

## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

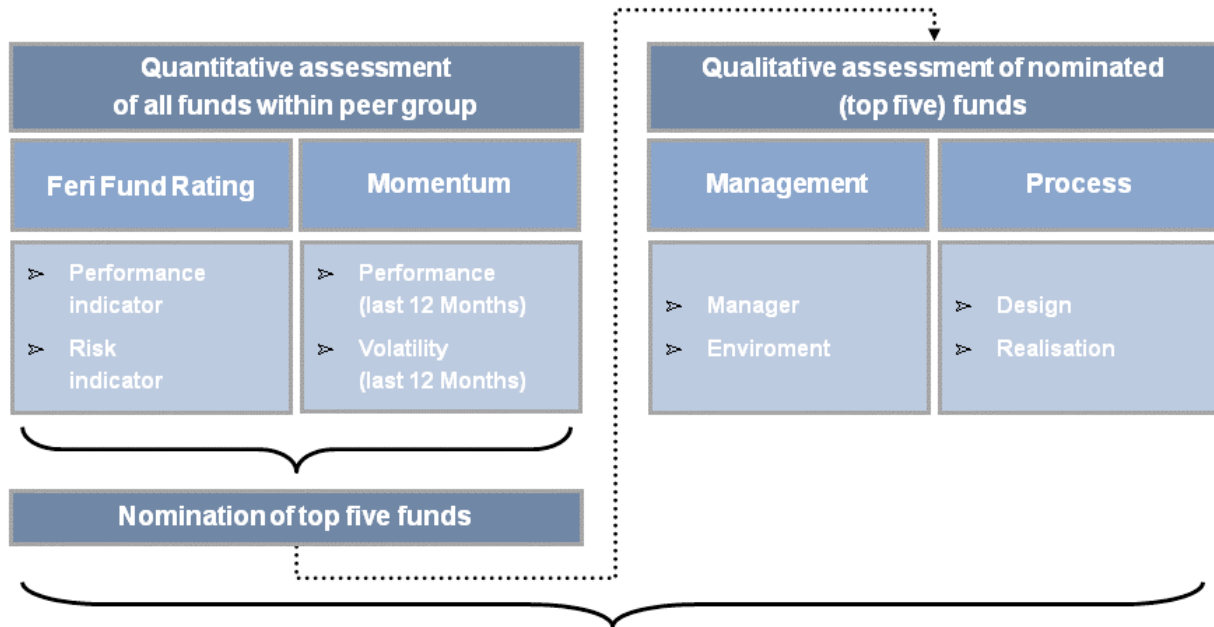
### **Feri EuroRating announces 2009 Fund Awards nominees for Germany, Austria and Switzerland**

- **Awards to honour the best funds in each of 12 categories**
- **Nominees selected, winners to be chosen on qualitative factors**
- **Turbulent markets underscore importance of ratings**

**Bad Homburg, 23 October 2008** – In its Fund Awards this year, Feri EuroRating Services AG will for the first time be including Austria and Switzerland along with Germany. In each of the three countries, Feri will be recognising the best publicly registered funds in 12 different categories: eight for equity funds, three for bond funds, and a category for balanced funds. The nominees in each of these categories and in each of the countries have been selected and may be found at [www.feri-fund-awards.com](http://www.feri-fund-awards.com). In addition, Feri will be selecting the winner of its special award for “Fund Innovations”, which is presented each year to honour an especially innovative idea from the fund management industry. The winners, which are determined based on a qualitative evaluation of the finalist funds, will be announced at award ceremonies to be held in Bad Homburg on 25 November, in Zurich on 27 November, and in Vienna on 2 December 2008. “Through our detailed fund evaluations, investors have ready access to a highly transparent tool to help them make investment decisions,” said Dr. Helmut Knepel, Managing Partner at Feri. “Particularly in these turbulent times in the financial markets, rigorous fund ratings are gaining enormously in importance.” By covering various different fund categories, the awards also provide investors with a broad overview of the fund market.

While other fund awards based their selection processes solely on quantitative evaluations, the Feri EuroRating Fund 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 follows at two levels, according a strictly defined procedure. 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 with each of the twelve categories are then announced as nominees for the Fund Awards within their country, as has just occurred. In the coming weeks, these finalists will be 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, as shown in the accompanying diagram. 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 award in the category of “Fund Innovations“ will be chosen by a separate committee of independent experts. The nominees in this category will be announced at the end of October. For further information, please visit [www.feri-fund-awards.com](http://www.feri-fund-awards.com).



**Feri EuroRating Awards**

**Press contact:**  
 Stockheim Media GmbH  
 Cornelia Wojahn  
 phone: (+49-69) 133896-18  
 cw@stockheim-media.com