

## PRESS RELEASE

### The Covered Bond Label consolidates its presence in Estonia: LHV Pank AS joins as 114<sup>th</sup> issuer, the second in the Baltics

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The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** is pleased to announce that **LHV Pank AS** is the second Estonian issuer to join the Covered Bond Label. As of today, the total number of cover pools under the Covered Bond Label stands at 137, which have been granted to 114 issuers across 21 jurisdictions globally.

Commenting on this development, **Luca Bertalot**, Covered Bond Label Foundation Administrator, said:

*“We are delighted to welcome the LHV Pank AS before its inaugural issuance. Once again the Covered Bond Label reinforces the significance of covered bonds for the Capital Markets Union Project and confirms its supportive role for introducing covered bonds in new jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label confirms its role as the qualitative benchmark for the Industry based on a strong commitment to secure transparency and comparability through the implementation of the Harmonised Transparency Template ([HTT](#)).”*

**Kadri Haldre**, Head of Treasury of LHV Pank AS, said:

*“LHV views covered bonds as a key source of funding for the bank in the future. We commit to transparent and high quality reporting to our investors and are very glad to join the Covered Bond Label.”*

The Covered Bond Label is a quality label, the purpose of which is to highlight the security and quality of covered bonds to investors and to further enhance recognition of and trust in the covered bond asset class.

The Covered Bond Label is open to all covered bond programmes that are compliant with [the Covered Bond Label Convention](#) and disclose their data by publishing the [Harmonised Transparency Template \(HTT\)](#). More information on all labelled issuers and the Label itself can be found on the Covered Bond Label website at [www.coveredbondlabel.com](http://www.coveredbondlabel.com).

#### Contact:

**Luca Bertalot**

Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)

Tel. +32 2 285 40 33

[info@coveredbondlabel.com](mailto:info@coveredbondlabel.com)

**Notes to the Editor:**

1. The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** was established in 2012 by the European Mortgage Federation - European Covered Bond Council (**EMF-ECBC**). The Covered Bond Label [website](#) became fully operational on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2013, with the first Labels being effective since then. The website features the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT) and 14 National Transparency Templates, published by 114 issuers disclosing information on 133 labelled cover pools across 21 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on 5,500 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of over 1.9 tn EUR, out of which over 3,000 covered bonds already include information on the Liquidity Coverage Requirement (LCR).
2. Established in 1967, the **European Mortgage Federation (EMF)** is the voice of the European mortgage industry, representing the interests of mortgage lenders and covered bond issuers at European level. The EMF provides data and information on European mortgage markets, which were worth over 7.25 trillion EUR at the end of 2018. As of February 2020, the EMF has 15 members across 13 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
3. In 2004 the EMF founded the **European Covered Bond Council (ECBC)**, a platform bringing together covered bond issuers, analysts, investment bankers, rating agencies and a wide range of interested stakeholders. As of February 2020, the ECBC has 124 members across more than 30 active covered bond jurisdictions and many different market segments. ECBC members represent over 95% of covered bonds outstanding, which were worth over EUR 2.5 tn at the end of 2018.
4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) or visit the EMF-ECBC [website](#).