Acquisition of Sovereign Bancorp

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Additional Information About This Transaction

In connection with the proposed transaction, Santander will file with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form F-4 that will include a proxy statement of Sovereign that also constitutes a prospectus of Santander. Sovereign will mail the proxy statement/prospectus to its stockholders. Sovereign shareholders and other investors are urged to read the proxy statement/prospectus regarding the proposed transaction when it becomes available because it will contain important information. You may obtain copies of all documents filed with the SEC regarding this transaction, free of charge, at the SEC's website (www.sec.gov).

Proxy Solicitation

Santander, Sovereign and their respective directors, executive officers and certain other members of management and employees may be soliciting proxies from stockholders in favor of the transaction. Information regarding the persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be considered participants in the solicitation of the stockholders in connection with the proposed transaction will be set forth in the proxy statement/prospectus when it is filed with the SEC. You can find information about Santander's executive officers and directors in its annual report on Form 20-F filed with the SEC on June 27, 2008. You can find information about Sovereign's executive officers and directors in its definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on March 24, 2008. You can obtain free copies of these documents as described above



Description of the deal

Strategic rationale

Description of Sovereign

Financial impact

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Transaction Overview

- Santander acquires remaining outstanding Sovereign shares (502mn)
 - Fixed exchange ratio
 - 0.2924x Santander shares for each Sovereign share
 - □ \$3.81 per Sovereign share¹
 - □ Total consideration of \$1.9bn¹
 - Required approvals
 - Customary regulatory
 - Sovereign shareholders
 - Relational Investors has agreed to vote its 8.9% of SOV shares in favor of the transaction
 - Santander EGM
 - Closing anticipated Q1 2009
 - Sovereign shareholders will receive Santander dividends following completion of transaction

Transaction recommended by Sovereign's board



¹ Based on Santander's ADR closing price on October 10, 2008 of \$13.03

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Strategic Rationale

- Santander enters the Northeastern banking market in the U.S.; a region resilient to current credit conditions
- Largest remaining independent franchise in Northeast
- Provides scale entry into demographically attractive and stable markets
 - Presence in some of the most attractive and wealthiest regions in the U.S.
 - Leading retail and commercial franchise in its core markets
 - Strong regional market share
- Significant opportunity for growth and enhanced profitability
 - Well-positioned, operationally under-levered franchise
- Like other Santander expansions, Sovereign represents opportunity to export Santander's efficient commercial banking model and its industry-leading product and sales capabilities
- Low risk transaction, given Santander's successful acquisition track record and in-depth knowledge of Sovereign franchise
- Diversification: SOV would bring 8% of the pro-forma deposits of the group



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Sovereign: Overview

- Sovereign is the largest thrift institution in the United States by assets
 - Total Assets: \$77.3bn at September 30, 2008
 - □ Total Deposits: \$43.1bn at September 30, 2008
- The Company operates in eight attractive Northeastern and Mid Atlantic states
 - Stable and affluent markets less subject to cyclical swings
 - □ Six of the top 26 U.S. cities are in Sovereign's footprint
- Sovereign holds strong market share positions in its core states
 - Strong deposit share in five of eight states in which it operates
 - A contiguous branch system from Boston to Philadelphia
- Business model is focused on the consumer and small business banking



Sovereign: History with Santander

- Investment in Sovereign began in October 2005
 - Initial investment position: 19.9% ownership
 - Increased ownership to 24.4% over the past two years
 - Participated pro rata in Sovereign's May 2008 follow-on offering
- Santander has held three out of twelve seats on the Sovereign Board
- Santander has executives as advisors in Sovereign's Internal Audit, Risk Management, IT and Operations, and Marketing departments for the last two years
- Santander has also provided Sovereign with technology consulting services

SAN has a good knowledge of the franchise and its potential



Sovereign: A Solid Franchise Serving the Northeastern U.S.

