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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **SALE OF FINSOE STAKE OWNED BY BANCA MPS**

*Bologna, Siena 17 April 2008* - The Boards of Directors of Holmo, Finsoe, and Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena have decided to give mandates to their respective General Managers to negotiate and finalise sale of the entire Finsoe shareholding owned by Banca MPS, which accounts for 13% of Finsoe's entire share capital.

The purchase will be made partly by Holmo and in part by Finsoe itself.

The agreement concerning the deal – which is expected to be signed in the next few weeks – will conclude on a mutually agreed basis the phase of partnership between Holmo and Banca MPS concerning Finsoe, whilst also confirming the positive relationship between the Bank and Holmo's cooperative-shareholder base.

*This press release will be available on the website at the address: [www.mps.it](http://www.mps.it)*

#### **For further information:**

**Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena**  
**Relazioni con i Media**  
**David Rossi**  
Tel. 0577.299927  
[ufficio.stampa@banca.mps.it](mailto:ufficio.stampa@banca.mps.it)

**Investor Relations**  
**Alessandro Santoni**  
Tel: 0577.296477  
[investor.relations@banca.mps.it](mailto:investor.relations@banca.mps.it)