Committed to Sustainable Finance

Press Release October 10th 2024

EthiFinance



imug rating GmbH joined the European EthiFinance Group in March 2023. To complete the integration of European teams and product lines, the final step is the change of name from imug rating GmbH to EthiFinance GmbH.

All current products and services will be offered under the EthiFinance brand from October 2024. With around 30 employees in Hanover, the EthiFinance GmbH team will be the central point of contact in the DACH region for sustainable ESG strategies, data and reporting as well as for qualified Second Party Opinions, Sustainability Ratings and expert opinions. In addition, all EthiFinance ESG products and services sold in the DACH region, including European small and mid-cap ESG research and ESG due diligence for private equity investments, will now be offered to German clients. This includes traditional credit research and ratings.

With the increased presence in German-speaking countries, EthiFinance positions itself as one of the leading European agencies for financial and non-financial ratings at five locations in Hanover, Granada, Lyon, Madrid and Paris. Its global expertise and local market proximity creates great growth potential.

imug rating GmbH – now EthiFinance – has a long history in sustainability research: As part of imug Beratungsgesellschaft, the ESG rating agency has been facilitating sustainable investments and financing since its foundation in 1995 and as an independent subsidiary since 2021.

Axel Wilhelm, Managing Director DACH at EthiFinance, emphasises: "After many years with imug rating as a pioneer and independent sustainability rating agency on the German sustainable finance market, we already took the necessary steps for further growth and increasing internationalisation last year. The EthiFinance GmbH company name will allow us to execute on EthiFinance's ambition of becoming the leading European ESG provider, while leveraging our proximity to our clients and markets as the trusted and reliable regional partner for investors and issuers of all sizes in German-speaking countries."

Carol Sirou, Group Chief Executive Officer at EthiFinance, says: "The integration of the experienced German team has brought considerable value to EthiFinance. We have learnt a lot from each other and can now position ourselves in the market with improved methods and services. We will continue to invest and expand our teams and areas of expertise. The sustainable market is consolidating at a rapid pace – at EthiFinance, we want to help shape this development with a diversity of offering that emphasises the quality of analyses and services for responsible decision-making and strategic management."

About EthiFinance

Headquartered in Paris, with more than 160 employees in Paris, Lyon, Madrid, Granada and Hanover, EthiFinance is a pioneer in ESG rating, with more than 20 years' experience.

The company supports more than 400 clients through its credit and ESG rating, research and advisory services, helping them to meet the challenges of an ever-changing economic, financial and regulatory environment.

True to its values and longstanding dedication to serving mid-sized companies, EthiFinance offers a unique and independent European approach to ESG and credit analysis.

www.ethifinance.com

Contact

Theresa zum Felde Marketing & Communication EthiFinance GmbH Postkamp 14a 30159 Hannover

Email: <u>theresa.zumfelde@ethifinance.com</u> Fon: +49 511 12196-60