

### **PRESS RELEASE**

# CHOM CAPITAL Active Return Europe UI receives the quality standard for sustainable investments (FNG-Label)

- Award of FNG-Label 2021 with two stars for the flagship fund of the Frankfurt based asset manager
- Holistic approach achieves maximum score for "institutional credibility"
- CHOM CAPITAL PURE Sustainability Small Cap Europe UI as one of five award-winning small-cap equity funds



Receipt of the FNG seal by Paul Althans, Lead Portfolio Manager of CHOM CAPITAL PURE Sustainability - Small Cap Europe UI, Martina Neske, Managing Director and CFO, and Benedikt Kirsch, Head of ESG and Portfolio Manager (from left to right).

Frankfurt am Main, 30.11.2021 – the entire fund range of the Frankfurt-based equity specialist CHOM CAPITAL was awarded the FNG sustainability seal for its in-house holistic <u>SUSTAINAMENTALS</u>®-approach. The asset management boutique received a total of two out of three possible stars for its <u>CHOM CAPITAL Active Return Europe UI</u> ("CARE") and <u>CHOM CAPITAL PURE Sustainability – Small Cap Europe UI</u> ("PURE") funds. This rating is reserved for sustainability strategies that have excelled in the areas of "institutional credibility", "product standards" and "impact" (security selection, engagement and KPIs). The independent and renowned certificate thus certifies that the asset manager clearly exceeds the required strict ESG minimum standards with regard to transparency criteria, the consideration of environmental protection, labor and human rights, and a wide range of other sustainability criteria in the investment process.

The Frankfurters are particularly satisfied with the top marks in both funds in the categories "Institutional Credibility" and "Product Standards". "This underpins our quality standards for our products, but also for ourselves to live sustainability credibly. For example, we donate 10% of sales of the PURE Sustainability fund to ecological and social projects, "comments Benedikt Kirsch, Head of ESG at CHOM CAPITAL. For the second time in a row, the European all-cap fund CARE has been awarded two stars, while the European, puristic small-cap fund PURE has received the FNG seal for the first time this year.

This year, for the first time ever, the auditors from the University of Hamburg awarded the FNG seal for small cap funds - apart from CHOM CAPITAL, only five companies received a seal for their small cap funds. This award is particularly groundbreaking in the area of small cap stocks, which are neglected by sustainability rating agencies. "The smaller the market capitalization of a company, the lower the coverage by these data providers. Here, investors need to roll up their sleeves and analyze value potential and sustainability quality in depth - with the current data situation, this can only be done through a deep understanding of the business model and strong access to management," says Paul Althans, Lead Portfolio Manager of PURE, adding, "For investors, sustainability is a key performance building block. By investing in sustainable companies, investors not only participate in their revenue growth and lower financing costs. The huge demand also leads to higher valuations." In the case of small caps in particular, real pearls of sustainability and hidden champions of future technologies can be found that offer investors high value potential. With the FNG seal as a quality standard for sustainable investments, the CHOM-CAPITAL approach is now also externally certified in this demanding segment.

For more information on the topic of sustainability at CHOM CAPITAL, see <a href="https://www.chomcapital.com/en/sustainability/">https://www.chomcapital.com/en/sustainability/</a>



### **About CHOM CAPITAL**

CHOM CAPITAL is an owner-operated asset management boutique, committed to serving the interests of its investors. Unhampered by rigid corporate guidelines or index affiliation, our success is based on deep fundamental and ESG analysis. All three partners have been working together successfully in the capital market business for more than 30 years and are equally committed to the company and the launched funds with their own money.

With the funds <u>CHOM CAPITAL Active Return Europe UI</u> (WKN A1JCWS) and <u>CHOM CAPITAL PURE Small Cap Europe UI</u> (WKN A2JF7P) investors have the opportunity to map all European market capitalization sizes. CHOM CAPITAL is a signatory of the UN-PRI and the European Transparency Code. Furthermore, CHOM CAPITAL is a member of the Forum Nachhaltiger Geldanlagen (FNG) as well as the European Sustainable and Responsible Investment Forum (EUROSIF) and holds the yourSRI transparency seal.

Please visit www.chomcapital.com for more information.

#### About FNG-Label:

As a quality standard in German-speaking countries, the FNG-Label supports investors in their search for solid, professionally managed sustainability funds. The sustainability investment style, the associated investment process, the associated ESG research capacities and any accompanying engagement process are analyzed and evaluated by means of independent audits by the University of Hamburg. The FNG-Label therefore goes far beyond simply looking at the portfolio; it takes a holistic look at the fund. Successfully certified funds meet a strict minimum standard in terms of transparency criteria and the consideration of environmental protection, labor and human rights in the investment process. Particularly high-quality sustainability strategies that stand out in the areas of "institutional credibility", "product standards" and "impact" (stock selection, engagement and KPIs) can also receive up to three stars.

You can find detailed information on the methodology here: <u>FNG-Methodology</u>. More Information about the FNG-Label: <u>www.fng-siegel.org</u>.

## **About UNIVERSAL-INVESTMENT**

With around 528 billion euros in assets under management, of which 400 billion euros in its own vehicles and around 128 billion euros in additional services such as insourcing, well over 1,500 public and special fund mandates and around 750 employees, Universal-Investment is the largest independent investment company in German-speaking countries. The investment company is the central platform for independent asset management and combines the investment know-how of asset managers, private banks and investment boutiques. With the acquisition of UI labs in early 2019, the industry-leading IT data specialist is also adding front office and data solutions to its service portfolio. (as of: 31. July 2020) More Information about Universal-Investment: <a href="https://www.universal-investment.com">www.universal-investment.com</a>

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