

NEWS RELEASE

## Merger of Società Gestione Crediti BP S.C.p.A. into Banco Popolare: notification of filing of documents

*Verona, 24 July 2012* - We herewith announce that today, after having received the merger authorization from the Bank of Italy with order dated 4 July 2012, the Merger Plan of Società Gestione Crediti BP S.C.p.A. ("SGC BP") into Banco Popolare – Società Cooperativa ("Banco Popolare"), prepared in compliance with articles 2501- *ter* and 2505 of the civil code ("the Merger Plan"), has been registered with the Enterprise Registries of Lodi and Verona.

The Merger Plan, together with the Annual Reports as at 31 December 2011 of Banco Popolare and SGC BP, representing their financial position pursuant to art. 2501-*quater* of the civil code within the specified deadlines, are made available to the public, in compliance with current regulations, at the corporate head offices of the merging companies, and have also been published on the corporate website <u>www.bancopopolare.it</u>.

In compliance with current regulations, the merging companies' financial statements for the last three years are made available to the public at the corporate head offices.

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