



Amsterdam, June 23rd 2009

TOM, the 'Equities Search Engine', gives private investors access to professional markets and execution prices.

Yesterday, The Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM) gave TOM (The Order Machine) a broker licence to start up a best execution service for equities. Regarding this, the Dutch Competition Authority (NMa) had already granted its consent in March of this year to the initiators BinckBank and Optiver. TOM searches through a variety of trading platforms, including its in-house platform, to find the best possible price at which an order can be executed.

During this summer TOM will be offering clients of BinckBank and Alex Vermogensbank access to the best possible order execution of AEX and AMX shares. Submitted orders will be executed through NYSE Euronext or, in the event of prices being equal or better, via the in-house platform.

TOM's goal is to expand within two years at most, but preferably sooner, to become a Multilateral Trading Facility (MTF): a trading platform to which a variety of banks and liquidity providers have access. At present, TOM is already holding talks with market players about this. The intention is also to connect other trading platforms such as Chi-X. Furthermore, TOM has the aim in due course to offer options in addition to shares.

In conformity with the pre and post-trade transparency as required by the European Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID), the prices and volumes on TOM's in-house platform will be transparent in advance and afterwards. In other words, TOM is fully transparent.

In choosing Quod Financial (Adaptive Smart Order Router) and NASDAQ OMX (trading/clearing platform and market operations), TOM has selected strong and well-established partners. In addition, the largest Dutch clearing bank, Fortis Bank Global Clearing N.V. (part of Fortis Bank Nederland) is acting as the underwriting body for the clearing and settlement of the securities transactions.

TOM's management consists of Henk Wim van Arem and Jochum Lubbers.

Van Arem: *"At any given moment, TOM seeks out and compares the price and volume information on the most important stock exchanges and alternative trading platforms, thereby finding the most competitive price at which trading can be done for each order."*

TOM is the first best execution service in Europe to give private investors access - via their bank - to trading platforms and execution prices on which, up until now, only professional investors were able to trade.

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For banks, TOM is the most efficient means of complying with the requirements imposed on them by MiFID. TOM is appealing to liquidity providers because the costs are lower than on a standard stock exchange. This enables a liquidity provider to provide better quotes. In turn, this results in more trading and thus better liquidity for the end-investor.”

For more information

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Appendix

Infographic (free of royalties, to be used as an illustration in an article about TOM)

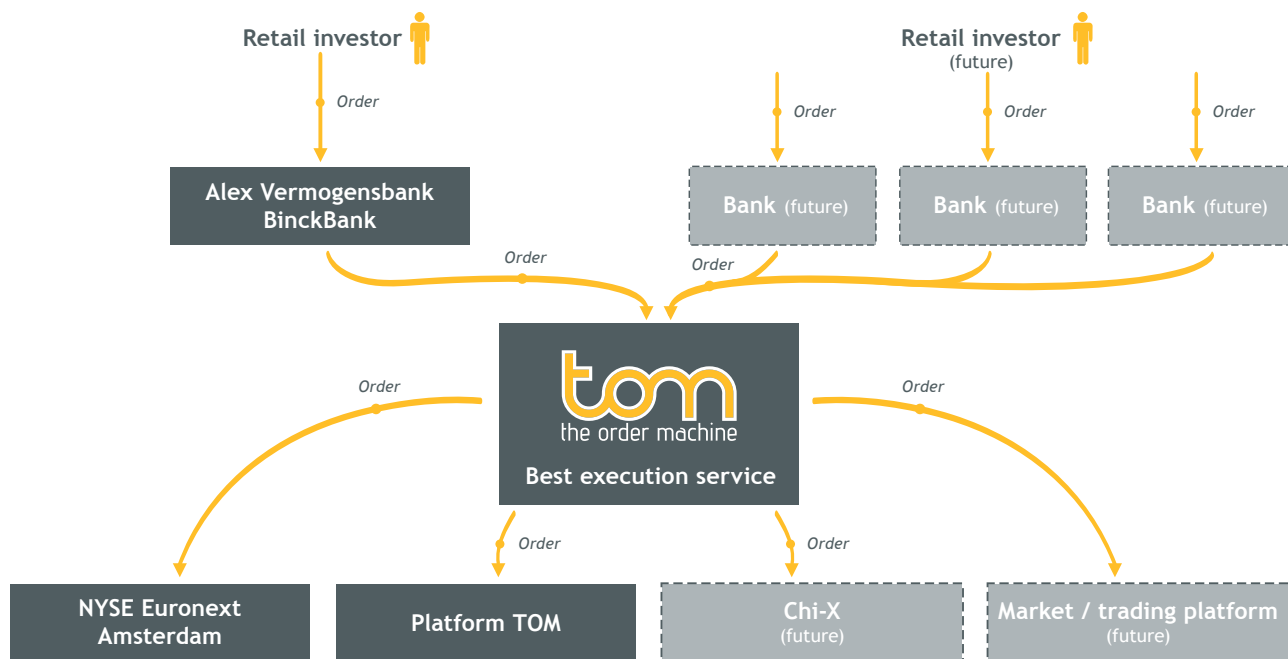
About TOM

TOM, The Order Machine, combines the best possible execution of stock exchange orders with an advantageous and transparent in-house platform. For clients of connected banks, TOM seeks out the best price at which an order can be executed on a variety of trading platforms. As a result of this, TOM is promoting the competition required by MiFID between stock exchanges and alternative trading platforms. Ultimately, the intended result is better prices for private end-investors. TOM is a 50/50 joint venture between BinckBank and Optiver.

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Appendix
Infographic



TOM selects market platform with best execution