

MEDIA INFORMATION

MainFirst awarded Best Equity Research for German and Swiss equities

Frankfurt am Main, 6 June 2018 – MainFirst Bank AG has won Best Research for German and Swiss equities in the Extel Survey 2018, Europe's foremost evaluation of the best brokers in research and trading. MainFirst thus maintained its top ranking for Switzerland, and climbed from second to first place for research in Germany.

Every year, a top quality body of sector specialists at Extel Survey evaluates areas including the services of research providers, using the results of a broad-based investor survey. Some 7,000 institutional investors participate in the survey annually. "The fact that we have been named best research provider for equities in Germany and Switzerland serves to underscore our strategy. The experience of our research team, the independence of our around 40 analysts and their excellent contact network to companies enable us to provide high quality research that offers real added value for investors. We focus primarily on German, Swiss, French and Italian equities and several European sectors," said Lyonel Françoys, Head of European Research at MainFirst. "We plan to expand our coverage of French and Italian equities in addition to our broad scope of German and Swiss securities."

"The results of this year's survey underpin our success as one of the leading equity research and trading providers. We have recently significantly increased our market share in the area of equities," said Ebrahim Attarzadeh, Head of Equities and member of the Board of Management at MainFirst Bank AG. "The award for best research in German and Swiss equities is particularly representative in the new world of MiFID 2, where customers are only willing to pay for differentiated, high quality and independent equity research. The award is more than just an acknowledgement, it is also an incentive. Our objective is, and will remain, to offer our clients top class research and efficient execution," said Attarzadeh.

About MainFirst

Founded in 2001, MainFirst is an independent European financial services firm, specialising in equity brokerage and research, equity capital markets and asset management. The group employs a staff of around 200 in Frankfurt, London, Luxembourg, Milan, Munich, New York, Paris and Zurich.

MainFirst Equities is one of the leading independent European institutional equity research and trading providers. Its research involves around 40 analysts following some 300 German, Swiss, French and Italian mid and large-cap companies. The focus is on ideas generating "high alpha", which may not necessarily be consensual. The team's multi-local constellation affords particular proximity to both European businesses and investors.

MainFirst Asset Management follows a multi-boutique approach, focussing on investment strategies in the equities, fixed income and multi-asset/absolute return asset classes. Experienced portfolio management teams develop strategies with a high level of Active Share and individual investment processes. This is combined with the clearly defined processes of a broad-based international platform. The company manages both mutual funds and individual special mandates.

Further information (including legal information) can be found at www.mainfirst.com

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Press contact

Edelman.ergo

Jörg Schüren – Director

Financial Communications

Tel.: +49 (221) 912 887 29

E-Mail: joerg.schueren@edelmanergo.com