

**Nova KBM and Poštna banka Slovenije receive approval from the European Central Bank for their merger**

The merger of Nova KBM and Poštna banka Slovenije is scheduled to take place on 1 September 2016 and will become legally effective on the day it is entered into the court register. The merged bank will operate under the name Nova KBM d.d., with its head office being in Maribor. On the day of the merger, Poštna banka Slovenije will cease to exist as an independent legal entity, and all its obligations and rights will be transferred to Nova KBM, its legal successor, without this causing any disruption to customer service and without customers of Nova KBM and Poštna banka Slovenije being required to visit their respective bank as a result of changes arising from the merger. The merger will make it possible for Nova KBM to significantly strengthen its market presence and to regain its position as the second largest bank in Slovenia in terms of total assets, as indicated by the banking system data for the end of March 2016.

The European Central Bank has approved the merger of Nova KBM and Poštna banka Slovenije (PBS), which will become legally effective on the day it is entered into the court register. Once the merger becomes effective, presumably on 1 September 2016, all assets, liabilities and rights of PBS will be transferred to Nova KBM, with the result that the latter, being a legal successor of PBS, will take over the obligations and rights under all transactions concluded by PBS prior to the merger. The name of the merged bank will be Nova KBM d.d., with its head office being in Maribor. During the merger transition period, PBS's corporate brand will be gradually replaced by the corporate brand and the overall corporate identity of Nova KBM.

The merger of Nova KBM and PBS will not only ensure that customers are provided with a broader range of contemporary banking services suited to their needs, but will also enable them to have better access to an increased number of branch offices spread throughout the country. In co-operation with its strategic partner Pošta Slovenije, with which the Nova KBM Group has had a strong business relationship, the range of quality services aimed at their mutual clients will be further upgraded.

The customers of both banks will soon be notified in writing of the legal merger between the two banks. Customer service will be unaffected by the merger procedure, with no need for customers to visit their respective bank as a result of this process.

Benefiting from more than 150 years of banking tradition and the whole range of contemporary banking services provided by Nova KBM, coupled with the expertise, trustworthiness and experience of PBS in delivering banking services through an extensive country-wide network of post offices, the merged bank will be able to build its position as one of the leading universal banks in Slovenia. According to the banking system data for the end of March 2016, Nova KBM will, after merging with PBS, regain its position as the second largest bank in Slovenia in terms of total assets.

Once merged with PBS, Nova KBM will continue to concentrate on providing and further developing contemporary retail and corporate financial services, while playing an important role in contributing to the quality of the economic environment and the social life of the community in which it operates. For the Nova KBM Group, the merger between Nova KBM and PBS represents an important step towards gradually becoming focused on its principal activity, banking. This is also one of the key commitments arising from Nova KBM's restructuring programme.

**Management Board of Poštna banka Slovenije**

Danica Ozvaldič, M.Sc.,	Marko Novak,
Substitutional Member	Chairman

**Management Board of Nova KBM**

Mag. Sabina Župec Kranjc,	Robert Senica,
Member	Chairman