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(update July 19: publication date change for the composition of the new DJSI family from Sept. 2 to Sept. 9, 2010)

SAM kicks off this year's Corporate Sustainability Assessment

- **2,500 companies invited to report about their sustainability performance**
- **Survey results determine inclusion in Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes**
- **Companies recognize importance: Participation has nearly tripled since 1999**

SAM, the investment boutique focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing, is inviting the world's 2,500 largest companies to take part in this year's SAM Corporate Sustainability Assessment. Based on SAM's annual sustainability analysis, the best companies in each sector are selected for inclusion in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI). The DJSI are the most highly recognized and long-standing global sustainability indexes. The investment volume of DJSI-based portfolios now exceeds USD 8 billion.

In-depth analysis of sustainability performance

This week, SAM is sending out participation invitations to the 2,500 largest global companies in terms of free-float market capitalization. The Corporate Sustainability Assessment consists of an in-depth analysis featuring about 100 questions on economic, environmental and social aspects with a focus on the long-term development of corporate value. General topics cover such issues as corporate governance, risk & crisis management, human capital development and the quality of environmental and social reporting. In addition, sector-specific risks and opportunities arising from various sustainability trends are analyzed.

Rodrigo Amandi, Managing Director of SAM Indexes: *"We take a best-in-class approach in our assessments. In this way, we strive to motivate companies in each sector to intensify their sustainability initiatives. The international recognition enjoyed by the DJSI makes the prospect of index membership an important incentive for participating companies. It enhances both their reputation and their appeal to sustainability investors, offering them access to an additional pool of capital."*

Steadily rising participation rates

This year's SAM Corporate Sustainability Assessment is the 12th annual analysis of the world's largest listed companies based on economic, environmental and social criteria. Since the start of the SAM Corporate Sustainability Assessments in 1999, the number of rated companies has risen to 1,237 from 468.

Publication of new index composition

Following the analysis of the corporate data, SAM selects the leading companies from each sector. For example, the top 10% in each industry will be included in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Indexes (DJSI World). The new composition of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index family will be published on September 9, 2010 (*previously September 2*).

Top 15% featured in SAM Sustainability Yearbook

The top 15% of companies per industry sector are also featured in the annual SAM Sustainability Yearbook, the reference work on the world's most sustainable companies. The Sustainability

Yearbook 2010 provides an overview of 58 sectors and 367 individual companies. The leading companies from each sector are recognized as “SAM Sector Leaders.” In addition, companies included in the Yearbook can qualify to the categories of “SAM Gold Class”, “SAM Silver Class” and “SAM Bronze Class”. Companies that have made particular progress in their sector are recognized as “SAM Sector Movers”.

Positive correlation between sustainability and share performance

From a return perspective, too, investors are paying increasing attention to sustainability issues. A SAM study has shown that sustainability leaders generate better performance and thus higher returns for shareholders than companies that pay little or no attention to sustainability criteria (sustainability laggards). For example, the annual share performance of sustainability leaders exceeded that of sustainability laggards by 1.48 percentage points during the period 2001-2008.

Sustainability Services: SAM also offers individual assessments

In addition, SAM offers a fee-based corporate sustainability assessment to companies that are not invited to participate in the annual assessment (because they are not listed or because their market capitalization is too low). As it is based on the same methodology as the DJSI, the sustainability analysis enables companies to benchmark their results against those of sector peers. Participating companies receive a detailed feedback report with their individual results, and are eligible for inclusion in the Yearbook.

Links:

- <http://www.sustainability-indexes.com>
- <http://www.sam-group/yearbook>
- <http://www.sam-group.com/services>

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About SAM

SAM is an investment boutique focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing. The firm’s offering comprises asset management, indexes and private equity. Its asset management capabilities include a range of single-theme, multi-theme and core sustainability investment strategies catering to institutional asset owners and financial intermediaries in Europe, the United States, Asia-Pacific and the Middle East.

Through its index activities, SAM has partnered with Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX Limited for the publication and licensing of the globally recognized Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI) as well as customized sustainability benchmarks. Furthermore, SAM is the center of expertise for clean tech private equity within Robeco.

Based on its Corporate Sustainability Assessment, SAM has compiled one of the world’s largest sustainability databases and analyzes over 2,000 listed companies annually. SAM’s proprietary research and sustainability data are fully integrated into its offering.

Media Release



SAM belongs to Robeco, which was established in 1929 and offers a broad range of investment products and services worldwide. Robeco is a subsidiary of the AAA-rated Rabobank Group.

SAM was founded in 1995, is headquartered in Zurich and employs over 100 professionals. As of December 31, 2009, SAM's total assets amount to US\$ 14.8 billion.

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