

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Feri EuroRating Awards 2010: Nominations announced for Germany, Austria and Switzerland

- **Awards to honour the best public funds**
- **Winners to be chosen based on qualitative evaluation**

Bad Homburg, 20 October 2009 – Once again this year, the rating agency Feri EuroRating Services AG will be honouring the best publicly registered funds in Germany, Austria and Switzerland with its Fund Awards. The nominees in each of the categories and in each of the countries are being released today and may be found at www.feri-fund-awards.com. The nominated funds ranked at the top of their peer groups in a strict quantitative evaluation of their risk and return characteristics and will now be subjected to a rigorous qualitative evaluation. Winners of the Feri EuroRating Awards 2010 for the entire German, Austrian and Swiss funds universe will be announced in a special awards ceremony on 24 November 2009 in Bad Homburg, Germany.

This year, Feri EuroRating Awards will be presented in a total of 14 categories in each of the three countries: nine for equity funds, four for bond funds, and one for the best balanced fund. In addition, Feri will be awarding its special Fund Innovations Award, which is presented to recognise a particularly innovative idea within the fund industry in the German-speaking countries. For the first time this year, Feri will also be presenting awards in five new management categories to recognise the best investment groups within Germany, Austria and Switzerland. "With these new awards, we evaluate management quality at the group level to provide investors with greater transparency in comparing different providers," explained Dr. Tobias Schmidt, Managing Partner at Feri EuroRating. "In selecting the winners, we have differentiated between universal and specialised providers, as well as between the best providers for equity funds and bond funds." As with the awards at the individual fund level, there will likewise be a special award each year in these group-level management awards. This year, this special award will go to the best provider of exchange-traded funds (ETFs). The nominees for the management categories and for the Fund Innovations Award will be announced in the coming weeks.

Methodology for the Feri EuroRating Awards

While other fund awards base their selection processes solely on quantitative evaluations, the Feri EuroRating Awards also consider qualitative criteria such as the experience and credentials of the fund manager as well as the construction of the portfolio. The process for selecting the funds to be honoured is divided into two levels. At the first level, nominees are selected within each category according to a quantitative procedure in which all funds within a peer group are numerically ranked according to their Feri rating as well as their performance and volatility over the past 12 months. The top five funds within each category are announced as the EuroRating Award nominees. These finalists are then subjected to a rigorous qualitative evaluation, including details about the fund manager's experience and credentials, and about the construction and implementation of the portfolio by the fund manager. The fund with the highest final ranking then receives the Feri EuroRating Award in the respective category. In order to be eligible for an award, a fund must exceed a minimum size and must be freely available to retail investors. The special Fund Innovations Award is chosen by a independent committee of experts. The awards in the new KAG management



categories are determined based on an assessment against those criteria relevant for each category. For further information, please visit www.feri-fund-awards.com.

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