RepRisk releases “RepRisk 2012”, a new version of its Banking tool for enhanced monitoring of environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks

Zurich, November 2, 2011 – RepRisk AG is pleased to announce the launch of its RepRisk Release 2012 for Banking. This new version will greatly enhance the offering to clients in the banking sector through improved transparency of issues and controversies surrounding companies and projects.

RepRisk is a web-based tool that allows users to proactively monitor environmental, social and governance risks related to their clients, investments and to new business relationships.

“Banks have increasingly come under pressure from stakeholders and regulators to improve their governance practices and to address environmental and social issues in every aspect of their business. In order to do so, they require up-to-date and relevant information at their fingertips” said Dr. Philipp Aeby, CEO at RepRisk. “RepRisk 2012 is suitable for all areas within corporate, investment and private banking and allows users to identify and assess risks related to companies, projects, industry sectors and countries”.

On a daily basis, the RepRisk team tracks companies’ and projects’ ESG risk exposure by proactively monitoring environmental, social and governance issues across a global universe of public media, government, NGO, community, industry and other stakeholder publicly available information sources in 13 languages. The RepRisk business intelligence produced by our analysts helps clients to screen client portfolios, conduct due diligence for corporate lending as well as trade, project and export finance, enhance sell-side research, and assess risks when investigating M&A targets and managing IPOs. It can also be used in communications for proactive reputation management and can provide ongoing screening for supply chain and procurement managers and client onboarding. Integrated into the banking core decision making processes, it can also be used as a tool to demonstrate compliance.

“RepRisk provides a comprehensive, objective and accurate assessment of ESG risks on companies and projects “ said a Sustainability Officer from Credit Suisse. “It offers an efficient solution to manage reputational and compliance risks across our operations.”

The new version of RepRisk introduces extensive enhancements. Summaries of more than 400 cases have been added, whereby scandals or major events for a company can be followed from their onset. Key words within news items have been tagged, enabling fast searches for information related to companies on highly controversial topics such as cluster munitions, tar sands, fracking, gambling and tobacco for negative screening across portfolios.

Furthermore, users will now have access to several new filters including an interactive version of the RepRisk Index, a quantitative measure of a company or project’s reputational risk. Other additions are an interactive world map that shows the countries where each company faces criticism, and spider charts that indicate the company’s performance related to alleged breaches of ESG issues and UN Global Compact Principles. These also allow users to compare companies against their sector averages.

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About RepRisk

RepRisk™ monitors environmental, social and governance issues. Through this monitoring, our analysts cover negative news in 13 languages on more than 20,000 listed and unlisted companies. The coverage of companies is not limited and the data is updated daily. The criticism on companies from thousands of publicly available sources is collected, analyzed and quantified by the analysts. This results in summaries describing the relevant accusations specific to the companies and projects in each article, together with the RepRisk Index (RRI), a unique quant based indicator of reputational risks. These risks are specifically related to a company’s, project’s, sector’s or country’s environmental footprint, community and employee issues, human rights violations, corruption, fraud, and tax evasion issues, among others.