



Media release

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Revision of market hours

virt-x plc announced today that from 1 August 2001 its pan-European blue chip equity market will close at 17.30 Central European Time (16.30 BST). The decision to revise the market's opening hours has been taken in response to demand from virt-x members. virt-x will now offer trading in the constituents of the major pan-European blue chip indices between 09.00 and 17.30 CET.

About virt-x

virt-x Exchange Limited, a part of the SWX Group, is a Recognised Investment Exchange supervised by the Financial Services Authority. virt-x is the home market for the Swiss Market Index securities and also offers direct, real-time access to trading in the constituents of all the major pan-European blue chip indices, facilitating sector and index trading. virt-x has an integrated trading, clearing and settlement model which simplifies the process of trading pan-European blue chips and provides scope for significant reduction in cross border transaction costs.

www.virt-x.com