



BANCO DE GUATEMALA

PRESS RELEASE

THE BANCO DE GUATEMALA PRESENTS THE NEW Q1.00 BILL MADE FROM A POLYMER EXTRACT

The issue of the Q1.00 bill, made of polymer extract, keeps the basic design of the last bill issued, with the portrait of José María Orellana on the front and the *Banco de Guatemala* building on the back, but incorporates some important technological innovations.

It is printed on polymer extract with a transparent window that is very difficult to reproduce, added to other security measures like external and internal micro printings and an image that is visible when looked at through light.

The polymer extract bill, since it is printed on more durable material, does not allow the absorption of liquids or the adherence of dirt, which means an increase in its useful life. Its durability coincides with a savings in printing and processing costs for the *Banco de Guatemala* and for the financial system.

The technology of the new printed bill is currently used in more than 20 countries, including, among others, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Brazil and Chile.

Soon the new Q1.00 bill will begin to circulate and the coin of the same denomination will continue to be legal, and will be issued and circulate together with the new polymer bill.

This modernization initiative is part of a permanent effort on behalf of the *Banco de Guatemala* to incorporate those technological innovations that allow keeping and improving the trust, convenience and efficiency of the bills and coins that circulate in our country.

Guatemala, August 13, 2007