	Market	#	Deposits	Market
State	Rank	Branches	(\$mn)	Share (%)
Pennsylvania	4	188	14,064	5.33
Massachusetts	3	232	12,999	8.59
New Jersey	7	158	9,211	4.11
New York	16	73	6,813	0.94
Rhode Island	3	31	1,902	7.00
Connecticut	11	32	1,628	1.96
New Hampshire	5	20	867	3.77
Maryland	32	13	295	0.31
Total		747	47,779	, i





Market		#	Deposits	Market
Rank	Institution ¹	Branches	(\$mn)	Share (%)
1	JPMorgan Chase	1,208	271,101	16.99
2	Bank of America	1,664	187,229	11.74
3	Wells Fargo	864	89,263	5.60
4	Royal Bank of Scotland	1,105	75,410	4.73
5	PNC	931	70,538	4.42
6	Citigroup	380	70,087	4.39
7	HSBC	425	68,201	4.27
8	Toronto-Dominion	938	66,625	4.18
9	Sovereign	747	47,294	2.99
10	Bank of New York Mellon	28	43,581	2.73
	Total For Institutions in Market		1,595,378	

Note: Deposit data as of June 30, 2008; pro forma for pending acquisitions ¹ Reflects operations within PA, MA, NJ, NY, RI, CT, NH, MD



Sovereign: Financial Statistics

(3Q'08)	
Branches	747
ATMs	2,300+
Employees	11,976
Assets	\$77.3bn
Tangible Common Equity (June 2008)	\$3.7bn
Deposits	\$43.1bn
Net Loans	\$56.9bn

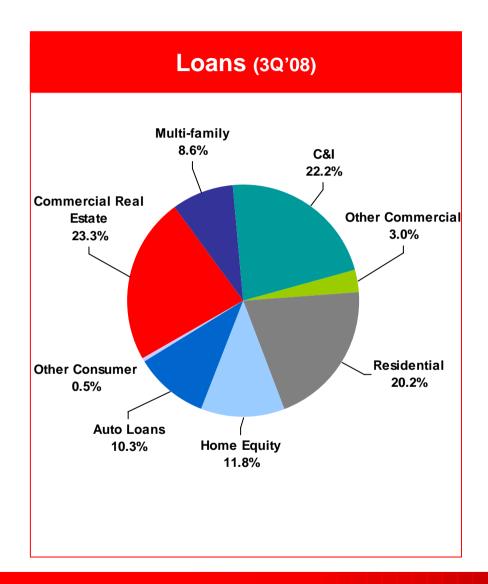
Market statistics as of (10/10/08)

Market Cap.\$2.5bn

■ Share Price \$3.81



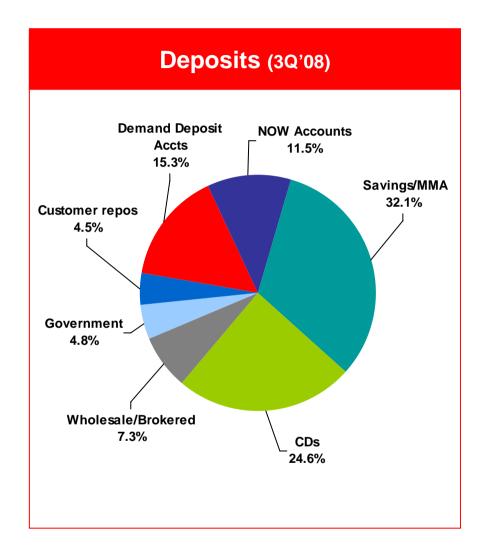
Sovereign: Loan Composition



Loans Composition (\$mn)							
Commercial Real Estate	13,281	23.3%					
Multi-family	4,888	8.6%					
C&I	12,631	22.2%					
Other Commercial	1,718	3.0%					
Residential	11,515	20.2%					
Home Equity	6,732	11.8%					
Auto Loans	5,854	10.3%					
Other Consumer	296	0.5%					
Total Gross Loans	56,914	100.0%					
Credit Quality Met	rics (3Q'08)						
Allowances/Loans		1,68%					
Non performing assets/Assets	0,91%						
Net charge offs/Avg Loans		0,91%					



