

Zurich, January 29, 2008

**SAM launches its Sustainability Yearbook 2008 – a reference work that highlights the world’s leading companies in terms of sustainability.**

- **SAM, the leading asset manager for sustainability investments, has introduced in collaboration with PricewaterhouseCoopers the Sustainability Yearbook 2008 at the WEF in Davos, Switzerland.**
- **The Sustainability Yearbook is the world’s most comprehensive reference work for assessing exchange-listed companies according to their economic, ecological and societal success factors. Only the best 15% of the companies in 57 industry sectors are included in the Yearbook.**
- **For the first time SAM, has developed a classification system that breaks down the leading companies into SAM Gold, Silver and Bronze classes. In addition, the company in each industry sector that has made the greatest progress in the area of sustainability is noted as a “Sector Mover”.**
- **In connection with the Yearbook, SAM now offers an interactive tool that facilitates individual queries as well as the generation of graphs and user-defined overviews of the various companies included in the Yearbook.**

For the fourth year in succession, SAM, in collaboration with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), has published the Sustainability Yearbook. This unbiased publication is the world’s most comprehensive reference work on the world’s leading companies in terms of sustainability. Since 1999, SAM has annually assessed more than 1000 companies from 57 industry sectors on the basis of company-specific sustainability criteria. In the process, companies are identified that outshine their competitors for the efficiency and success of the way they handle the risks and opportunities associated with the economic, ecological and societal aspects and challenges of sustainability. Only the best 15% of the evaluated companies per industry sector are included in the Sustainability Yearbook.

**SAM citations for the best companies**

The best companies from each sector qualify as a “SAM Sector Leader”. And in a new development, the companies that make it into the Yearbook are broken down into the

following categories: SAM Gold Class, SAM Silver Class and SAM Bronze Class as well as "Sector Mover".

SAM, which is headquartered in Switzerland, is the leading investment group for sustainability investments and, also thanks to its publicly issued water- and energy-focused funds as well as the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes that have been introduced in collaboration with Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX, the company enjoys an excellent international reputation. In 2007, the assets managed directly by SAM (assets under management) increased by more than 107% to CHF 8.5 billion (end-2006: CHF 4.1 billion). Together with the company's assets under advice (i.e. via licenses), SAM administers a total of CHF 15.1 billion.

Visit our Sustainability Yearbook Website at [www.sam-group.com/yearbook](http://www.sam-group.com/yearbook): there you have the opportunity to create and filter individual lists of the companies in the Yearbook, as well as to generate graphical and statistical evaluations.

You can order a printed version of the SAM Sustainability Yearbook at [yearbook@sam-group.com](mailto:yearbook@sam-group.com).

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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 optimized, active and restriction-free strategies). SAM affords investors a great sense of responsibility and transparency in terms of their investments.

SAM seeks out 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 1,000 companies a year.

SAM and Robeco, a subsidiary of Holland's Rabobank Group (S&P AAA), have joined forces to create the world's leading platform for sustainability investments. This strategic alliance opens up new dimensions in the area of product development, innovation and distribution. Within this joint platform, SAM's management and employees are holding a 40% and Robeco a 60% stake in SAM.

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SAM is headquartered in Zurich (Switzerland) and is present in Europe, Australia and North America. The company employs 80 individuals.