

## DEGIRO and flatex create the European online brokerage champion in self-directed investing

---

DEGIRO and flatex create the European online brokerage champion in self-directed investing. DEGIRO's CEO Esmond Berkhout on behalf of the Board of Directors: "This news marks the start of an exciting new chapter in the success story of DEGIRO. Both companies complement each other, resulting in many synergies. Combining these two companies is a clear win for all stakeholders. flatex brings a lot of experience in the broker industry and operates under a German banking license. DEGIRO as investment firm owns and operates one of the most efficient trading engines in the market and serves clients in 18 different countries throughout Europe."

DEGIRO started in 2013 with the plan to create the first pan-European online retail-broker. The belief was, and still is, that by bringing true added value to clients, success would follow, and it did. After the acquisition by flatex, DEGIRO and flatex will jointly build the leading online broker in Europe. The combined company will become an even stronger player than the separate companies already are. The additional advantage of scale will inevitably result in delivering more added value to our and flatex's customers. Both companies and brands, DEGIRO and flatex, will continue to operate in the flatex group.

### Listed company

flatex being a listed company and both companies being regulated means the transaction is subject to the approval of the responsible authorities. Also, the Works Council needs to provide its advice on the transaction. After the approvals have been granted, DEGIRO will become part of the in Germany listed company flatex AG (WKN: FTG111, ISIN:DE000FTG1111, Ticker: FTK.GR). Combining the two companies will result in a leading pan-European brokerage champion with more than 1 million clients and over 35 million executed transactions expected in 2020.

**Milestone**

DEGIRO's CEO Esmond Berkhout: "Looking back at the history of our company, this is a great milestone. During the first years after the company was founded DEGIRO was faced with all challenges that come with tremendous growth. Thanks to the commitment of our great staff and the support of our customers the result was the creation of the first successful pan-European broker. However, focus on growth did mean the focus on governance and compliance was lagging. As a result, the company was confronted with new challenges as governance & compliance related issues from the Dutch regulator were brought to our attention in 2017. These challenges resulted in extending the team with more senior experienced staff. Not long after a new Board of Directors and a Supervisory Board were installed by the shareholders."

DEGIRO's CFRO Peter Verberne: "Our main task at hand, was to bring the organization to the next level of maturity. Currently, we are in the stage of finalizing this task. Combining forces with flatex will make DEGIRO part of a listed company with a banking license. Next to many other benefits this will enable us to fully make the transition from a scale-up to a mature financial company."

DEGIRO's CTO Andreas Holmberg: "Although flatex has a longer history than DEGIRO, both companies still have a challenger mentality driven by innovation. flatex, being one of the largest German online brokers, is perfectly positioned for the German and Austrian market. DEGIRO has been growing its brand and market share in 18 countries to a substantial size over the recent years. DEGIRO's headquarters is located in the Netherlands, where it is currently the market leader in self-directed investing".

In the course of the near future more information on this news will follow.

[Press release flatex](#)

**About DEGIRO**

DEGIRO is a pan-European broker that serves almost 500,000 investors in 18 countries, and processes more than €50 billion in transaction value per year at stock exchanges worldwide. DEGIRO is subject to conduct of business supervision by the AFM (Authority for the Financial Markets) and prudential supervision of the Dutch Central Bank (De Nederlandsche Bank). Our mission is to deliver added value by developing affordable financial services for investors worldwide. The combination of technology and financial knowledge creates the opportunity to make high quality and cost-effective financial services available to everyone. See the website: [www.degiro.com](http://www.degiro.com) Note: Investing involves risks. You can lose (a part of) your deposit. We advise you to only invest in financial products which match your knowledge and experience.

**About flatex AG**

flatex AG (WKN: FTG111, ISIN: DE000FTG1111, Ticker: FTK.GR) operates one of the leading and fastest growing online brokerage businesses in Europe. Executing round about 12.5 million customer's securities transactions paperless per annum. Offering their more than 300,000 B2C customers top services at a competitive pricing based on their modern, self-developed state-of-the-art technology.

Many B2B customers, the state infrastructure and established financial services companies as well as disruptive business ideas benefit from flatex' white label banking technology and become quickly successful businesses due to the self-developed core banking system (FTG:CBS) that belongs to the most modern and most modular systems in the market – the standard platform for private and specialist banks. In times of bank consolidation, low interest rates and digitalisation, flatex is ideally positioned for further growth and well on its way to becoming Europe's leading provider of financial technology.

**Disclaimer**

This release may contain forward-looking statements and information, which may be identified by formulations using terms such as “ex-pects”, “aims”, “anticipates”, “intends”, “plans”, “believes”, “seeks”, “estimates” or “will”. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and certain assumptions, which may be subject to variety of risks and uncertainties. The results actually achieved substantially differ from these forward-looking statements. DEGIRO assumes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements or to correct them in case of developments, which differ from those anticipated.

**Press contact:****Armando Platero**[press@degiro.com](mailto:press@degiro.com)**DEGIRO B.V.**

Rembrandt tower – 9th floor  
Amstelplein 1  
1096HA, Amsterdam

Press kit available: [http://www.degiro.nl/data/pdf/DEGIRO\\_press\\_kit.zip](http://www.degiro.nl/data/pdf/DEGIRO_press_kit.zip)