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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE – NEW INDEX FAMILY LAUNCHED BY STRUCTURED SOLUTIONS

STRUCTURED SOLUTIONS ENTERS COOPERATION WITH GOVERNANCEMETRICS INTERNATIONAL

GovernanceMetrics International (GMI), the New York based corporate governance research and ratings agency, and Structured Solutions AG, the Frankfurt based index provider, today announced they are jointly developing the first indices based on GMI's governance ratings. The first index, the Solactive GMI Germany Performance Index, was launched recently. HypoVereinsbank launched the first structured product linked to the index for the German investment market on November 8, 2010.

In the last decade, most countries have implemented corporate governance codes, principles and rules to encourage increased accountability, responsibility and sustainable business practices. Several studies have also shown that companies with stronger corporate governance practices achieve long-term and stable returns.

"Enron, Satyam and Parmalat showed us how bad corporate governance practices can lead to enormous scandals and insolvencies, with a consequent substantial loss of investment value," commented Richard A. Bennett, President and CEO of GovernanceMetrics International. "An investment in the newly-developed corporate governance indices offers an uncomplicated way to participate in the development of well governed corporations."

All Solactive GMI indices will be reconfigured on a quarterly basis using updated GMI ratings. The indices use a best-in-class approach, including the best-rated companies within a predefined stock pool.

Steffen Scheuble, CEO of Structured Solutions AG, explained: "Corporate governance is an important factor for stock performance. Independent studies state that companies with good corporate governance practices achieve higher and more stable returns in the markets. Until now good-governance indices like this have not been available. GMI is a perfect partner for this initiative, given its broad global coverage."

Howard Sherman, Executive Director of GovernanceMetrics International, added: "This is an exciting development for GMI. Structured Solutions AG is a fast and flexible index provider, enabling us to offer investors access to our rating scheme on a timely basis. As demand for environmental, social and governance (ESG) investment products grows amongst institutional investors, rule-based indices are an excellent way to offer transparent, neutrally-calculated and cost-efficient access to our ratings."

GOVERNANCEMETRICS INTERNATIONAL

GovernanceMetrics International (GMI) is the largest independent provider of corporate governance research, ratings and risk analysis worldwide. Together with its sister company, The Corporate Library, GMI provides in-depth coverage of more than 5,400 companies, including the complete MSCI World Index and extensive Emerging Market coverage. GMI clients have combined assets under management (AUM) in excess of EUR 3.5 trillion and include leading banks, insurance companies, pension funds, asset managers, stock exchanges, regulatory agencies and advisory firms worldwide.

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STRUCTURED SOLUTIONS AG

Structured Solutions is a leading company in the area of structuring and indexing for institutional clients. The company operates the index platform Solactive (formerly S-BOX index platform) and acts as an independent calculator of indices which serve as underlyings for ETFs, structured products and other derivatives issued by international financial institutions. Furthermore, Structured Solutions is a cooperation partner of various stock exchanges and index providers, e.g. Karachi Stock Exchange, Shenzhen Securities Information Company and Dubai Gold and Commodities Exchange (DGCX) regarding index development and index marketing.

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