



Communications

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## Invalid Swiss 1000-franc banknotes in circulation

Since autumn 2012, the Swiss National Bank (SNB) has been aware of the fact that there is a small number of Swiss 1000-franc banknotes in circulation which were not issued by the SNB. Investigations have revealed that around 1,800 notes, with a value of CHF 1.8 million, were abstracted during the production process at Orell Füssli. The banknotes in question have not been through all stages of production. The matter is currently being investigated by Switzerland's Office of the Attorney General. In agreement with the Office of the Attorney General and out of consideration for these investigations, this information was not publicised before now (cf. also Orell Füssli press release).

The banknotes can be identified by the fact that they have no serial number or that the serial number has been subsequently printed onto the notes. It is also possible that the perforated number (microperf®) is missing or has been tampered with. The invalid banknotes are difficult to recognise at first glance. Anyone suspecting that they may be in possession of an invalid 1000-franc note can take their notes to a bank and ask that they be examined to establish its authenticity. Alternatively, the banknotes can be handed in for checking at the Counterfeit Currency Central Office (Federal Office of Police, Fedpol, in Berne), the SNB (in Zurich or in Berne) or a police station.

Those in possession of such banknotes will be reimbursed the nominal value. Orell Füssli will cover the cost of the damages; the corresponding refund payments will be carried out via the SNB. For further information, please refer to the SNB's website ([http://www.snb.ch/en/iabout/cash/current/id/cash\\_current\\_1000](http://www.snb.ch/en/iabout/cash/current/id/cash_current_1000)).

The press release published by Orell Füssli can be found at <http://www.orellfuessli.com>.

Information on the various security features of Swiss banknotes is available on the SNB's website under Banknotes and coins ([www.snb.ch/en/iabout/cash/current/id/cash\\_security](http://www.snb.ch/en/iabout/cash/current/id/cash_security)).

