

PRESS RELEASE

**Banque Accord (Auchan)
offers a low-cost personal loan at 4.90% (overall rate)
from 13th April to 8th May 2004**

It is almost becoming a ritual...As it has done several times per year, Banque Accord, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Auchan group, offers clients of Auchan stores, without the need for information about level of income and with no administration costs, a very competitive personal loan at the unique rate of 4.90% overall. The rate is the same whatever the amount borrowed or period of repayment.

This special offer, available from the 13th of April and the 8th of May 2004 (the offer is in fact valid until 15th May if applications are posted before that date), allows any Auchan client in France to borrow amounts ranging from € 3000 to € 21 000 without having to provide any information about the purpose of the loan. It is repayable over a particularly long period of between 12 and 60 months, representing a clear advantage over other offers available on the market.

The loan can be obtained in any of the following three ways :

- Clients can obtain a "personal loan pack" in their local Auchan store (available in the Espace Banque Accord or Espace Accord), complete the forms, add the necessary documents such as a pay slip, bank identification, a crossed-out cheque, usual photocopies etc...
- application packs can be requested by telephone on 0826 000 490 from Monday to Saturday
- applications can be made via the internet 24 hours per day by logging on to www.banque-accord.fr

Acceptance is definite as soon as the documents have been received, and the amount is available with 48 hours.

Available as an option : insurance covering death, invalidity and unfitness for work.

Two further observations :

- 80% of these loans, although borrowers do not have to indicate the purpose of the loan, are used to finance car purchases

- The majority are well-informed borrowers, keen to find the best rates available on the market

This clear, balanced and attractive offer, both from the point of view of the amounts available and the length of the repayment period, has been a resounding success with Auchan clients who appreciate not only its low cost, but also its simplicity and ease of access. It is an accurate reflection of the Banque Accord approach to the design and marketing of financial products.