

Press Release

Minerva Analytics is acquired by Solactive, the market-leading Index and ETF provider, further enhancing its leading position in sustainable finance.

11 January 2023

FRANKFURT AM MAIN – Amid a global push towards trustworthy and granular ESG data, rigorous reporting and engagement on sustainability issues by investors, Minerva is pleased to announce its acquisition by German index provider Solactive. The move follows Solactive’s minority investment in Minerva in May 2019.

With increasing regulatory focus on sustainability in Europe, the UK, US and Asia-Pacific, the transaction will enable Minerva Analytics and Solactive to provide their combined global client base of more than 500 entities with proxy voting and stewardship oversight services as well as ESG indices, benchmarks, research and data. As both indexed and systematic asset management firms face escalating calls from investors to actively vote and engage with portfolio companies, Minerva’s solutions are a natural addition to Solactive’s existing services.

Solactive already commands a leading position within the ESG solutions landscape, ranking third globally in 2021 in ETF launches incorporating ESG considerations. Minerva looks forward to strengthening the firm’s commitment to innovation within sustainability. Working with multiple sources of ESG intelligence and data, Solactive will continue to provide a compelling choice of customized and off-the shelf ESG benchmarks.

Following the completion of the acquisition, the companies will continue to operate independently and partner on an arm’s length basis in the fields of data science and technology.

Steffen Scheuble, CEO of Solactive, said: “An explosion of interest in improving responsible investment practices over the last few years has been driven by both regulatory demands and increased client attention. In particular, clients are keen to diversify their sources of input and intelligence to improve outcomes. We believe this trend will only accelerate and we look forward to our continued close collaboration with Minerva as it cements its position as one of a handful of truly global and objective sustainable stewardship services and ESG research and data providers.”

Sarah Wilson, CEO of Minerva Analytics, commented: “Solactive and Minerva share the philosophy that there is no such thing as a ‘one-size-fits-all’ solution for clients, who all hold different investment beliefs. This idea manifests itself in the ‘custom as standard’ scalable solutions Minerva has developed over the years for our clients, powered by deep stewardship expertise and backed by expert data and leading-edge technology. The whole team is delighted to be a part of the Solactive family and is excited to embark on this next stage of our journey ahead together.”

For more information, please visit: <http://www.minerva.info>

Note to editors

About Solactive

Solactive is a leading provider of indexing, benchmarking, and calculation solutions for the global investment and trading community. Headquartered in Frankfurt and with offices in Hong Kong, Toronto, Berlin, Dresden and Amsterdam, we innovate and disrupt the status quo as the partner of choice for our clients.

Our 250 staff blend expertise in data, data science, financial markets and technology to enable our clients' continued success through the delivery of a superior experience, unique customization capabilities, and the best value for money available in the industry. With more than 20,000 indices calculated daily, we offer a full suite of solutions, including market-leading ESG and thematic indices.

As at January 2022, Solactive served approximately 500 clients across the world, with approximately US\$250 billion invested in products linked to our indices. Solactive is registered with ESMA as a benchmark administrator and is supervised by the BaFin.

About Minerva

Since its founding in 1995, Minerva has provided global investors, academics and regulators with a range of services – including the first electronic proxy vote agency offering fully bespoke voting policies. Today Minerva's services include expert stewardship advisory services, SDG benchmarking, comprehensive sustainability, and governance research, ESG data and voting trends data for up to 6,500 global companies. For further information please see www.minerva.info.

Disclaimer

The information in this document does not constitute tax, legal or investment advice and is not intended as a recommendation for buying or selling securities. Solactive AG and all other companies mentioned in this document are not responsible for the consequences of reliance upon any opinion or statement contained herein or for any omission.

Solactive AG, Platz der Einheit 1, 60327 Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Registered Office: Frankfurt am Main, Registration Court: Amtsgericht Frankfurt am Main, HRB: 79986, USt-IdNr.: DE 255 598 976. Management Board: Steffen Scheuble, Alexander Steiner, and Timo Pfeiffer, Head of Supervisory Board: Dr Felix Mühlhäuser.