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The Family Business Network International (FBN) selects ABN AMRO Private Banking as a new partner for knowledge-sharing initiatives targeting families in business.

ABN AMRO Private Banking, a leading global provider of wealth management and investment products and services, joins PriceWaterhouseCoopers and IMD, leader in executive education, in bringing increased value to the family business segment by offering support to families in business and to their sustainable development model.

The partnership will amongst others include:

- Sponsorship of 20th Global Family Business Network Summit, to be held this year from 1-3 October in Amsterdam,
- An ABN AMRO expert will be included in a panel discussion at this year's Summit
- A joint publication for entrepreneurs and their families that provides research on and profiles of the next generation of family-business leaders, focusing on their aspirations.

The partnership, which runs through 2009 with the prospect of extension, will explore collaborative potential in addressing the needs of family-owned businesses and the next generation of their proprietors. "We feel the partnership is a strong match and expect it to have enduring potential," according to FBN executive director Olivier de Richoufftz. "FBN aims to strengthen family business success over generations, and ABN AMRO Private Banking complements the expertise of our other partners and is well-positioned to support us in our objectives," he says.

The Family Business Network was established in 1990 to address the particular needs and issues, such as succession planning, crucial for family businesses but largely ignored by general business networks. FBN understands that the commitment and multi-generational mindset of family-owned businesses can provide unparalleled competitive advantage and personal satisfaction. The global association has more than 3200 members in more than 50 countries around the globe. Its primary areas of focus are: sharing knowledge and best practices, supporting the next generation (aged 18-40) of business-owning families, and promoting the case for family business to governments and tax authorities.

ABN AMRO Private Banking is the international wealth-management division of ABN AMRO Bank, and offers investment products and solutions from its locations in 12 countries worldwide. ABN AMRO is a leading international bank and was acquired by the consortium of Fortis, RBS and Santander in October 2007. On 3 October 2008, the Dutch state announced that it had purchased Fortis Bank Nederland, including its interests in ABN AMRO. As of 24 December 2008, the Dutch state replaced Fortis as a stakeholder in RFS Holdings, which continues to manage ABN AMRO.

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