

Ice Group ASA: Convertible bond issue securing minimum gross proceeds of NOK 650 million

31.8.2020 08:39:32 CEST | Ice Group ASA | Inside information

NOT FOR RELEASE, PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN AUSTRALIA, CANADA, THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, SOUTH AFRICA, NEW ZEALAND, JAPAN OR THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION IN WHICH SUCH RELEASE, PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION WOULD BE UNLAWFUL.

ICE has today issued a convertible bond loan with minimum gross proceeds of NOK 650 million and maximum gross proceeds of NOK 1,200 million with a 5 year duration and an interest rate of 8% p.a. if paid in cash or 10% p.a. if paid in kind (PIK) (the **Bond Issue**). Ice Group ASA will be the issuer with its subsidiary Ice Group Scandinavia Holdings AS acting as co-debtor. The Bonds may be converted to shares in ICE at a conversion price of NOK 19,5089, being 37.5 % above the volume weighted average share price, calculated over a period of ten trading days prior to the issue date.

"With this bond issue, the company expects to have a fully financed business plan with sufficient liquidity to reach cash flow break even and reach its operational and financial targets. This offering is a major milestone for the company and allows us to continue our growth in the Norwegian market and keep up the build-out of the third mobile network in Norway. We have so far delivered 21 consecutive quarters of smartphone subscription growth and remain confident that we will continue to win market share and improve margins strongly going forward", says Eivind Helgaker, CEO of Ice Group.

ICE's largest shareholders AI Media Holdings (NMT) LLC, RASMUSSENGRUPPEN AS and Bridford Investments Limited (the **Major Shareholders**), that in aggregate hold c.82% of the shares in ICE, have subscribed for bonds in the amount of NOK 650 million. Further, the Major Shareholders have an option to carry out a tap issue in the amount of NOK 350 million at identical terms as the Bond Issue. This option must be exercised by 21 September 2020, and is subject to execution of an agreement amending the terms and permitting partial prepayment of the subordinated loan granted to AINMT Holdings AB by GoldenTree.

ICE will carry out a subsequent bond offering at identical terms as the Bond Issue, where the shareholders (other than the Major Shareholders) may subscribe for bonds in an amount equal to 20 % of bonds issued to the Major Shareholders (**Subsequent Offering**). The Subsequent Offering will be directed towards ICE's shareholders that (i) were shareholders in ICE as of 28 August 2020 as they appear in ICE's shareholder register in the Norwegian Central Securities Depositary (VPS) on 1 September 2020 (**Record Date**), (ii) do not qualify as retail investors in the EEA or the United Kingdom according to the PRIIPS regulations, and (iii) are not resident in a jurisdiction where such offering would be unlawful, or would require any prospectus, filing, registration or similar action (**Eligible Shareholders**). The minimum subscription amount in the Subsequent Offering is EUR 100,000 per Eligible Shareholder. Eligible Shareholders may subscribe for bonds in the Subsequent Offering of up to their pro-rata ownership in ICE as of the Record Date.

The subscription period for the Subsequent Offering will start from 09:00 CEST on 22 September and end at 16:30 CEST on 24 September 2020. Eligible Shareholders may contact the manager for the Bond Issue and the Subsequent Offering, DNB Markets, a part of DNB Bank ASA (DNB Markets or the Manager), in order to subscribe for bonds in the Subsequent Offering.

Following the end of the subscription period for the Subsequent Offering, ICE will announce the final size of the Subsequent Offering. The completion of the Subsequent Offering is expected 1 October 2020 and is subject to receipt of payments of the bonds in the Subsequent Offering.

The Bond Issue and Subsequent Offering are based on the authorisation to the Board of Directors of ICE provided by the shareholders in ICE on the annual general meeting held on 29 May 2020.

As a consequence of the structure of the Bond Issue, the shareholders' preferential right is deviated from. The Board of Directors has considered the Bond Issue in light of the equal treatment obligations under the Norwegian Securities Trading Act and Oslo Børs' Circular no. 2/2014 and is of the opinion that these obligations are complied with, in particular due to the fact that i) the contemplated instrument is relatively complex and therefore not suited for retail investors, ii) the Board of Directors has evaluated multiple financing alternatives over a long period of time and concluded that it is unlikely that the company will receive financing on more favourable terms under the prevailing market conditions, and iii) by omitting retail investors the company avoids having to prepare a prospectus and to prepare and update a so called Key Information Document pursuant to the PRIIPS regulations. On this basis, the Board of Directors has considered the transactions to be in the common interest of ICE and its shareholders.

Espen Risholm, Head of investor relations, +47 924 80 248, espen.risholm@icegroup.com Henning Karlsrud, CFO, +47 930 45 389, henning.karlsrud@icegroup.com Reynir Johannesson, Communication director, +47 940 94 900, reynir.johannesson@ice.no

ABOUT ICE GROUP ASA

Ice Group is a telecommunications company with a nationwide network in Norway. ICE operates a pure 4G mobile network, providing smartphone, m2m, IoT and mobile broadband services to B2C and B2B customers.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This document is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of offers to purchase or subscribe for shares or bonds. Copies of this document may not be sent to jurisdictions, or distributed in or sent from jurisdictions, in which this is barred or prohibited by law. The information contained herein shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation would be unlawful absent registration, or an exemption from registration or qualification under the securities laws of any jurisdiction.

