



THE BUDAPEST STOCK EXCHANGE AND UNICREDIT BANK JOIN FORCES TO STRENGTHEN THE MARKET POSITION OF MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANIES

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The Budapest Stock Exchange (BSE) and UniCredit Bank Hungary Zrt. have signed a strategic cooperation agreement to improve the competitiveness and growth opportunities of medium-sized companies. Under the initiative, called BSE-UniCredit Lounge, the two institutions will pool their resources and expertise to support mid-cap companies in accessing the necessary knowledge, financial resources and expert network, thereby strengthening their presence in the capital markets and sustainable growth.

Through this cooperation, the BSE, as a key player in the domestic capital market, and UniCredit Bank, as one of Hungary's leading financial institutions, will help each other to achieve their goals. For BSE, this means becoming more involved in the financing of domestic economic players, increasing the role of domestic investors and expanding the number of issuers, while for the Bank, it means financing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as large companies and mitigating their risks.

The parties aim to support SMEs to improve their competitiveness, innovation potential and scale efficiency, and thereby take their business to a new level. Identifying and accessing financing opportunities on the capital markets and creating companies able to be listed are important objectives of the cooperation.

Within the framework of the BSE-UniCredit Lounge, the cooperating parties organise regular meetings, training sessions and events for the managers of selected companies. These events are attended by experts from UniCredit Bank and BSE, investors, managers of listed companies, consultants and trainers. Through this cooperation, the companies concerned can benefit from ongoing mentoring, access to technical material for entering the market and the stock market, and access to such financing opportunities such as corporate finance services and discounted fees.

For BSE, the cooperation will provide an opportunity to increase the role of domestic investors and the number of issuers, while for UniCredit Bank, it will improve the risk rating and creditworthiness of companies and increase customer satisfaction and loyalty by meeting their full range of financing needs.

"The cooperation will support BSE in its efforts to increase the role of equity financing in the domestic economy and to further embed the capital market as a growth tool in corporate thinking. Together with UniCredit Bank, we can help to strengthen the presence of domestic companies in the capital market and to develop the financial market on a broad scale. Through this partnership, we can provide the

professional and financial support that is key to the sustainable growth and success of companies", said Richárd Végh, CEO of the Budapest Stock Exchange.

„Becoming a listed company is a very important and determining decision in the life cycle of a company, which can also be the key to its further development. In the effective preparation for this, we want to support our medium-sized company clients who are already ready to be listed or will become so in the foreseeable future within the framework of the BÉT-UniCredit Lounge cooperation – with forums and trainings created to share knowledge, skills and professional contacts. During the preparation, in addition to our colleagues experienced in the process of entering the stock market, other important participants, lawyers, auditors etc. share their valuable experiences. We consider it our important task to contribute to the sustainable growth, transformation and competitiveness of our corporate clients. The BÉT-UniCredit Lounge cooperation and our bank group's recently announced "UniCredit for CEE" initiative also serve this purpose, which offers actual financial, account management and advisory solutions and supports our business clients in Central and Eastern Europe in achieving their ambitions", highlighted by Albert Hulshof, Head of Corporates at UniCredit Bank.

Sajtókapcsolat

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