

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP
Form 6-K
December 22, 2006

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0116
Expires: July 31, 2008
Estimated average burden hours per
response.....6.20

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 UNDER THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the month of December 22, 2006

Commission File Number 001-15244

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Paradeplatz 8, P.O. Box 1, CH - 8070 Zurich, Switzerland

(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F ☒ Form 40-F ☐

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): ☐

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP - Form 6-K

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): ☐

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's home country), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):
82- .

CREDIT SUISSE

Paradeplatz 8
P.O. Box
CH-8070 Zurich
Switzerland

Telephone +41 844 33 88 44
Fax +41 44 333 88 77
media.relations@credit-suisse.com

Media Release

Credit Suisse To Acquire Majority Interest in Hedging-Griffo,

A Leading Brazilian Wealth Manager

Zurich/São Paulo, December 21, 2006 **Credit Suisse announced today that it has signed an agreement to acquire a majority interest in Hedging-Griffo, a leading independent Asset Management and Private Banking company in Brazil for CHF 358 million in cash (USD 294 million/BRL 635 million). The acquisition supports Credit Suisse's integrated bank strategy by adding significant scale to its onshore Asset Management and Private Banking businesses, and complements Credit Suisse's position as the premier Investment Bank in Brazil. Credit Suisse will acquire a 50 percent stake in Hedging-Griffo, plus one share, which corresponds to approximately 9.5x current year earnings. Under the terms of the transaction, the parties have entered into an option arrangement whereby Credit Suisse may acquire, and the current shareholders may sell, the remaining stake in Hedging-Griffo after five years.**

The transaction is subject to approval by the Central Bank of Brazil and is expected to close by the middle of 2007. Upon closing, Hedging-Griffo will operate as Credit Suisse Hedging-Griffo. All the partners of Hedging-Griffo have signed long-term contracts with Credit Suisse.

Hedging-Griffo is a leading independent Asset Management and Private Banking company serving the high-growth Brazilian market. Hedging-Griffo manages CHF 9.2 billion (USD 7.6 billion/ BRL 15.9 billion) for high-net worth individuals in Brazil and over the past three years assets under management have increased at an average annual growth rate of 38.5 percent. The company focuses on hedge funds, equity funds, and fund of funds domestically and internationally.

Credit Suisse has built the leading Investment Banking business in Brazil following its acquisition of Banco Garantia in 1998. With the acquisition of Hedging-Griffo, Credit Suisse will now be able to offer clients in Brazil the benefits of the integrated bank through the addition of a first class Asset Management and Private Banking platform.

The transaction is also another example of Credit Suisse executing its strategy to establish and build its onshore wealth management franchise in key growth markets around the world, having most recently opened offices in Moscow and Sydney. This strategy has benefited from the trend in many markets, including Brazil, of clients increasingly seeking to have their assets managed onshore.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP - Form 6-K

Antonio Quintella, Chief Executive Officer of Banco de Investimentos Credit Suisse (Brasil) S.A. said, "This transaction combines the leading independent Private Banking and Asset Management company in Brazil with the leading Investment Bank in Brazil. As part of Credit Suisse, Hedging-Griffo clients will benefit from access to the global resources of one of the world's premier banks. We look forward to strengthening our platform in partnership with the Hedging-Griffo team whose expertise, spirit and client focus has made their business so successful."

Anthony DeChellis, Managing Director and Head of Private Banking Americas for Credit Suisse said, "We are committed to growing our onshore Private Banking presence in Brazil, a core market for Credit Suisse. Hedging-Griffo is the right partner with which to join forces to serve high-net worth and ultra-high net worth individuals in the country. In addition, Hedging-Griffo's industry leading Asset Management business is highly complementary to Credit Suisse's Asset Management operations in Brazil."

Luis Stuhlberger, one of the four Hedging-Griffo Senior Partners said, "We are very proud to work together with Credit Suisse, which is the ideal partner for Hedging-Griffo and its clients. We plan to move forward with our excellence in management, product development, and complement our competencies with the global reach of Credit Suisse, drawing on the synergies provided by a leading investment bank."

Credit Suisse has operated in Brazil since 1990 and through its Investment Banking operations, Banco de Investimentos Credit Suisse (Brasil) S.A., the firm is the leading Investment Bank in Brazil and the largest foreign broker.

The Credit Suisse and Hedging-Griffo businesses further complement each other as Hedging-Griffo is the 4th largest Brazilian Stock Exchange (Bovespa) brokerage house and it has the second largest commodities trading desk in Brazil, adding to Credit Suisse's leading presence in these markets.

