



## Media Release

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### **SIX Swiss Exchange is committed to increasing the visibility of listed companies**

**SIX Swiss Exchange is launching a visibility initiative for listed small and medium-sized companies. The offer supports companies in expanding their market presence and perception among key stakeholders.**

One of the most important reasons for being listed on a stock exchange is access to the financial market and growth capital. To be able to use capital markets effectively, companies do, however, need to have a minimum trading liquidity volume. Shares of small and medium-sized companies are often less liquid for a variety of reasons, such as the partially insufficient information flow to the relevant capital market participants.

The new «Stage» program launched by SIX Swiss Exchange picks up at that very point and supports listed companies in increasing their visibility and achieving a consistent evaluation. Issuers can choose from a variety of «visibility» offers. The offer is based on a regularly updated fact sheet compiled by Morningstar, as well as training organized by SIX Swiss Exchange and specific, target-group relevant information. In addition to the basic offer, listed companies can obtain research coverage through SIX Swiss Exchange which is provided by established Swiss banks Bank am Bellevue, Vontobel and Zürcher Kantonalbank.

To avoid potential conflicts of interest, neither issuers nor the banks have any influence on the distribution of the research mandate; this is done at random. In addition, a research committee has been set up by SIX Swiss Exchange in order to take into account the interests of the various parties. It currently comprises two representatives of companies listed on the SIX Exchange, an investor, an academic representative, as well as two SIX employees. It is an advisory body of SIX Swiss Exchange.

Chris Landis, Division CEO SIX Swiss Exchange: «We are very happy to be able to offer this new, attractive program to our issuers, which enables them to put themselves in the spotlight for relevant stakeholders. We consider this part of our duty and responsibility toward the Swiss financial centre. And in the three banks and Morningstar, we were able to win proven experts and respected partners for this enterprise.»

You can find further information on the Stage program at: [www.six-swiss-exchange.com/stage](http://www.six-swiss-exchange.com/stage)



Swiss Exchange

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jürg Schneider, Media Relations.

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#### **SIX Swiss Exchange**

SIX Swiss Exchange is the leading independent exchange in Europe. It connects companies from around the world with international investors and trading participants. It creates particularly market-oriented framework conditions for listing and trading in its highly liquid segments. SIX Swiss Exchange multiplies the locational advantages of the Swiss financial marketplace with first-rate services and is an ideal listing location. It distributes its own range of indices, including Switzerland's most important blue-chip index SMI®. With the world's most advanced trading technology X-stream INET it offers excellent trading conditions.

[www.six-swiss-exchange.com](http://www.six-swiss-exchange.com)

#### **SIX**

SIX operates the infrastructure underpinning the Swiss financial sector and offers a comprehensive range of services around the world in the fields of securities trading and settlement, financial information and payment transactions. The company is owned by its users (approximately 140 banks of various orientation and size). Its workforce of over 4,000 employees and presence in 25 countries throughout the world generated operating income of CHF 1.8 billion and a Group net profit of CHF 713.7 million in 2015.

[www.six-group.com](http://www.six-group.com)

#### **Bank am Bellevue**

Bank am Bellevue AG is a leading independent Swiss financial boutique with proprietary investment and capital market expertise. It was established in 1993 and remains very entrepreneurially driven; with a 23.3% CET1 ratio, it is one of the best capitalized banks in Switzerland. The Bank focuses on financial research, brokerage and corporate finance services in the Swiss equity market. Its idea-driven approach is the foundation for the outstanding performance of its brokerage recommendations.

[www.bellevue.ch](http://www.bellevue.ch)

#### **Vontobel**

Vontobel's mission is to protect and build the wealth of its clients. Over 1'500 employees worldwide provide first-rate, customised services for clients with an international focus. Specializing in active asset management and tailor-made investment solutions Vontobel provides responsible and forward-looking advice. The Vontobel families stood for generations with their name for Swiss quality and performance standards.

[www.vontobel.com](http://www.vontobel.com)

#### **Zürcher Kantonalbank**

Zürcher Kantonalbank is a leading universal bank in the Zurich economic area with Swiss roots and international reach. It is an independent public-law institution owned by the canton of Zurich and has received top ratings from the rating agencies Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch (AAA/Aaa). With more than 5,000 employees, Zürcher Kantonalbank offers its clients a comprehensive range of products and services. With its Swisscanto Invest brand, the Zürcher Kantonalbank group is one of Switzerland's largest fund providers.

[www.zkb.ch](http://www.zkb.ch)



Swiss Exchange

**Morningstar**

Morningstar is a leading provider of independent investment analyses. We offer an extensive line of Internet, software and print-based products to individual investors, financial advisors and institutional investors. Morningstar is a trusted source of insightful information on stocks, mutual funds, ETFs, hedge funds and many other investment products. With operations in 27 countries, we currently provide data on some 530,000 investment products.

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