

Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes

A cooperation of Dow Jones Indexes, STOXX Ltd. and SAM Group

Press Release
Zurich, June 24, 2003

Dexia Asset Management launches first DJSI-based Exchange Traded Fund

Dexia Asset Management today launches the first Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) based on the family of Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI). The new product – “TrackinDex” – will replicate the performance of the pan-European Dow Jones STOXX Sustainability Index (DJSI STOXX) and will be listed on Euronext as of June 25.

ETFs are open-end funds that trade on stock exchanges like shares. Since the launch of the first ETF in 1993, the market for this product category has grown significantly and is now accounting for close to 140 billion EUR of managed assets worldwide. In Europe, the number of ETFs has increased from three in April 2000 to over a hundred at the end of May 2003. TrackinDex is the first product in this new market segment based on the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes.

“The introduction of this investment vehicle is yet another milestone in moving sustainability into mainstream asset management. Since the start of the DJSI family in 1999, demand for professional and reliable benchmarks in this investment field has grown significantly. The launch of the first DJSI-based ETF is a solid case in point for that”, says Alexander Barkawi, Managing Director of SAM Indexes.

“TrackinDex is an important addition to our existing range of sustainability funds. Dexia Asset Management has been active in the field of sustainability investing since 1996. The launch of TrackinDex reflects our strong confidence in the continued growth of this market segment”, says Wim Vermeir, Global Head of Equity & Sustainable, Dexia Asset Management.

Note to the editor:

Launched in 1999, the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes are the first global indexes tracking the financial performance of the leading sustainability-driven companies worldwide. Based on the cooperation of Dow Jones Indexes, STOXX Limited and SAM they provide asset managers with professional and objective benchmarks to manage sustainability portfolios. More than 40 DJSI licenses are currently held by asset managers in 14 countries to manage a variety of financial products including actively and passively managed funds, certificates and segregated accounts. In total, they presently manage 1.7 billion EUR based on the DJSI.

The Dow Jones Sustainability World Indexes (DJSI World) cover the top 10% of the biggest 2,500 companies in the Dow Jones World Index in terms of economic, environmental and social criteria. As a benchmark for European sustainability investments, the Dow Jones STOXX Sustainability Indexes (DJSI STOXX) cover the leading 20% 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 by an external auditor. Full details about the design philosophy, review methodology and index components are freely available at www.sustainability-indexes.com.

Additional information about TrackinDex is available as of June 25 at www.trackindex.com.

Further information:

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