

Paris, 20 September 2006

AMF warns the public about SBI International Law Associates Mergers & Acquisitions

The French securities regulator, Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF), is warning the public about the activities of SBI International Law Associates Mergers & Acquisitions, which claims to have its registered office in New York.

The company is approaching French shareholders of Seroptix, a foreign firm, and offering to buy their shares in return for the advance payment of expenses amounting to 12.5% of the transaction, payable by credit transfer to a Latvian bank.

The AMF points out that SBI International Law Associates Mergers & Acquisitions has not been authorised to conduct direct marketing activities or operate as an investment services provider in France. Furthermore, the Swedish financial regulator, Finansinspektionen, has issued a warning to Swedish investors about the company.

Prospective investors are therefore advised to treat any such approach with the utmost caution.