Dresdner Bank from 1872 to 2009

1872   On the instigation of Eugen Gutmann, Dresdner Bank is founded in Dresden on 12 November 1872. For this purpose, the private bank Michael Kaskel is converted into a public limited company.

1884   The management moves its headquarters to Berlin, where the bank first established a branch in 1881.

1931   The war and period of inflation is followed by a serious banking crisis in 1931 as a result of which the German Reich and Deutsche Golddiskontbank take over the majority of Dresdner Bank shares. The government orders Darmstädter Bank and Nationalbank (Danatbank) to be merged with Dresdner Bank retrospectively with effect from 1 January 1931.

1937   Reprivatisation of the shares which had passed to the state.

1945   At the end of World War II, the occupying powers order the Berlin headquarters and all branches in the Soviet Zone, in Berlin and in the areas east of the Oder-Neiße line to be closed and expropriated. The policy of decentralisation pursued by the Western Allies results in the major German banks being split into regional sub-banks.

1952   The 11 sub-banks to emerge from Dresdner Bank are combined to form three regional successor institutions: Hamburger Kreditbank AG (Hamburg), Rhein-Ruhr Bank AG (Düsseldorf) and Rhein-Main Bank AG (Frankfurt am Main) are created. In Berlin, Bank für Handel und Industrie (BHI) has acted as a subsidiary since 1949.

1957   In May, the three successor banks are reunited retrospectively with effect from 1 January 1957 to form Dresdner Bank AG which is based in Frankfurt am Main.

1971   Fundamental reform of the bank's organisational structure. The main administrations in Hamburg, Düsseldorf and Frankfurt are dissolved and their functions centralised in Frankfurt. The branch network too is reorganised.

1972   Dresdner Bank celebrates its 100th anniversary. On the occasion of the jubilee, the bank's corporate design is modernised and a new company logo introduced.

1990   Dresdner Bank is the first western credit institute to open its own office in the German Democratic Republic on 2 January 1990.

1991 Merger of Dresdner Bank Berlin AG (founded as Bank für Handel und Industrie) and Dresdner Bank AG with effect from 1 October 1990.

2001 On 23 July 2001, Allianz takes over Dresdner Bank which has since operated as the "centre of competence for banking" within the Allianz Group.

2002 On 12 November 2002, Dresdner Bank celebrates its 130th anniversary.

2008 Commerzbank announced the takeover of Dresdner Bank. On 11 May 2009, the merger of Dresdner Bank AG into Commerzbank AG was entered in the commercial register.