

## Media Release

Zurich, 26 May 2005

### SAM signs up to Eurosif's transparency guidelines

SAM has signed up to the transparency guidelines for sustainable retail funds issued by the European Social Investment Forum (Eurosif) at the end of 2004. The purpose of these guidelines is to improve the quality of reporting to private investors, fund managers, providers of research services and other stakeholders.

SAM Sustainable Asset Management is the only financial services company specialising exclusively in sustainable investments to support the transparency initiative of Eurosif, the European association representing the interests of all stakeholders in the field of sustainable investment. Although SAM's own standards have already exceeded Eurosif requirements for some time, we believe the guidelines serve as a useful orientation point for investors and offer greater transparency with regard to the different investment processes adopted by individual fund providers. Since the definitive guidelines were published at the end of November 2004, eight financial services companies in German-speaking countries have voluntarily signed up to them.

The guidelines are subdivided into seven categories and contain information about roughly 40 different investment-related aspects. The comprehensive questionnaire is updated every year. Investors can immediately download all the information on SAM funds from <http://www.sam-group.com>.

Eurosif is a pan-European body whose mission is to champion and promote sustainable and responsible investment as well as better corporate governance. Eurosif members include pension funds, financial service providers, scientific institutes and research agencies with combined assets in excess of EUR 600 billion.

For more information please contact:

Cécile Heusser-Bachmann  
Communications Coordinator  
SAM Sustainable Asset Management  
Seefeldstrasse 215  
8008 Zurich  
Tel. +41 1 397 10 22  
email: [cecile.heusser@sam-group.com](mailto:cecile.heusser@sam-group.com)

[www.sam-group.com](http://www.sam-group.com)

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**SAM Sustainable Asset Management** was founded in 1995 as an independent asset management company for sustainability investments. Today SAM is one of the world's leading institutions in this sector. Its clientele includes banks, insurance companies, pension funds, foundations and private clients.

SAM carries out systematic research to identify successful companies that meet sustainability criteria. The integration of these future-oriented criteria into the investment process provides investors with a high degree of security, transparency and an attractive return.

Besides individual mandates for institutional investors and private clients, SAM offers financial products in the field of innovative energy technologies, sustainable food production, water, efficient use of resources, sustainability pioneers, sustainability leaders and private equity.

SAM's expertise is based on its own independent research and an active worldwide sustainability network. Together with Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX, SAM has launched a family of sustainability indexes to track the performance of companies that are industry leaders in terms of sustainability. For SAM this means evaluating more than 1,000 companies each year.

SAM Sustainable Asset Management is headquartered in Zurich (Switzerland), with branches and representative offices in Barcelona (Spain), Melbourne (Australia), Milan (Italy), Sonoma (California, USA) and Stockholm (Sweden).

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