**Media Release**

**Four more Clientis banks operating with a powerful new IT solution**

Four Clientis banks – Bank Oberaargau, Bank im Thal, EB Entlebucher Bank and Sparkasse Sense – managed their successful cutover to a new, efficient, developable IT solution from Finnova over the Whit weekend. Together with Clientis Bernerland Bank, which underwent a pilot migration to Finnova at the start of the year, nearly 200 Clientis bank staff at 36 branches of the five migrated banks are currently at work with the new platform. The remaining 15 Clientis banks are to follow in two groups, the first in October 2011 and the second at the start of 2012.

The change of platform opens new development potential for Clientis: from 2012, the banking group will be able to grow its membership of financial institutions. “Consolidation in the banking sector is set to continue”, explains Clientis CEO Hans-Ulrich Stucki. “This makes joining our strong contractual group an attractive alternative to taking the solo route.”

For the client advisers working at Clientis, Finnova with its simplified handling and processing brings greater scope for taking care of the individuals and organisations in their charge. Next to mortgage financing, the new platform furthers the Clientis banks’ increasingly systematic efforts to orient their core business towards investment and pension provision. Finnova enables straightforward introductions of new products, while at the same time easing cooperation within the Clientis Group.

The Clientis group has been in existence since 2004. The changeover to Finnova is taking place within the RBA group framework and represents Clientis’ largest joint IT project to date. 20 Clientis banks with around 100 branches employ a total of almost 800 staff.

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**About Clientis**

Clientis unites a group of successful Swiss regional banks under a single, strong umbrella organisation, which private individuals, SMBs and institutions can trust to deliver products and services that are optimally deployable to fully meet their needs. Clients benefit from geographical proximity and the bank’s appreciation of their custom, from individual advice, and from banking services with fair terms and conditions. Clientis banks pursue a coordinated strategy for activities across German- and French-speaking Switzerland. Their trusted brand, with local roots, engenders confidence through a mix of closeness to clients, efficiency and competence.

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