



In the third quarter of 2011

## **Mercantil's loan portfolio registered 33.3% year-on-year growth**

- *The loan portfolio of Mercantil Banco Universal, the company's main subsidiary in Venezuela, achieved a 15% market share and ranked as the country's leading institutions in terms of savings deposits with 21.0% of the market.*

The company's Corporate Communications Unit reported that Mercantil Servicios Financieros (Mercantil) posted its third quarter results which included a notable 33.3% year-on-year increase in the volume of net loans to Bs 52,277 million. Over the same period the ratio of past-due and nonperforming loans to gross loans fell from 3.6% to 2.3%.

Mercantil, whose main subsidiaries are Mercantil Banco Universal, Mercantil Seguros and Mercantil Merinvest, in Venezuela, and Mercantil Commercebank in the United States, registered Bs 71,666 million in deposits and Bs 91,295 million in assets at September 30, 2011, representing 23.4% and 21.9% year-on-year growth respectively. The company's shareholders' equity totaled Bs 9,626 million at the end of the quarter, reflecting 21.5% year-on-year growth. Mercantil Servicios Financieros achieved Bs 533 million in net income in the third quarter of 2011.

### **Performance of the main subsidiaries**

The results of Mercantil's subsidiaries are presented according to the accounting standards applicable to each of them in their corresponding jurisdiction.

At the close of the third quarter of 2011 Mercantil Banco Universal's net loans closed at Bs. 34,848 million, registering a 49.3% year-on-year increase and a market share of 15%, thereby complying with all the regulatory percentages for mandatory loan portfolios at the end of the quarter. With regard to loan portfolio quality, the ratio of past-due and non performing loans to gross loans is 1,0%.

Mercantil Banco Universal is currently the leading institution in the Venezuelan financial system in terms of savings deposits, with a 21.0% share of the market.

At the close of the third quarter of 2011, this subsidiary's total consolidated assets were Bs 56,376 million, reflecting an 11.0% market share. Shareholders' Equity totaled Bs 5,283 million.

At September 30, 2011 Mercantil Commercebank N.A.'s total assets reached US\$ 6,756 million; net loans US\$ 3,889 million and total deposits US\$ 4,814 million. Mercantil Commercebank also registered US\$ 675 million in equity.

Mercantil Seguros ranked as the country's second insurance company in terms of net collected premiums which totaled Bs 1,334 million at September 30, 2011, with 10.7% of the Market at August 31, 2011 and Bs 4,136 million in assets. Its equity totaled Bs 1,165 million.

*Mercantil is a financial services provider of banking, insurance and investment service in Venezuela that operates in 10 countries in the Americas, Europe and Asia. Its shares are listed on the Caracas stock exchange and its ADRs are traded over the counter in the United States. Its main subsidiaries are Mercantil Banco Universal, Mercantil Seguros and Mercantil Merinvest in Venezuela; Mercantil Commercebank in the USA and Mercantil Bank (Schweiz) AG in Switzerland. Mercantil is one of the world's 2,000 leading companies according to a survey by Forbes magazine (April 2011). For further information, please visit our website [www.bancomercantil.com](http://www.bancomercantil.com).*

Caracas, November 2, 2011

**Mercantil Corporate Communications**