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### optegra lifts managed funds by 50% to more than EUR 3 billion



The optegra group currently manages more than 18 investment programs with more than 40 closed-end funds and investment companies – mandates from fund companies, banks, family offices and insurance companies ensure strong growth in optegra's administrative fund services

COLOGNE, July 8, 2008 - optegra, a group of auditors, tax and management consultants is also setting new standards for administrative fund services. In the first half of 2007, the funds managed by optegra passed the EUR 3 billion mark for the first time – up 50% year-on-year. "Many fund companies, banks, family offices and insurance companies put their trust in our fund expertise. "The strong growth in this sector is due in particular to optegra's tailor-made services," explained fund specialist Johannes Nölke, one of optegra's co-founders.

Companies that span the entire fund business value chain themselves are faced with increasing cost pressure. The complexity of the economic and legal situation, the large number of requirements and significantly heightened demands from investors call for a high levels of staff input and time. optegra has specialized in taking on specific tasks in the fund business as an outsourcing partner. "Our customers can focus on their core competences, use cost-cutting potential and, at the same time, bolster the quality of their advice and service," added Johannes Nölke. At present, optegra supports funds including several mutual funds at a German Landesbank with more than 3,000 investors, and private equity funds for one of the leading European fund managers as well as two large insurance associations.

Despite the current downturn on the equities market, optegra believes that there will be sustained growth for the company's administrative fund service. Johannes Nölke added: "Our long-standing fund expertise and our customers' strong loyalty will also contribute to positive growth in our business in future. The continuing trend

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towards outsourcing fund services and the continued high demand for closed-end funds on the market are also positive factors. That is why we believe that we will close this fiscal year with new record-breaking levels for investment volumes and investment programs."

### **The company**

optegra is an owner-managed international group offering auditing, tax consulting, management, consulting and fund services. It is headquartered in Cologne. optegra's industry specialists offer unconventional, forward-looking solutions. Clients receive individual, end-to-end advice at eye-level. That allows them to use economic advantages in competition and focus on their own core competences. A global network of highly experienced auditors, tax and management consultants means that optegra is the right port of call for SMEs.

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