

CAPITALISATION: over €698 billion, with 284 companies listed

At the end of May, capitalisation of domestic companies amounted to € 698.1 billion (+3.2% compared to the end of 2005). The ratio of capitalisation/GDP was equal to 47.5%. The number of listed companies rose to 284, following the new listings of Noemalife (Expandi) on 10 May, Saras (Blue Chip) on 18 May, Nice (STAR) on 19 May and Pierrel (Expandi) on 23 May, and the delisting of Acqua Pia Antica Marcia.

THE INDICES: AllStars and Star achieve new record

After a period of constant growth at the beginning of the month, leading to indices with new annual highs, a downturn impacted all international markets: Mibtel closed the month at 27,923 points (-5.09% compared to April 2006, +4.28% from the end of 2005); MIB at 26,931 (-6.07% compared to April 2006, +3.36% from the end of 2005). On 9 May, Mibtel once again achieved the record high for the year, amounting to 30,073 points; on 11 May, MIB also achieved the annual record, at 29,257 points: these are the highest values since January 2001. The S&P/MIB closed the month at 36,450 points (-3.50% compared to April 2006, +2.09% from the end of 2005), achieving the annual high of 38,765 points on 9 May. Midex closed the month at 35,352 points (-9.86% compared to April, +11.8% from the end of 2005).

The AllStars index closed the month at 15,473 points (-8.42% compared to April, +10.51% from the end of 2005), and on 11 May it achieved a record value, since its introduction in January 2005, of 17,236 points; Star at 18,822 (respectively, -7.44% and +12.48%), also achieving a record, since its introduction, of 20,937 points, again on 11 May; TechStar at 11,479 (-11.90% and +11.99%); the Mex of the Expandi Market at the end of May amounted to 10,383 points (respectively, -4.04% and +8.44%).

SHARE TRADING: May most liquid month ever, with average daily trading of €5.79 billion

Average daily share trading (Blue Chip, Star, Standard and Expandi Market) amounted to 257,806 contracts and € 5.79 billion, up 9 and 15.3%, respectively, compared to the previous month (+50.2% and +49.7% compared to May 2005). **May 2006 was the most liquid month in the history of Borsa Italiana**, higher than the previous record achieved in February 2000 of € 5.12 billion. The new record for trading in a single session was achieved on Friday 12 May (€ 8.87 billion).

Compared to the first five months of 2005, average daily trading during the first five months of 2006 increased 36.2% in terms of number of contracts and 29.1% in terms of turnover. Average daily ETF trading resulted in a turnover of € 75.2 million (the second best month ever, +87.7% compared to May 2005) and 3,800 contracts (+350% compared to May 2005). This growth is even more striking if we consider the first five months of the year: + 297.7% growth in contracts compared to January/May 2005, +139.1% in terms of turnover. Securitised Derivatives trading (CW and Certificates) recorded a daily average of 18,828 contracts (+14.2% compared to May 2005) and turnover of € 266 million (second best month ever, +63.2% compared to May 2005).

IDEM: New record high trading volumes for the second consecutive month

IDEM, the Italian derivatives market, reports that trading volumes in May set a new record high of 3.9 million contracts, equivalent to € 130 billion. Daily average volumes increased 51% month-on-month to 176,000 contracts. On May 18th index options (MIBO) set a new daily record of 41,815 contracts (19th October 2005: 33,304 contracts), equivalent to € 3.8 billion. Of the derivative products, particularly strong growth was seen in index futures: volumes on minifutures on the S&P/MIB index increased 97% month-on-month with daily trading average of 8,000 contracts. The index future on the S&P/MIB (FIB) was also up 62% month-on-month with daily trading average of 19,587 contracts.

MOT: growth in bonds, Eurobonds and ABS

Average daily trading of fixed-income securities amounted to 11,341 contracts and € 484.5 million in turnover. The daily average turnover of Government Securities amounted to € 437.3 million; bonds were at € 31.5 million; Eurobonds and ABS amounted to € 15.7 million.

THE MONTH'S TOP PERFORMER

THE STOCK EXCHANGE'S TOP TEN IN THE MONTH OF MAY		THE STOCK EXCHANGE'S TOP TEN OF THE S&P/MIB INDEX IN THE MONTH OF MAY	
BANCA NAZ LAVORO RISP	17,27%	AEM	2,66%
TARGETTI SANKEY	14,71%	ENEL	0,89%
SNAI	14,02%	UNICREDITO ITALIANO	-2,46%
INTEK	12,49%	TELECOM ITALIA	-2,90%
UNI LAND	11,47%	TERNA - TRASMISSIONE ELETTRICITA' RETE NAZ.	-3,08%
JOLLY HOTEL	11,31%	SNAM RETE GAS	-3,54%
BIPIELLE INVESTIMENTI	9,02%	ENI	-3,88%
MONTEFIBRE	9,00%	BANCA POPOLARE MILANO	-4,05%
BANCA NAZ LAVORO	8,25%	FONDIARIA – SAI	-4,08%
BANCA CARIGE	7,23%	BANCHE POPOLARI UNITE	-4,18%

THE TOP TEN PERFORMERS SINCE PLACEMENT - LISTED 2005/2006 (at 31/05/06)

Instrument	Market	Initial Trading Date	IPO Price (€)	Price (€) 31/05/06	Post listing performance
BANCA ITALEASE	MTA	2005 06 14	9,30	40,33	+333,66 %
EUROTECH	MTAX	2005 11 30	3,40	12,08	+255,35 %
APULIA PRONTOPRESTITO	ME	2005 12 07	1,28	2,12	+65,47 %
IGD - IMMOBILIARE GRANDE DISTRIBUZIONE	MTA	2005 02 11	1,45	2,33	+60,76 %
BIOERA	ME	2005 07 27	7,00	11,19	+59,86 %
MONTI ASCENSORI	ME	2005 07 27	2,00	3,11	+55,50 %
TORO ASSICURAZIONI	MTA	2005 06 01	11,25	15,49	+41,95 %
GUALA CLOSURES	MTA	2005 11 22	4,20	5,01	+19,29 %
TAMBURI INVESTMENT PARTNERS	ME	2005 11 09	1,80	2,13	+18,39 %
CALEFFI	ME	2005 11 09	2,80	3,19	+13,79 %