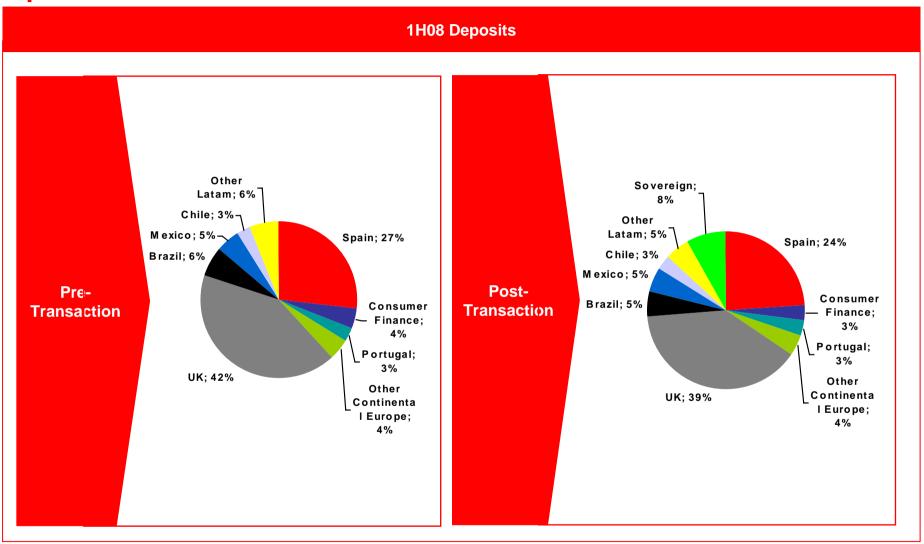
Sovereign: Deposit Composition



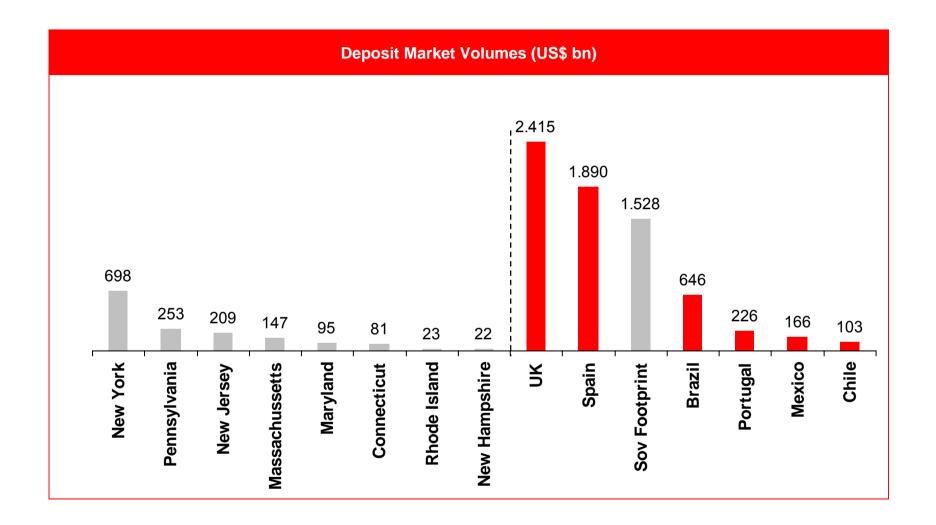
Deposit Composition (\$mn)						
Demand Deposit Accts	6,578	15.3%				
NOW Accounts	4,959	11.5%				
Savings/MMA	13,835	32.1%				
CDs	10,613	24.6%				
Wholesale/Brokered	3,131	7.3%				
Government	2,081	4.8%				
Customer repos	1,926	4.5%				
Total Deposits	43,123	100.0%				



