

## Responsible Investor Corporate Access conference chaired by RepRisk CEO

RepRisk Chief Executive Officer Dr Philipp Aeby chaired the Responsible Investor Corporate Access Conference on July 2, held at the Swiss Stock Exchange in Zurich. The conference, which was jointly organized by Fair Impact and Tradeinfo, focused on energy efficiency and consisted of speeches and plenary discussions as well as individual meetings between corporate representatives and investors.

Energy efficiency was presented as not only being good for the environment but also as a smart business practice that provides financial opportunities for operating companies and investors alike. The case for corporate responsibility and responsible investments in general is much less clear-cut however. With transparency for business activities increasing thanks to the world-wide web and booming number of mobile devices, as well as the shifting expectations of clients, regulators and the general public, the management of environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues is quickly moving beyond the public relations arena. As the Head of Corporate Social Responsibility of Dutch retail property investor Corio put it: "The world is changing and in retail it is changing very, very fast. If we don't adapt, we will fail."

In his closing remarks, Philipp stressed that initiatives such as the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investments (UNPRI) in the corporate and investment world, respectively, only remain relevant if they incorporate transparency on the corresponding actions of the signatories and if they establish performance standards as benchmarks instead of a principle-based approach only.