

PRESS RELEASE

BANCA MPS: SALE OF “BIVERBANCA” SHAREHOLDING

Siena, 10 September 2012 - Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena (**Banca MPS**) informs that, with regard to the already-announced disposal of BMPS's shareholding in Cassa di Risparmio di Biella e Vercelli (“**Biverbanca**”) to Cassa di Risparmio di Asti (“**CR Asti**”), the *Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Biella* and *Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Vercelli* have notified Banca MPS that, as it stands and under the proposed terms, they have not approved the scheme for demerger of the stake held in the Bank of Italy by Biverbanca, in preparation for finalisation of the sale of Banca MPS's 60.42% stake in Biverbanca (the “**Shareholding**”) to CR Asti.

Banca MPS informs that alternative options aimed at finalising the sale of the aforementioned Shareholding are currently under review.

This press release is available at www.mps.it

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