Sovereign: SOV diversify SAN business portfolio representing 8% of SAN deposit base



Sovereign: SOV footprint is a market almost the size of Spain





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Financial Highlights

- Diversifies Santander Business mix (8% of the deposit base of the group in US)
- Generates positive EPS impact by 2011 (+0.5%)
- Marginal capital impact on the overall Santander group (ca. 20 bp)
- Marginal ROI above 30% and total ROI (100% of Sovereign) of 15%
- Acquired well below TBV



Financial initiatives

De-lever

 Reduce RWA by approximately \$10bn (from \$61bn) by the end of 2009

De-risk

 Fair value adjustments and restructuring of securities and credit portfolio

Improve efficiency

 Reduce costs and invest in franchise to drive commercial improvement



Financial initiatives

De-lever

- Reduce RWA by approximately \$10bn (from \$61bn) by the end of 2009
 - Reduce securities portfolio
 - Manage down non core credit portfolios: National CRE / Multifamily, Indirect Auto, Large Corp / CRE, etc.

De-risk

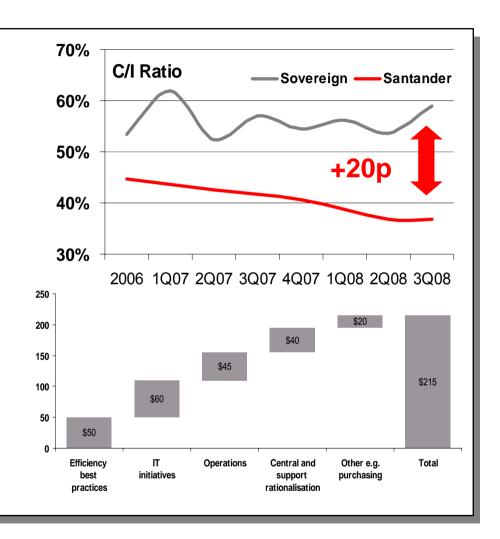
- Fair value adjustments and restructuring of securities and credit portfolio
 - Provisions and fair value adjustments of \$2 bn pre-tax (\$ 1.4 bn post tax) driving TE from \$ 4.6 bn (June 08) to \$ 3.2 bn.
 - Sovereign to execute first leg in Q3 results (\$ 1.25bn pre-tax; \$900mn post- tax) mainly in securities portfolio write offs
 - Increase reserve by additional \$ 750 mn pre-tax provisions for the credit portfolio which adds to the \$ 1bn existing provisions in SOV balance sheet. These two figures amount to 3,1% of the credit portfolio.
 - Protect the bank against future deterioration of treasury portfolio
 - ...while anticipating increased credit costs on loan portfolios through the cycle and improving coverage ratios



Improve efficiency

Efficiency initiatives

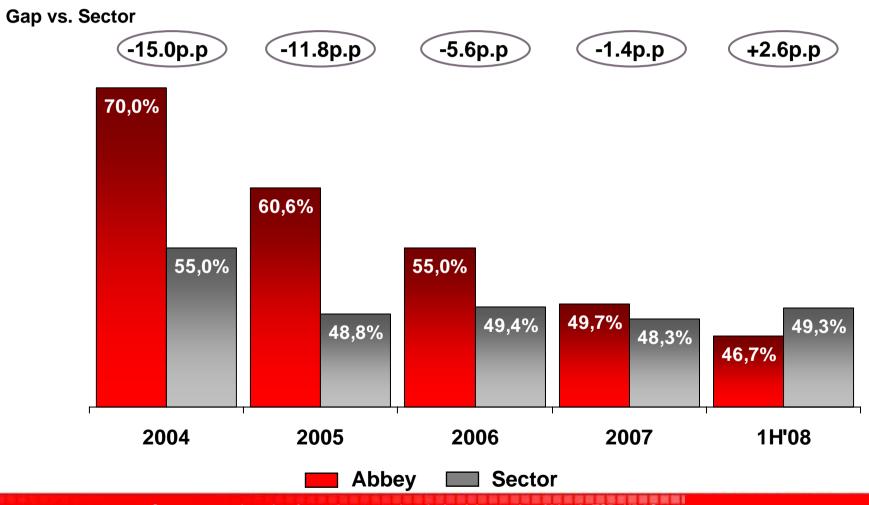
- Implement best practices
- IT platform enhancements
- Headquarters and operations optimization
- Estimated cost savings of \$215mn pre-tax (~13% of expense base) over the next 3 years