For further information: <http://www.credit-suisse.com/hedging-griffo>

Press calls on December 21, 2006

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP - Form 6-K

Time 1 p.m. (CET)/10 a.m. (São Paulo): Presentation in Portuguese
2 p.m. (CET)/11 a.m. (São Paulo): Presentation in English

Speakers: Antonio Quintella, CEO of Banco de Investimentos Credit Suisse (Brasil) S.A.
Anthony DeChellis, Managing Director and Head of Private Banking Americas Credit Suisse
Luis Stuhlberger, Senior Partner of Hedging-Griffo
José Leopoldo Figueiredo, Senior Partner of Hedging-Griffo

Telephone: Worldwide: +55 11 2101 1490
US: +1 800 771 5460

Note: We recommend that you dial in approximately 10 minutes before the start of the telephone conference.

Information

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP - Form 6-K

David Walker, Communications Private Banking Americas Credit Suisse, New York,

telephone +1 212 538 1708, david.walker@credit-suisse.com

Regula Arrigoni, Communications Private Banking Credit Suisse, Zurich, telephone +41 844 33 88 44, regula.arrigoni@credit-suisse.com

Marc Buchheister, Investor Relations Credit Suisse, Zurich, telephone +41 44 333 31 69, marc.buchheister@credit-suisse.com

Credit Suisse

As one of the world's leading banks, Credit Suisse provides its clients with investment banking, private banking and asset management services worldwide. Credit Suisse offers advisory services, comprehensive solutions and innovative products to companies, institutional clients and high-net-worth private clients globally, as well as retail clients in Switzerland. Credit Suisse is active in over 50 countries and employs approximately 40,000 people. Credit Suisse's parent company, Credit Suisse Group, is a leading global financial services company headquartered in Zurich. Credit Suisse Group's registered shares (CSGN) are listed in Switzerland and, in the form of American Depositary Shares (CS), in New York. Further information about Credit Suisse can be found at www.credit-suisse.com.

Hedging-Griffo

Hedging-Griffo is a fund manager, wholly-owned by national capital, which specializes in three business areas: private banking, asset management and brokerage. With 25 years of market experience, the company's target is to seek results based on a strong strategy of fund allocation and the pursuit of excellence. Its horizontal structure, with an emphasis on partnership, enables clients to be in much closer contact with all the business areas.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

This press release contains statements that constitute forward-looking statements. In addition, in the future we, and others on our behalf, may make statements that constitute forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements may include, without limitation, statements relating to our plans, objectives or goals; our future economic performance or prospects; the potential effect on our future performance of certain contingencies; and assumptions underlying any such statements.

Words such as *believes*, *anticipates*, *expects*, *intends* and *plans* and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements.

We do not intend to update these forward-looking statements except as may be required by applicable laws. By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, and risks exist that predictions, forecasts, projections and other outcomes described or implied in forward-looking statements will not be achieved. We caution you that a number of important factors could cause results to differ materially from the plans, objectives, expectations, estimates and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements. These factors include (i) market and interest rate fluctuations; (ii) the strength of the global economy in general and the strength of the economies of the countries in which we conduct our operations in particular; (iii) the ability of counterparties to meet their obligations to us; (iv) the effects of, and changes in, fiscal, monetary, trade and tax policies, and currency fluctuations; (v) political and social developments, including war, civil unrest or terrorist activity; (vi) the possibility of foreign exchange controls, expropriation, nationalization or

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP - Form 6-K

confiscation of assets in countries in which we conduct our operations; (vii) the ability to maintain sufficient liquidity and access capital markets; (viii) operational factors such as systems failure, human error, or the failure to implement procedures properly; (ix) actions taken by regulators with respect to our business and practices in one or more of the countries in which we conduct our operations; (x) the effects of changes in laws, regulations or accounting policies or practices; (xi) competition in geographic and business areas in which we conduct our operations; (xii) the ability to retain and recruit qualified personnel; (xiii) the ability to maintain our reputation and promote our brand; (xiv) the ability to increase market share and control expenses; (xv) technological changes; (xvi) the timely development and acceptance of our new products and services and the perceived overall value of these products and services by users; (xvii) acquisitions, including the ability to integrate acquired businesses successfully, and divestitures, including the ability to sell non-core assets; (xviii) the adverse resolution of litigation and other contingencies; and (xix) our success at managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

We caution you that the foregoing list of important factors is not exclusive; when evaluating forward-looking statements, you should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other uncertainties and events, as well as the risks identified in our most recently filed Form 20-F and reports on Form 6-K furnished to the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Cautionary statement regarding non-GAAP financial information

This press release contains non-GAAP financial information. A reconciliation of such non-GAAP financial information to the most directly comparable measures under generally accepted accounting principles, is posted on our website at <http://www.credit-suisse.com/sec.html>.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP

(Registrant)

Date December 22, 2006

By /s/

Urs Rohner
General Counsel*

/s/

Charles Naylor
Head of Corporate Communications

* Print the name and title under the signature of the signing officer.

SEC 1815 (09-05)

Persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.
