



Media Release

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SIX Swiss Exchange obtains temporary status as an “equivalent third-country trading venue”

On 21 December, the EU Commission decided to recognize the equivalence of the Swiss legal and supervisory framework for trading venues with that of the EU for a temporary period of one year. The decision allows European securities traders access to the Swiss market even after the new European financial market rules enter into force in January 2018. As a result, European securities traders will be permitted to trade Swiss equities on the Swiss domestic market in the coming year as well.

The European Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID II) and its related regulation MiFIR enter into force on 3 January 2018. Article 23 MiFIR requires European investment firms to trade shares on a trading venue within the EU or a third-country trading venue assessed as equivalent. This requirement applies to all shares admitted to trading in the EU, which affects the majority of Swiss equities traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

In recent months, the necessary steps were undertaken to ensure that SIX Swiss Exchange attains the status of an equivalent third-country trading venue. The necessary recognition by the European Union of the equivalence of the Swiss legal framework was granted for a temporary period of one year with the EU Commission's decision of 21 December 2017.

SIX acknowledges that the EU Commission thereby recognises in principle the equivalence of the Swiss legal framework. SIX does, however, regret the temporary nature of the decision and is working on the assumption that equal value will be definitively recognised at a later date.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stephan Meier, Head Media Relations.

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SIX

SIX operates the infrastructure underpinning the Swiss financial sector and offers a comprehensive range of services around the world in the fields of securities trading and settlement, financial information and payment transactions. The company is owned by its users (approximately 130 banks of various orientation and size). Its workforce of over 4,000 employees and presence in 25 countries throughout the world generated operating income of CHF 1.8 billion and a Group net profit of CHF 221.1 million in 2016.

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