



JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Bank Sarasin to license ASSET4 data

- **ASSET4 to provide Bank Sarasin with environmental, social and governance (ESG) data**
- **Bank Sarasin expands sustainability investing activities**
- **ASSET4's ESG data will support Bank Sarasin's Sustainability Research**

Basel/Zug, Switzerland, February 1st, 2007 – Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd, a Swiss Private Bank known as one of Europe's leading sustainable investment products developers, and ASSET4 Ltd, a leading provider of environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) data on global corporations, today jointly announced that Bank Sarasin is to acquire a global license to use ASSET4's ESG data and framework for its investment research, product structuring and portfolio management processes.

Andreas Knoerzer, Director Sustainable Investments at Bank Sarasin, says: "Sustainable Investment is one of Bank Sarasin's key competencies and is developing very dynamically. The fact that other "big players" have entered the Sustainable Investment business recently supports our conviction that the market will continue its dynamic development. Consequently we will expand this business by assigning additional resources for portfolio management and research. We now utilise the ASSET4 platform to provide data for our Sustainability Research. It is the most comprehensive, scalable and objective ESG database available. It allows expanding our research universe and ESG analyses."

"Bank Sarasin's sustainable investment products are the industry benchmarks. We are excited to work with a leader in the field of sustainable investing. Bank Sarasin's approach underlines the relevance of ESG factors in the investment process and demonstrates that sustainable investment products are increasingly becoming



mainstream ingredients of professional, performance-oriented wealth management,” says Peter Ohnemus, CEO and President of ASSET4.

“We are independent and proud of our neutral and objective sustainability analysis, which boosts our credibility with customers. ASSET4’s data supports this approach. We can use ASSET4 ESG data as “raw information” for our research while concentrating on ESG analyses and evaluations using our own methodology and client specific modeling,” adds Bank Sarasin’s Andreas Knoerzer.

“Including extra-financials and intangibles in the investment decision process has fast become best practice in the global asset management industry. Therefore, wealth managers need independent and systematic data on these issues,” explains ASSET4’s Peter Ohnemus.

The ASSET4 IntegratedRating™ framework offers investment professionals ESG data and the tools necessary to track, analyze and benchmark the practices and performance of their funds, portfolios and companies. By monitoring over 250 specific economic, environmental, social and governance factors, the ASSET4 system enables users to see beyond the purely financial aspects of companies, thereby benefiting from an integrated perspective of public quoted companies performance.

Bank Sarasin pioneered research of sustainability criteria in 1989 and launched the world’s first investment fund based on the concept of eco-efficiency back in 1994. Today its sustainable investment team of 19 employees is one of Europe’s largest and most experienced. Bank Sarasin offers customers one-stop shopping for sustainability products. The integration of its experienced research team into the portfolio management process means that their products and advisory services are of unparalleled quality.



Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd – Responsibly yours

Founded in 1841, Bank Sarasin is today one of Switzerland's leading private banking institutions. Its sustainable success is based on trust, confidentiality, expertise and dedication. Bank Sarasin's core activities include investment advisory and asset management services for private and institutional clients, as well as an investment funds business. Its complementary services extend to corporate finance and financial analysis. The Sarasin Group - headquartered in Basel, Switzerland - employs over 1100 staff. In addition to its headquarters in Basel, the Bank has offices in Zurich, Geneva and Lugano in Switzerland. Internationally, the Sarasin Group has offices in Dubai, Guernsey, Hong Kong, London, Luxembourg, Munich, Paris and Singapore. Bank Sarasin is a limited company. Its shares are listed on the Swiss Stock Exchange, SWX. Its strategic partner Rabobank is the only bank in the world without a state guarantee that enjoys a triple-A rating.

ASSET4 Ltd

ASSET4 is the world's leading provider of comprehensive, integrated and transparent financial and extra-financial information, essential to understand and manage the long-term performance and risk profiles of public quoted corporations. The ASSET4 IntegratedRating™ framework offers investment professionals and corporate executives objective ESG data and the tools to track, analyze and benchmark the practices and performance of their portfolios, funds and companies. By monitoring over 250 economic, environmental, social and governance factors, the ASSET4 system enables users to see beyond the purely financial aspects of companies and benefit from a broad and integrated perspective of corporate performance. Users benefit from better-informed investment and strategic decisions, reduced investment research costs and enhanced client-reporting capabilities. The company is headquartered in Switzerland and employs 150 people with a wide range of scientific and business backgrounds. To learn more about ASSET4, please visit www.asset4.com.



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