

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Oppenheim Pramerica sweeps the board at Lipper Fund Award in Austria

Best bond fund manager over 3 years

Numerous individual awards

Vienna, 23 February 2007, Oppenheim Pramerica has once again shone at this year's Lipper Fund Award 2007 in Austria thanks to the extraordinary performance of its bond funds. Following numerous awards last year, the fund provider was once again crowned best bond fund manager by the renowned rating agency, Lipper, at this year's awards.

The joint venture between Sal. Oppenheim and the US-based Pramerica Financial Inc. won the group award for the best investment company in the "Bond Large" category over a three-year period. "This first place is particularly important to us", said a pleased Andreas Lessmann, Head of Mutual Funds at Sal. Oppenheim jr. & Cie. (Österreich) AG with respect to the award. "This prize is not only a mark of distinction for an individual fund, but also confirms the sustained positive performance of all of our bond products and the expertise of our competence centres in the US and Germany. This has reaffirmed our belief that we are on the right track as far as our bond management is concerned", said Lessmann.

Oppenheim Pramerica also ranked among the individual award winners with three of its funds. In the "Best Fund over 3 Years" category, the OP Extra Portfolio came first in the "Bond Europe" sector, while the OP Bond Euro Plus led the field in the "Mixed Asset EUR Conservative – Europe" sector. In the "Best Fund over 5 Years" category, the OP Extra Bond Euro was ranked first in the "Bond Euro" sector. In addition to the winning funds, Lessmann also believes that the WIP Emerging Markets Fixed Income

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Fund and the Oppenheim Asset Backed Securities Fund offer high performance potential after achieving top marks in their respective groups.

The company was also very successful at the Lipper Fund Award Germany 2007. As in Austria, Oppenheim Pramerica came out on top of the “Large Bond Fund Manager” category over three years. Furthermore, six different funds received a total of eight individual awards and either topped their respective categories or emerged as the winners over certain periods of time.

*With a fund volume of € 13.1 billion (as at 31 December 2006/German Investment and Asset Management Association (Bundesverband Investment und Asset Management e.V. - BVI); own calculations), **Oppenheim Pramerica** is one of Germany’s largest provider of mutual funds. The joint venture between Sal. Oppenheim and Prudential Financial Inc. of the United States, a leading financial services provider, markets a broad range of mutual funds in Germany and other selected European markets. The product offering combines the expertise of both parent companies in Europe, the US and the emerging markets. Oppenheim Pramerica rounds out its global expertise by consulting external advisors for special fund concepts. Furthermore, Oppenheim Pramerica offers access to almost all investment funds authorised in Germany via an independent fund platform. Further information can be found at www.oppenheimpramerica.de.*

*With regulatory capital of € 1.9 billion, and total assets of € 32 billion, **Sal. Oppenheim jr. & Cie.** is Europe’s largest independent private bank. The Bank, which has its headquarters in Cologne, has been family-owned since its foundation in 1789. As an integrated asset management and investment bank, Sal. Oppenheim offers its clients tailor-made concepts that combine entrepreneurial and personal objectives in a comprehensive asset strategy in its Private Banking, Asset Management and Investment Banking divisions. Together with BHF-Bank, which it acquired at the beginning of 2005, the Sal. Oppenheim Group manages assets totalling approximately € 136 billion and employs around 3,400 staff in Germany and Europe. Further information can be found at www.oppenheim.de.*

*Prudential Financial Inc., a company incorporated and predominantly active in the United States, and its group companies operate under the **Pramerica Financial** trademark in selected countries outside of the US. Prudential Financial, Inc., a leading financial services company with assets under management of around \$ 586 billion (as at 30 September 2006) operates in the US, Asia, Europe and Latin America. With its traditional expertise in the areas of life insurance and asset management, Prudential focuses on supporting private and institutional clients with asset growth and preservation. The rock that appears in the company's logo stands for enduring strength, stability, expertise and innovation. Prudential offers a wide range of products and services including life insurance, annuities, pension services, investment funds, asset management and real estate services. Further information can be found at www.prudential.com. Prudential Financial, Inc. has no affiliation with Prudential plc. based in the UK.*

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