

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Amsterdam/Zurich/Poznan, November 2013****CIP® CEEMA area, class of 2013 in Poland**

On 1st October 2013, the Certified Investment Professional program has been opened for international participants in Cracow and Poznan, Poland. ML Finance Academy and HedgePole (Polska) Sp. z o. o. have partnered with a large financial institution in launching the first class and we are delighted to announce the first group of 13 participants on its way to become the first Polish Certified Investment Professionals CIP®.

The program has been developed since 2007 and since then 200 Certified Investment Professionals have been registered. The objective of the program is to offer professionals working in the financial securities market the opportunity to obtain the CIP® title on post-bachelor level. The CIP® program consists of eight mandatory modules that end with an exam and a thesis. The program fits extremely well in the Polish outsourcing and sub-delegation market. The CIP® program targets financial professionals working in middle and back offices, operations and ICT departments of banks, asset managers, pension funds, stock brokerage houses, insurance companies, or working for the suppliers of these financial institutions.

Michel van Zanten, responsible for the international business development said "We are delighted with the first class in CEEMA, Poland, a real growth area, supported by a large international financial institutions community. There are many banks, insurers and accounting firms in Poland that manage and grow a professional work force that provide support in financial services. In future, I expect those services to grow much beyond the standard and repetitive outsourcing work from the main financial centres requiring highly skilled, internationally trained and certified people".

ML Finance Academy, a certified preparation provider for the CIP® program, offers students an on-line platform to access all the training materials as well as the on-line examination process. Additionally, the CIP® foundation provides and maintains interesting content to the CIP® community and its followers.

After successfully passing the final overall exam, the subject for a thesis will be determined together with (the employer of) the trainee: in the thesis case study, the theoretical knowledge will be directly coupled with the daily practice. After finishing the thesis, the participant will be added to the public register of the foundation CIP® and can use the CIP® title. The CIP® title is an independent quality label in the financial market and is recognized as such. Annually, the acquired knowledge will be kept up to date through the CIP® Permanent Education Program. For registration please visit www.foundationCIP.com or follow CIP® on Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn.

CIP Foundation (www.foundationcip.com)

The CIP® training is offered by the CIP® Foundation, a partnership between universities, finance institutions and ML Finance Academy.

ML Finance Academy (www.mlfa.eu)

ML Finance Academy is the specialist in the field of courses for middle and back office in the financial market. The trainings and courses are characterized by their innovative and up-to-date nature, the direct applicability of the gained knowledge and the unique certification.



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