



Start-up companies to benefit from new AIB offer

18th October 2007

AIB today announces its new start-up package for entrepreneurs seeking to set up their own business.

AIB's start-up package includes:

1. the introduction of a two year current account fee offer for start-ups
2. a reduction in its start-up loan rate from 7% to 6.4% (variable) for amounts up to EUR60,000
3. free access to AIB Internet Banking for sole traders or 6 months free subscription to AIB's iBusiness Banking service
4. 1st year's free membership of the Small Firms Association for new and early stage companies (value of EUR490 + VAT)
5. a free copy of AIBs 'Practical guide to starting your business', a comprehensive start-up guide containing business plan templates and advice on applying for finance.

A typical start-up business with a EUR40,000 loan and normal transaction banking can expect to save in excess of EUR1,500 over a two year period, by availing of these offers. In a rising cost environment, this represents a considerable saving for entrepreneurs during the critical start-up phase.

John Kelly, Head of Small Business Banking at AIB, said:

"This package of benefits is aimed at giving our business customers what they have told us they need, while cementing our position as the bank that most businesses choose. AIB can help customers reduce costs, maximise revenue and put them in touch with the business expertise they need to get their business off the ground."

Having already launched a EUR30m Seed Capital Venture Fund in July 2007, two further announcements in relation to small businesses are scheduled to follow today's announcement.

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