

October 15, 2012



**THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.**

Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza  
Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue  
Makati City

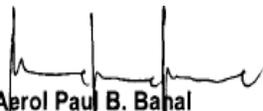
Attention: **Ms. Janet A. Encarnacion**  
Head – Disclosure Department

Dear Ms. Encarnacion:

Please be advised that the attached information will be made available to the press and major newspapers. This is in relation to EastWest Banking Corporation's (PSE: EW) number of branches to date.

Thank you

Very truly yours,



**Aerol Paul B. Banal**  
Corporate Planning Officer



The Beaufort, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue corner 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City  
Telephone number: 575-3888 | Email: [service@eastwestbanker.com](mailto:service@eastwestbanker.com) | [www.eastwestbanker.com](http://www.eastwestbanker.com)  
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## **EASTWEST BRANCHES NOW 188**

EastWest, one of the fastest-growing banks in the country today, remains steady in its bid to be a major industry player as it continues to aggressively expand when it opened three new branches last October 10, 2012 bringing its total branch network to 188. This development is reflective of its commitment to its shareholders to open branches at an accelerated pace in key locations all over the country. For this year, EastWest plans to open a total of 100 branches and grow its network to 350 by 2014.

The three new branches that were opened are located in Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City; Santolan, Pasig City and Balibago in Angeles City, Pampanga. In the pipeline are more than 60 branches that will consecutively open in the next few months. On Feb. 14, EastWest made great strides as it simultaneously opened 22 new branches in a single day.

Meanwhile, aside from organic growth, EastWest is also one of the banks that are actively acquiring other lenders. By the middle of the year, EastWest acquired Pasig City-based Finman Rural Bank, less than a year after acquiring Green Bank of Caraga in Butuan City. Last July, the bank received its universal bank license after successfully fulfilling the requirements of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to hold an initial public offering and list its shares at the PSE. With an expanded license, the bank will be authorized to venture into investment banking and non-allied undertakings. However, the added capabilities from EastWest's unibank license will be directed to serve the mid-sized corporates and consumer segments better.

Last August, the Bank announced that its first semester Net Income grew by 3.0 percent to P910.5 Million as against net income for the same period last year. Return on average equity stood at 13.1 percent while return on average asset was at 2.0 percent for the period ending June 2012. On the other hand, Deposits were up by 9.0 percent to P67.5 Billion year-on-year.

EastWest Bank opened its doors to the public on August 1, 1994. The Bank is a subsidiary of the Filinvest Development Corporation (FDC), the publicly listed holding company of the Filinvest Group that evolved from a consumer business founded by Andrew L. Gotianun, Sr. in 1955. FDC is one of the country's premier conglomerates, with business interests in real estate, banking, sugar, hospitality and tourism, and power-generation. Through the years, EastWest Bank has successfully capitalized on the financial strength and synergy from the business organizations under the Filinvest Group.

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