The UK example: Santander has a proven track record in reducing costs in cross border acquisitions

Abbey Cost to Income ratio – Historical Trends



Summary financial impact

Additional \$ 1.2bn provisions over the next two years; 600 pre-tax per annum on top of consensus figures

	2009	2010	2011	
Net Profit	\$446	\$620	\$680	
Higher provisions after tax	(400)	(400)	0 /	Credit portfolio to be reduced by \$10bn over
Cost of de-leveraging after tax	(70)	(80)	(80)	three years
Synergies after tax	100	115	151	
Adjusted net profit	\$76	\$255	\$751_	
Foregone earnings - asset sales	(123)	(123)	(123)	After synergies, Sovereign expected to earn
SOV earnings equity accounted	(11)	(55)	(170)	\$750mn in 2011
Net attributable profit increase for SA	N (\$59)	\$77	\$457	
EPS accretion / (dilution)	(2.6%)	(1.7%)	0.5%	Generates positive EPS impact by 2011
"Marginal" ROI (current 75%)	3%	10%	30%	
"Total" ROI (100%)	1%	5%	15%	"Marginal" ROI above 30% and 15% including the price paid for first leg



Capital implications

- Santander anticipates ca. 20 bps reduction in core Tier 1 capital from mark-to-market and credit adjustments
- Santander expects to maintain its core Tier 1 ratio above 6%
- Potential offsets to the capital impact include the sale of:
 - Industrial stakes (i.e.: Cepsa)
 - Product factories (asset management / insurance)
 - Banco de Venezuela
 - Ciudad Financiera
 - Shared assets ABN Amro

Summary

- The acquisition of Sovereign represents an attractive entry point into the U.S. market
 - A familiar franchise
 - Strong regional presence
 - Potential to improve efficiency and commercial productivity
- Business plan incorporates conservative assumptions
 - \$2bn upfront pre-tax fair value adjustments and provisions to cover potential losses
 - Future provisioning significantly above market consensus estimates (180bps projected in 2009 and 2010)
- The acquisition meets Santander's financial criteria
 - ROI above cost of capital by year 3: 15% in 2011, reflecting the full cost of the acquisition
 - EPS enhancing by year 3: +0.5% in 2011
 - SAN is acquiring SOV at 0.55 P/TE June 08; 0.68 P/TE as of first leg of write downs (Sept 08) and 0.79 P/TE after extra provisions to perform by Santander

Overall, the deal creates value for both Santander and Sovereign shareholders



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Sovereign: Franchise is Focused on New England and Mid Atlantic 27 **Regions**

	Pennsylvania						
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)			
1	PNC	400	43,142	16.36			
2	Wells Fargo	303	30,903	11.72			
3	Royal Bank of Scotland	404	23,622	8.96			
4	Sovereign	188	14,064	5.33			
5	National City	218	13,635	5.17			
6	Bank of New York Mellon	17	8,995	3.41			
7	Toronto-Dominion	109	8,752	3.32			
8	Bank of America	116	7,613	2.89			
9	M&T Bank	220	7,189	2.73			
10	National Penn	134	5,902	2.24			
	Total For Institutions In Market	4,856	263,720				

