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RepRisk and AfU Investor Research partner to launch new investment funds screening reports

The cooperation establishes the basis for the new product release, which will provide in-depth analyses on the sustainability risks of funds’ holdings as well as peer group comparisons.

Zurich/Frankfurt, February 13, 2013 – Swiss firm RepRisk AG and Frankfurt-based AfU Investor Research GmbH have joined forces to launch an investment fund sustainability-screening product. The analysis is based on a comprehensive, objective and transparent methodology, whereby each company in a portfolio is assigned a sustainability score based on the RepRisk’s Reputational Risk Indicator (RRI). This score is given a weighted average value and aggregated according to the share of the company in the particular fund.

A joint study, conducted in 2012 by RepRisk and AfU, used this method to find that conventional funds performed on average almost as well as specially designed funds that took ESG factors into consideration.

The screening product, which targets Asset Managers, Private Banks, Institutional Investors and Investment Consultants, will offer the average RRI value of funds’ holdings and their development over time, the division of fund holdings between various risk classes, a peer group analysis, as well as a comparison with the five best and worst funds according to risk classifications.

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About RepRisk AG:

RepRisk is the leading provider of business intelligence on environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks. As such, RepRisk systematically collects and analyzes negative sentiment related to companies and projects worldwide. It does so on a daily basis and in 13 languages from thousands of public sources including international and local media, government sites, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), newsletters, social media and blogs.

The RepRisk database currently includes information on over 31,500 companies, 6,500 projects, 5,500 NGOs and 4,000 governmental bodies. These numbers are continuously growing as relevant ESG information is added.

The use of RepRisk business intelligence allows companies and financial institutions to proactively assess ESG issues that may present financial, reputational and compliance risks. For more information about the usage and benefits of RepRisk in relation to the effective management of ESG risk, please visit our website: www.reprisk.com

About AfU Investor Research GmbH:

AfU Investor Research is specialized in the collection and analysis of information on investment funds. Its database contains the entire portfolios from over 30,000 such funds worldwide. The company compiles shareholder IDs, engages in investor targeting, and is involved in individual projects in the areas of investor relations, corporate finance and M&A as well as the development of trade-related tools.