

Press Release
Zurich, June 5, 2002

Launch of DWS Fund Marks a New Milestone for Sustainability Investing

Sustainability investing today reaches a new milestone with the launch of a sustainability fund by DWS, the investment company of Deutsche Bank. Based on the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index (DJSI World), the DWS Sustainability Leaders Fund will actively select stocks that lead their industry in terms of economic, environmental and social criteria. Being the largest mutual fund manager in Germany and a leader in Europe, the entry of DWS into sustainability investing marks an important expansion of this growing market segment.

Alexander Barkawi, Managing Director at SAM Indexes, says: "This new offering by DWS is a strong indicator for the growing application of sustainability criteria in mainstream asset management. The fact that their move comes less than a month after Merrill Lynch and WestLB Panmure launched two structured products based on the DJSI STOXX gives a feeling for the dynamics at play. We are certainly delighted that DWS has chosen the DJSI family as their investment universe for this new product."

Thomas Schüssler, fund manager at DWS, explains: "At DWS, we see sustainability as an important dimension in the stock-picking process. The launch of the DWS Sustainability Leaders Fund reflects our view that this concept has a positive long-term impact on performance and corporate policy. Combining the sustainability expertise of SAM and our own committee of sustainability experts at Deutsche Bank with DWS' experience in active fund management offers a strong platform for putting this concept into practice."

Note to the editor:

Launched in 1999, the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes are the world's first global indexes tracking the financial performance of the leading sustainability-driven companies worldwide. The DJSI World family covers the top 10% of the biggest 2,500 companies in the Dow Jones Global Index in terms of economic, environmental and social criteria. As a benchmark for European sustainability investments, the DJSI STOXX family covers the leading 20% in terms of sustainability of the companies in the Dow Jones STOXXSM 600 index. The selection of index components follows a rule-based process defined in the DJSI Guidebooks and is verified externally. Full details about the design philosophy, review methodology and index components are freely available at www.sustainability-indexes.com.

Further information:

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