Massachusetts						
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)		
1	Bank of America	309	38,128	25.20		
2	Royal Bank of Scotland	257	21,712	14.35		
3	Sovereign	232	12,999	8.59		
4	Toronto-Dominion	161	7,526	4.97		
5	Eastern	89	5,263	3.48		
6	Middlesex	27	2,972	1.96		
7	Independent	61	2,479	1.64		
8	Boston Private	9	1,839	1.22		
9	Salem Five	20	1,754	1.16		
10	Cambridge	16	1,667	1.10		
	Total For Institutions In Market	2,234	151,293			

	New Jers	еу		
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)
1	Bank of America	396	47,514	21.20
2	Wells Fargo	317	28,429	12.69
3	Toronto-Dominion	323	25,153	11.22
4	PNC	329	17,831	7.96
5	Hudson City	94	14,520	6.48
6	JPMorgan Chase	257	10,078	4.50
7	Sovereign	158	9,211	4.11
8	Valley	180	7,833	3.50
9	Provident	84	4,197	1.87
10	Investors	56	4,064	1.81
	Total For Institutions In Market	3,401	224,101	

New York						
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)		
1	JPMorgan Chase	894	257,305	35.42		
2	HSBC	390	66,046	9.09		
3	Citigroup	261	64,379	8.86		
4	Bank of America	388	46,617	6.42		
5	Bank of New York Mellon	6	34,515	4.75		
6	Capital One	291	26,306	3.62		
7	M&T Bank	292	20,990	2.89		
8	Toronto-Dominion	173	16,494	2.27		
9	KeyCorp	229	15,126	2.08		
16	Sovereign	73	6,813	0.94		
	Total For Institutions In Market	5,404	726,515			



Sovereign: Franchise is Focused on New England and Mid Atlantic ²⁸ Regions

Rhode Island						
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)		
1	Royal Bank of Scotland	80	13,109	48.22		
2	Bank of America	49	6,718	24.71		
3	Sovereign	31	1,902	7.00		
4	Washington Trust	15	1,545	5.68		
5	Bancorp Rhode Island	16	1,041	3.83		
6	OceanPoint	12	781	2.87		
7	Centreville	6	605	2.23		
8	Webster	11	356	1.31		
9	First Marblehead	1	245	0.90		
10	Newport	5	240	0.88		
	Total For Institutions In Market	245	27,187			

Connecticut						
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)		
1	Bank of America	174	17,816	21.45		
2	Webster	143	10,337	12.44		
3	People's United	162	8,824	10.62		
4	Wells Fargo	75	7,378	8.88		
5	Toronto-Dominion	88	4,497	5.41		
6	NewAlliance	77	4,133	4.97		
7	JPMorgan Chase	55	3,717	4.47		
8	Royal Bank of Scotland	51	2,836	3.41		
9	Liberty	35	2,167	2.61		
11	Sovereign	32	1,628	1.96		
	Total For Institutions In Market	1,305	83,074			

New Hampshire						
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)		
1	Royal Bank of Scotland	83	5,850	25.45		
2	Bank of America	37	4,286	18.64		
3	Toronto-Dominion	75	4,088	17.78		
4	People's United	38	1,335	5.81		
5	Sovereign	20	867	3.77		
6	LSB	18	696	3.03		
7	New Hampshire Thrift	19	520	2.26		
8	Northway	18	503	2.19		
9	Meredith Village	11	458	1.99		
10	Merrimack	7	413	1.80		
	Total For Institutions In Market	435	22,988			

	Maryland	d		
Market Rank	Institution	# Branches	Deposits (\$mn)	Market Share (%)
1	Bank of America	195	18,536	19.21
2	PNC	202	9,565	9.91
3	B.F. Saul	141	8,213	8.51
4	Wells Fargo	83	7,464	7.73
5	M&T Bank	151	7,418	7.69
6	SunTrust	136	6,589	6.83
7	BB&T	129	6,245	6.47
8	Provident	100	3,815	3.95
9	Sandy Spring	39	2,161	2.24
32	Sovereign	13	295	0.31
	Total For Institutions In Market	1,831	96,501	







