Danmark
www.aciforexdanmark.dk
AFTB
www.acifrance.net
ACI Germany
www.aci-germany.de
Forex Greece
www.forexhellas.gr
ACI-The Financial Markets Association of Hong Kong
www.acihk.org.hk
Hungarian Forex
www.huforex.com
Forex India
www.forexindia.org
ACI Ireland
www.aciireland.com
ATIC forex (Italy)
www.aticforex.com
Kuwait Financial Markets Association
www.kfma.org.kw
ACI Lebanon
www.acilebanon.com
ACI Luxembourg
www.acilux.com
The Macau Financial Markets Association
www.mfma.org.mo
Financial Markets Association- Malaysia
www.ppkm.net
ACI Monaco
www.acimonaco.com
ACI Nederland
www.aciforex.nl
ACI Norway
www.acinorge.com
ACI Philippines
www.aciphils.com
ACI Poland
www.acipolska.pl
Forex ACI Portugal
www.forex-aciportugal.com.pt
ACI Romania
www.aciromania.ro
Forex Slovenia
www.forex-club.si
ACI South Africa
www.aciforex.co.za
ACI Sweden
www.acisweden.com
AMF/ACI Spain
www.asocciacionmercadosfinancieros.com
ACI Singapore - The Financial Markets Association
www.acisin.com
ACI Suisse - The Financial Markets Association
www.acisuisse.ch