



PRESS RELEASE

Krka winner of the 2008 Portal prize – Ljubljana Stock Exchange award for best investor relations

Ljubljana, 11 December 2008 – The level two assessment process for the Portal prize has drawn to an end, revealing the winner of the 2008 award. Considering all the assessment criteria, it was the Novo mesto-based pharmacist Krka d. d. that proved most convincing among all the shortlisted companies. Mr. Jože Colarič, President of the Krka Management Board, accepted the award from Mr. Marko Simoneti, President of the Ljubljana Stock Exchange Management Board, at the New Year's reception for capital market participants' senior management.

This year, the Ljubljana Stock Exchange has awarded its 13th annual Portal prize, the aim of which is to stress the openness of listed companies toward all interest groups. The winner is selected by a 12-member Assessment Board, which sits investors, analysts, the press and representatives of the LJSE. The Board applies a two-level assessment method comprising 10 criteria, related to the quality of disclosure, corporate governance, communication strategies and investor relations, and they also review issuers' questionnaires. The aim of their work is to identify the issuer who has, in the period from October 2007 to September 2008, demonstrated rolemodel corporate communication methods and has thus set a guideline for other issuers to follow.

The short-listed companies contesting for the 2008 Portal prize included the following LJSE Prime and Standard Market companies (given in alphabetic order): appliance maker **Gorenje**, pharmacist **Krka**, port operator **Luka Koper**, holding company **Sava** and telecommunications operator **Telekom Slovenije**.

The 2008 Portal prize went to the **Novo mesto-based pharmacist Krka d. d.**, which has thus been declared by the Portal Assessment Board the exemplary Slovene listed company in the area of corporate communication methods for the second consecutive year. Mr. Jože Colarič, President of the Krka Management Board, accepted the award from Mr. Marko Simoneti, President of the LJSE Management Board, at the New Year's reception for capital market participants' senior management in Ljubljana.

The LJSE substantiated its decision by saying that: "Prompt and quality disclosure on the companies' operations, operations estimates and plans is crucial for the investment community. The winning company has handled this exceptionally well, and has kept the public well informed in advance of the times of all its future acts of disclosure by having published its financial calendar. The company's annual report stood out, much like the year before, for its depth of disclosure and informative and reader-friendly layout and structure.

The Assessment Board believes a stable and consistent implementation of a company's corporate communication strategy strengthens the public's trust and underlines the company's reputation. The winning company disclosed information during the assessment period in an exemplary and consistent manner, as stipulated by the LJSE guidelines, and its informing about its takeover activities was especially commendable.

The winning company excels in best practices of corporate governance, which is evident both from its relations with shareholders and foreign investors as well as from its relations with employees. It has very good systems for checking against conflicts of interests in members of management or the supervisory board, which is very important given Slovenia's relatively small business environment.

The issuer's websites fully meet the criteria on the scope of information available to investors, while the information of key interest to investors is presented in a user-friendly manner and easy to find.

This year's winner is one of the few companies that maintain all their investor relations at a very high level. In communicating and building relationships with analysts and international investors it enforces standards much higher than most. It informs the wider public of its activities by means of public announcements, the web, the press, special publications, media, conferences, etc. It keeps investors informed by holding special meetings with potential investors. Aside from taking part at international investor conferences, Krka d. d. regularly goes on week-long visits to its shareholders and other investors abroad.

Its consistency in implementing its corporate communication strategy, fair disclosure and openness toward the entire public are the key elements that distinguish this year's Portal prize winner and make it a rolemodel for others to follow«.

Said President of the Krka Management Board, Mr. Jože Colarič, upon receiving the award: »The Portal prize reaffirms our corporate communication strategy and is a recognition of our efforts invested in investor relations activities. Investors have ever higher expectations, especially of Prime Market companies.

By presenting our business performance, strategy and future development in a transparent and comprehensive manner, we help investors make quality and timely business decisions. We regularly update our corporate communication policy in line with all the regulations and guidelines, paying special attention to the most recent domestic and foreign findings from the area.

It is difficult to be the best among so many companies that strive for excellence in communicating with the public. And what is even more difficult is to remain the best, which is why it gives me great pride to be able to accept Portal for the second consecutive year. Krka will strive to not only maintain but improve and upgrade its communication with investors and the wider public. In the face of difficult times that lie ahead, this is bound to be more important than ever.«

Ljubljana Stock Exchange



More on the Portal prize is available at the LJSE website <http://www.ljse.si>.