

Press Release

Solactive Global Benchmark Series kicks off with the Developed Markets Large & Mid Cap Index Family

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Solactive has decided to take its benchmark offering to the next level by introducing its proprietary Global Benchmark Series (GBS). The Solactive Global Benchmark Series is one of the largest projects undertaken by the German index provider. Once completed, the GBS will include around 2,000 equity indices, covering developed and emerging markets based on the *Solactive Country Classification Framework*.

The Solactive Developed Markets Large & Mid Cap benchmark indices aim to track the performance of 23 developed countries covering the top 85% in terms of free float market capitalization. The construction of the GBS follows a consistent bottom-up approach. Individual country indices can be merged to form any regional index combination ensuring full flexibility in the creation of custom equity benchmarks. The benchmarks are available as both market-cap-weighted and equally-weighted indices, calculated in three different versions (price return, total return, net total return) and denominated in EUR, USD and domestic currency.

The Solactive Developed Markets Large & Mid Cap benchmark indices mark the beginning of the Global Benchmark Series. These will be complemented with the launch of additional size segments (Small Cap, All Cap) over the course of 2018, as well as the Solactive Emerging Markets benchmarks, which will be delivered in early 2019.

Steffen Scheuble, CEO of Solactive, commented: *"Customers have increasingly approached us asking for cost-efficient benchmarks. Thanks to the GBS, customers will not only experience a wider range of choices in the benchmark space but will also have access to more price-competitive solutions compared to what is currently available in the market."*

The indices can be used as direct underlying or benchmarks of financial products. In addition, they can also serve as the starting universe for smart beta or thematic indices and further provide the basis on which to conduct derived index analytics. The benchmarks are available for licensing, with the possibility of customizing the country selection and forming regional indices as needed.

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Note to editors

About Solactive

Solactive AG is an innovative index provider that focuses on the development, calculation and distribution of tailor-made indices across all asset classes. As at January 2018, Solactive AG served approximately 400 clients in Europe, America and Asia, with approximately USD 200 billion invested in products linked to indices calculated by the company globally, primarily via 350 exchange-traded funds from a number of well-known providers. Solactive AG was established in 2007 and is headquartered in Frankfurt.

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