

Press Release

11 September 2000

Union Minière included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Group Index

Union Minière has been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Group Index (DJSGI).

The DJSGI is the world's first global sustainability index, tracking the share performance of the top 10 % of the leading sustainability -driven companies world-wide. The index is diversified both by geographical sectors and by lines of business. The index is a partnership of Dow Jones Indexes and SAM Sustainability Group.

Effective October 6, 2000, the DJSGI will include 236 companies from 61 industries in 27 countries, representing the top 10 % sustainable companies world-wide.

UM views its inclusion in this index, which comes after a rigorous selection process, as a recognition of its efforts to put the principles of sustainable development into practice.

Corporate sustainability is a business approach to create long- term shareholder value by embracing opportunities and managing risks deriving from economic, environmental and social developments, the so -called triple bottom line. It provides information on the quality of management on each of these 3 elements. Key attributes for 2000 were the enhancement of social criteria, the stronger emphasis on document analysis and publicly available information, a stronger focus on corporate monitoring and an information management system enabling internet-based exchange with companies.

According to the DJSGI: "Leading sustainability companies seek to increase long-term shareholder value by incorporating responsible economic, environmental and social behavior into their business strategy. They try to invest in product and service innovations that use financial, natural and social resources in an efficient and economic manner over the long term. They try to meet shareholder's demands for long-term economic growth and they deliver more predictable results, which means fewer negative surprises".

Companies being part of the index are e.g. financials (16.1 %), industrials (6.7%), telecom (7.2%) and technology (27.6 %).

n.v. Union Minière s.a

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PROFILE

Union Minière (UM) is an international metals and materials group, which strives to obtain leadership positions in selected markets. Its activities are organised around 3 main business groups: Copper & Precious Metals, Zinc and Advanced Materials. To ensure a rapid response to the market, each business group is divided into several business units and business lines.

The UM Group has industrial operations in Europe, North America, Asia and Africa and serves a global customer base through an international sales network with offices in more than 25 countries.

The underlying principles of UM's strategy across the various business groups are a commitment to technological innovation, operational excellence, recycling and environmental responsibility.

The Group generated a turnover of EUR 3.2 billion in 1999. UM currently employs some 8,000 people.

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