

9<sup>th</sup> February 2011

## EBS Building Society and MasterCard announce partnership to issue first Debit MasterCard in Ireland from late 2011

EBS Building Society and MasterCard have today announced an exclusive 5-year partnership for the provision of debit services to Irish consumers, starting in the second half of 2011.

In an important strategic milestone for both partners, EBS will become the first financial institution in Ireland to issue Debit MasterCard, a new generation of debit card which is accepted at over 30 million retail locations and 1.5million ATMs around the world.

Dara Deering, Director of Member Business, EBS said: "We chose to work with MasterCard because we wanted to provide our customers with the best possible debit card solution in the Irish market. The new EBS Debit MasterCard will provide customers with the best functionality, greater access to banking services and more opportunities to pay using their debit card."

Hany Fam, President of MasterCard UK and Ireland, said: "MasterCard is the European market leader in debit, with more than 300 million debit cards across the region, delivering value and innovation to issuers and consumers alike. We're delighted to be partnering with EBS so that Irish consumers can enjoy the benefits of using their Debit MasterCard securely in shops or online, with unparalleled acceptance both at home and abroad."