CREDIT SUISSE GROUP Form 6-K

September 12, 2003

SEC 1815

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OMB Number: 3235-0116

Expires: August 31,

2005

Estimated average burden hours per response: 6.00

FORM 6-K SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER Dated September 12, 2003

PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of September 12, 2003

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 offices)

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

Form 20-F /X/ 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.

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 by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes / / No /X/

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

[CREDIT SUISSE GROUP LOGO]

Media Relations

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP P.O. Box 1 CH-8070 Zurich

Telephone +41-1-333 8844 Fax +41-1-333-8877

e-mail media.relations@credit-suisse.com

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP REDUCES LEVEL OF OPTIONS OUTSTANDING BY 48%

ZURICH, SEPTEMBER 12, 2003 - Credit Suisse Group announced on August 5, 2003, that it would adopt the fair value based method of expensing future employee option awards and launch an Option Reduction Program, to be conducted on a value-for-value basis under applicable accounting rules with the aim of reducing the number of options outstanding.

Under the Option Reduction Program, which expired on September 9, 2003, 66.4 million of the 90.3 million options originally eligible for the Option Reduction Program were exchanged for 2.7 million new options with an exercise price of CHF 50.55 (10% above the CHF 45.95 closing price of the Credit Suisse Group share on September 5, 2003) as well as 19.9 million phantom/blocked registered shares, each with a market value of CHF 45.95.

As a result of the Option Reduction Program, the total number of Credit Suisse Group options outstanding has been reduced from 132.3 million to 68.6 million options.

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Credit Suisse Group, Media Relations Telephone

+41 1 333 8844

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Credit Suisse Group, Investor Relations Telephone +41 1 333 4570 Internet.

WWW.CREDIT-SUISSE.COM

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP

Credit Suisse Group is a leading global financial services company headquartered in Zurich. The business unit Credit Suisse Financial Services provides private clients and small and medium-sized companies with private banking and financial advisory services, banking products, and pension and insurance solutions from Winterthur. The business unit Credit Suisse First Boston, an investment bank, serves global institutional, corporate, government and individual clients in its role as a financial intermediary. Credit Suisse Group's registered shares (CSGN) are listed in Switzerland and Frankfurt, and in the form of American Depositary Shares (CSR) in New York. The Group employs around 64,000 staff worldwide. As of June 30, 2003, it reported assets under management of CHF 1,234.2 billion.

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 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 properly implement procedures; (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

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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 brands; (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 successfully acquired businesses; (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 may contain 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.

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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 September 12, 2003

By: /s/ David Frick

(Signature)*
Member of the Executive Board

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

/s/ Karin Rhomberg Hug Managing Director