

Zurich, September 11, 2007

SAM entrusted with new water-based Nomura Aqua fund – since launch assets of CHF 1 billion already attracted

- **Nomura Asset Management, one of the leading asset managers in Japan, has given SAM - the leading investment group in the field of sustainability investments - a mandate to administer a newly launched theme fund.**
- **The new fund managed by SAM focuses on the investment theme of water and bears the name Nomura Aqua.**
- **Already at its initial offering in August 2007 the fund attracted an investment sum of CHF 1 billion and is meeting with further strong demand.**

For SAM (Sustainable Asset Management), the international market leader and the pioneer in the field of sustainability investments for more than twelve years now, this asset management mandate is an important step in the company's efforts to broaden its position in the strategically important Asian market. With this cooperative arrangement, SAM is resolutely pursuing its previously defined growth strategy with the goal of further strengthening its position as a leading investment group in the field of sustainability investments also at the international level. Moreover, SAM will continuously broaden its theme- and mandate-based product palette in the years ahead, and in particular substantially expand the area of alternative investment classes.

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About SAM (Sustainable Asset Management)

SAM (Sustainable Asset Management) was founded in 1995 as an independent asset management company for sustainability investments and has grown to become one of the world's leading institutions in this field. Its clientele comprises banks, insurance companies, pension funds, family offices and private investors.

SAM has a comprehensive portfolio of theme-based products in the areas of new energy sources, water, new materials, healthy living and climate. In addition, it offers large institutional investors a broad palette of client-oriented, mandate-based services (including optimised, active and restriction-free strategies). SAM affords investors a great sense of responsibility and transparency in terms of their investments.

SAM seeks and identifies leading companies on the basis of company-specific sustainability criteria. Integrating those future-oriented factors into the company valuation and investment process represents the foundation of its investment philosophy. SAM's know-how is based on its proprietary, independent research technique and an active, international network of sustainability experts. SAM maintains the world's largest sustainability database.

Together with Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX, SAM has launched an entire family of sustainability indexes to track the performance of companies that are industry leaders in terms of sustainability. For that purpose, SAM analyses over 1,200 companies a year.

At the end of June 2007, SAM's assets under management and under advice amounted to a total of EUR 7.9 billion (end of 2006: EUR 6.3 billion), of which EUR 3.7 billion were attributable to assets under management and a further EUR 4.2 billion to assets under advice (e.g. licenses).

SAM is headquartered in Zurich (Switzerland) and is present in Europe, Australia and North America. It employs 70 individuals.