

Panel Debate 6: Rating Agencies and Risk Management

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What is an S&P rating?

It is an opinion on the ability and willingness of an obligor to meet its debts as they fall due, or to respect the financial terms of a particular debt security or other financial obligation.







What it is:

- Forward-looking opinions about relative credit risk, i.e., the creditworthiness of an entity or its securities that ...
- ... strive to be globally comparable across sectors
- Incorporate views on relative likelihood of default that ...
- refer to the timely payment of interest and principal and ...
- ... are applied to entities and securities

And what it is not:

- Investment advice, a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold securities, or a comment as to market price or suitability for an investor
- a measure of liquidity or market value
- a way of defining "good" or "bad" companies, or a direct assessment of corporate governance
- an audit of the company or its auditors
- a guarantee of credit quality or of future credit risk







SAM Corporate Sustainability Assessment ™

SAM Sustainable Asset Management





SAM Methodology

Systematic and consistent measurement of corporate sustainability performance

- Access to corporate information via web-based questionnaire, management meetings and public information
- Integrated assessment of economic, environmental and social criteria with focus on long-term value creation
- Assessment of more than 2000 companies yearly based on broad range of general and industry-specific criteria
- Emphasis on performance over management systems and policies
- Assessment complemented by a Media & Stakeholder Analysis
- Process audited annually by independent third-party firm
- Cooperation with S&P Dow Jones Indices for the publication and licensing of the DJSI, launched in 1999.



Measuring corporate sustainability

Information gathering Criteria



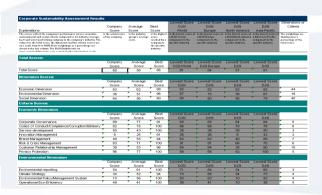
- Web-based questionnaire
- Company documents
- Company interactions
- Media & Stakeholder analysis





Investment universes







- Integrated assessment of economic, social and environmental criteria with a strong focus on long-term value creation
- Evaluation schemes driven by identified "best-in-class" examples
- Investment products
- Clients' portfolios



Media & Stakeholder Analysis (MSA)

Identification of MSA Case

Severity of Case on a scale of 1-3 (3 = most severe)

Identification of Criteria Affected

Evaluation of Response

MSA Score

Specific event identified:

- Does the event imply a potential reputational / financial impact?
- Does the event require a company response?
- Is this an extraordinary event for the company and not part of company's regular operations?
- Is the news source credible?

- Was the case an accident or negligence?
- Was the case a oneoff event or systematic pattern of similar events?
- Are there major or minor impacts / consequences?

- Analyst determines which criteria the MSA case can affect
- A single case can have an impact on multiple criteria
- The more criteria involved, the greater the potential impact on the company's Total Sustainability Score

Was the company's response:

- Timely?
- Proactive or defensive?
- Transparent?
- Effective?
- Did it address stakeholders' concerns?
- Were processes implemented to prevent future recurrence?

- Using a matrix combining the severity of the case with the quality of the response based on timeliness, transparency, etc.
- Analyst determines whether case was "mismanaged," "managed" or "managed very well"
- Company receives an MSA score of 0-1 00 for the specific case
- MSA score applied to corresponding criteria

Description



DJSI Assessment and Selection Process

DJSI World

2,500 largest companies of the Dow Jones Total Global Stock Market Index 58 DJSI Sectors 52 Countries

Selection of top 10% in terms of Sustainability in each sector

15% target market cap coverage in each super sector

342 Components 57 DJSI Sectors 30 Countries Review 2011: 41 ADD / 23 DEL

DJSI Europe

600 largest European companies of the Dow Jones Total Global Stock Market Index 54 DJSI Sectors 16 Countries

Selection of top 20% in terms of Sustainability in each sector

45% target market cap coverage in each super sector

172 Components 50 DJSI Sectors 15 Countries Review 2011: 21 ADD / 13 DEL

DJSI North

America

600 largest North American companies of the Dow Jones Total Global Stock Market Index 56 DJSI Sectors 2 Countries

Selection of top 20% in terms of Sustainability in each sector

45% target market cap coverage in each super sector

143 Components
49 DJSI Sectors
2 Countries
Review 2011: 20 ADD /
12 DEL

DJSI Asia Pacific

600 largest companies from Asia/Pacific* of the Dow Jones Total Global Stock Market Index 55 DJSI Sectors 7 Countries

Selection of top 20% in terms of Sustainability in each sector

45% target market cap coverage in each super sector

156 Components 44 DJSI Sectors Review 2011: 24 ADD / 10 DEL

^{*600} largest companies from South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore Figures as of launch September 19, 2011



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