

Hermes Equity Ownership Services (EOS) selects Zurich-based RepRisk AG as its environmental, social and governance (ESG) data provider.

Hermes EOS, a leader in responsible investment and stewardship, is pleased to announce it will begin using RepRisk to monitor its clients' investments in public and private companies for ESG risks.

Colin Melvin, Chief Executive of Hermes EOS said "RepRisk's service provides relevant, timely and useful data which will alert us to negative news associated with companies in our clients' portfolios. This will supplement our current screening process and assist us in engaging with companies on relevant environmental, social and governance issues with the aim of improving their performance."

Melvin said: "We have surveyed the market to identify best in class screening providers. Adding RepRisk to our stable of such providers consolidates our range of existing data sources and adds to the scope of our engagement work and to the service we provide to our clients."

RepRisk is a specialized international data provider that identifies environmental, social and governance risks for financial institutions, investment professionals and compliance functions. The RepRisk® tool monitors companies' activities from a third-party perspective and its quantitative risk indicator (RRI) enables easy identification of gross violators and aids negative norm-based screening. Hermes will use both the RepRisk® tool and RepRisk's screening reports.

"The RepRisk tool is unique in that it offers a different perspective to the data produced by companies themselves in relation to their environmental and social impacts and governance issues", said Melvin.

RepRisk covers all major business languages and its database currently includes over 15,000 controversial companies and 3,000 projects, and is growing daily.

CEO of RepRisk, Phillip Aeby, said "RepRisk's dynamic data covering criticism of companies from a broad range of media sources helps to effectively manage risk. There is an increasing awareness of the importance of including such extra-financial information in the analysis and investment decision-making process in order to ensure long-term performance."

"In selecting RepRisk, Hermes EOS has demonstrated its commitment to gaining a true indication of companies' ESG performance through access to up-to-date, third party sustainability information."

About Hermes Equity Ownership Services

Hermes Equity Ownership Services (EOS) helps institutional shareowners around the world to meet their fiduciary responsibilities and become active owners of public and private companies. Hermes EOS' team of engagement and voting specialists monitors its clients' investments in companies and intervenes where necessary with the aim of improving performance. Hermes EOS' activities are based on the premise that companies with informed and involved shareholders are more likely to effectively manage risk and achieve superior long-term performance than those without. Hermes EOS is owned by the BT Pension Scheme.

About RepRisk

RepRisk is the leading provider of dynamic data on environmental and social risks for an unlimited universe of companies and projects. The company's web-based tool, RepRisk®, allows you to identify and assess the environmental and social issues which may present financial, reputational and ethical risks.

On a daily basis, RepRisk tracks a company's or project's environmental and social risk exposure by monitoring independent third-party sources including all major print media, over 700 NGO sites, governmental agencies and blogs. Controversial issues covered include environmental footprint and climate change, human rights and community relations, labor conditions and employee relations as well as corruption, fraud, executive compensation and other governance issues. In particular, all principles of the UN Global Compact are addressed. RepRisk covers news in English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian.

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