



SARASIN

Sustainable Swiss Private Banking since 1841.

Media release

Basel, 28 October 2009

Sarasin named “Best Private Bank for Portfolio Management” and “Best Private Bank for Innovation” at the Global Private Banking Awards 2009

Bank Sarasin has been named “Best Private Bank for Portfolio Management” and “Best Private Bank for Innovation” by The Banker and Professional Wealth Management – two premier industry magazines published by the Financial Times Group. The prestigious awards recognize Sarasin’s leading approach to asset management and are a testament to the success of the bank’s integrated sustainability model.



Best Private Bank for
Innovation



Best Private Bank
for Portfolio Management

Commenting on the two Global Private Banking Awards presented to Bank Sarasin, Yuri Bender, Editor-in-Chief of Professional Wealth Management, said:

"The jury was greatly impressed by Sarasin’s submission. Both the awards – for innovation and portfolio management – reflect the bank’s unique approach to sustainability and its commitment to integrating environmental, social and governance principles into its investment strategy and management culture."

Burkhard P. Varnholt, Head of the Asset Management, Products & Sales Division and Chief Investment Officer of Bank Sarasin, said:

"We are delighted to have received these two Global Private Banking Awards. In a competitive marketplace, innovation and excellence in asset management are important success factors. As such, the awards are a strong endorsement of the way we manage the assets entrusted to us by our valued clients, not only with regard to performance but also in the context of sustainability, which they consider a key investment approach."

The Global Private Banking Awards are based on the evaluation of comprehensive qualitative and quantitative data solicited from around 350 private banking and wealth management companies. The winners were chosen by a jury of independent industry experts from a wide range of disciplines to ensure a broad-based and impartial selection process.

Sarasin's asset allocation decisions in 2008 and 2009

Sarasin emerged with considerable merit during the recent financial market crisis. It entered the year 2009 with a relatively low allocation to equities and a high allocation to corporate bonds – a decision that proved astute and significantly benefited client portfolios in the most challenging period of the crisis. Sarasin subsequently increased its allocation to equities – with a particular focus on the emerging markets. Furthermore, the bank consistently continued to raise its equity weightings in the ensuing months and thus increased its impressive outperformance. Sarasin's move to closely align its research and portfolio management capabilities has been an important driver in achieving these outstanding results.

Sarasin recognised the importance of sustainable investments as long as 20 years ago. What started off with the inclusion of environmental criteria in certain asset management mandates back in 1989 has now developed into one of the bank's most important pillars of business. Sarasin further strengthened its resolve in 2009 by applying its proprietary standard sustainability filter to all its private client portfolio management processes. This decision has added additional alpha to Sarasin's stock and bond selection.

For more information please contact:

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Sarasin – Sustainable Swiss Private Banking since 1841 – www.sarasin.com

The Sarasin Group has its roots as a leading Swiss private bank. As an international financial service provider committed to sustainability, the Group is now represented in more than 20 locations in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. By end of June 2009 it managed total client assets of CHF 79.9 billion and employed around 1,500 staff. Its majority shareholder is the AAA-rated Dutch Rabobank.

Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd – Sustainable Swiss Private Banking since 1841 – www.sarasin.ch

Bank Sarasin is a leading Swiss private bank whose many years of banking experience has made it consciously opt for sustainability as a key component of its corporate philosophy. It provides a high level of service and expertise when acting as investment advisor and asset manager for private and institutional clients. Within Switzerland, Sarasin has offices in Basel (head office), Berne, Geneva, Lugano, and Zurich. Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.