This document is not for publication or distribution in, directly or indirectly, Australia, Canada, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, South Africa, New Zealand, Japan, the United States or any other jurisdiction in which such release, publication or distribution would be unlawful, and it does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for or purchase any securities in such countries or in any other jurisdiction. In particular, the document and the information contained herein should not be distributed or otherwise transmitted into the United States or to publications with a general circulation in the United States of America.

This document is not an offer for sale of securities in the United States. Securities may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or an exemption from registration under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). ICE does not intend to register any part of the offering in the United States or to conduct a public offering in the United States of the shares to which this document relates.

In any EEA Member State, this communication is only addressed to and directed at qualified investors in that Member State within the meaning of the Prospectus Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/1129) (the "Prospectus Regulation").

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document is not being distributed, nor has it been approved for the purposes of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("FSMA"), by a person authorized under FSMA and is directed only at persons who (i) are outside the United Kingdom, (ii) are investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the U.K. Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (as amended) (the "Order") or (iii) high net worth companies, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be engaged with, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons in (i), (ii) and (iii) above together being referred to as "relevant persons"). Under no circumstances should persons who are not relevant persons rely or act upon the contents of this announcement. Any investment or investment activity to which this document relates in the United Kingdom is available only to, and will be engaged only with, relevant persons.

The information contained in this document does not purport to be comprehensive. The Manager, any of its respective subsidiary undertakings or affiliates, or their respective directors, officers, employees, advisers or agents accepts any responsibility or liability whatsoever for (whether in contract, tort or otherwise) or makes any representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the truth, accuracy or completeness of the information in this document (or whether any information has been omitted from the document) or any other information relating to ICE, its subsidiaries, affiliates or associated companies, whether written, oral or in a visual or electronic form, and howsoever transmitted or made available or for any loss howsoever arising from any use of this document or its contents or otherwise arising in connection therewith. The Manager disclaims any responsibility for any acts or omissions of ICE, any of the directors, or any other person in connection with the offering.

The Manager is acting for ICE in connection with the offering and no one else and will not be responsible to anyone other than ICE for providing the protections afforded to their respective clients or for providing advice in relation to the offering or any transaction or arrangement referred to in this press release.

Solely for the purposes of the product governance requirements contained within: (a) EU Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments, as amended ("MiFID II"); (b) Articles 9 and 10 of Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2017/593 supplementing MiFID II; and (c) local implementing measures (together, the "MiFID II Product Governance Requirements"), and disclaiming all and any liability, whether arising in tort, contract or otherwise, which any "manufacturer" (for the purposes of the MiFID II Product Governance Requirements) may otherwise have with respect thereto, the securities described in this press release have been subject to a product approval process, which has determined that such securities are: (i) compatible with an end target market of professional counterparties; and (ii) eligible for distribution through all distribution channels as are permitted by MiFID II (the "Target Market Assessment"). Notwithstanding the Target Market Assessment, distributors should note that: the price of the securities may decline and investors could lose all or part of their investment; the securities offer no guaranteed income and no capital protection; and an investment in the securities is compatible only with investors who do not need a guaranteed income or capital protection, who (either alone or in

conjunction with an appropriate financial or other adviser) are capable of evaluating the merits and risks of such an investment and who have sufficient resources to be able to bear any losses that may result therefrom. The Target Market Assessment is without prejudice to the requirements of any contractual, legal or regulatory selling restrictions in relation to the transactions. Furthermore, it is noted that, notwithstanding the Target Market Assessment, the Manager will only approach investors who meet the criteria of professional clients.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Target Market Assessment does not constitute: (a) an assessment of suitability or appropriateness for the purposes of MiFID II; or (b) a recommendation to any investor or group of investors to invest in, or purchase, or take any other action whatsoever with respect to the securities. Each distributor is responsible for undertaking its own target market assessment in respect of the securities and determining appropriate distribution channels.

This document may include forward-looking statements. The words "believes", "expects", "may", "will", "seek", "would", "could", "should", "shall", "risk", "intends", "estimates", "aims", "plans", "predicts", "continues", "assumes", "positioned" or "anticipates" and similar expressions (or their negative) identify certain of these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are statements regarding ICE's intentions, beliefs or current expectations concerning, among other things, ICE's results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, prospects, growth, strategies and the industry in which ICE operates. The forward-looking statements in this document are based on numerous assumptions regarding ICE's present and future business strategies and the environment in which ICE will operate in the future. Forward-looking statements involve inherent known and unknown risks, uncertainties and contingencies because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future and may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of ICE to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward looking statements. Many of these risks and uncertainties relate to factors that are beyond ICE's ability to control or estimate precisely, such as future market conditions, currency fluctuations, the behavior of other market participants, the actions of regulators and other factors such as ICE's ability to continue to obtain financing to meet its liquidity needs, changes in the political, social and regulatory framework in which ICE operates or in economic or technological trends or conditions. Past performance should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of future results, and no redocument or warranty, express or implied, is made regarding future performance. ICE and each of the joint financial advisors expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release any updates or revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect any change in ICE's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based after the date of this document or to update or to keep current any other information contained in this document. Accordingly, undue reliance should not be placed on the forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this document.

This information is subject to a duty of disclosure pursuant to Section 5-12 of the Norwegian Securities Trading Act.

Attachments

· Download announcement as PDF.pdf