

NEWS RELEASE

Date:	November 2008
Subject:	Cross-Border Share Voting in Europe – Continued Hurdles

Georgeson is delighted to have sponsored the 2008 ECGS 'Shareholders' Meetings in Europe' Manual.

This vital study, undertaken on behalf of various bodies promoting good corporate governance and shareholders' rights, emphasises the different requirements investors encounter across Europe when exercising cross border votes. As well as serving as a 'how to' guide, it also highlights the considerable hurdles still in place when attempting to exercise cross border votes, as local market requirements, discordant deadlines, complex registration and voting procedures - along with differences in culture or language - continue to clash with attempts to smooth the process.

Following capital market developments in 2008, the situation will be exacerbated in 2009 as shareholder meetings see crucial votes on key issues, and a possible rise in dissent or activism.

The Manual is a resource for companies seeking to examine perceptions of their own market and voting requirements from an outside perspective, and for advisors or shareholders looking to quickly understand requirements in unfamiliar jurisdictions. As an advisory firm called upon to support shareholder votes at meetings worldwide, Georgeson has extensive experience of all topics dealt with in the Manual.

The Manual covers shareholder voting rights and legislation in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

ECGS helps institutional investors to understand the regulatory diversity in Europe by providing corporate governance research and proxy voting advice based on local market expertise. DSW (Deutsche Schutzvereinigung für Wertpapierbesitz e.V.) is the German partner of ECGS. For more information, visit www.ecgs.org.

Access the Manual by visiting:

http://www.georgeson.com/emea/download/GeorgesonDSW_ShareholdersMeetingsEurope.pdf

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About Georgeson

Georgeson is the world's leading provider of strategic proxy and corporate governance advisory services to corporations and shareholder groups working to influence corporate strategy. For over half a century, Georgeson has specialized in complex solicitations such as hostile and friendly acquisitions, proxy contests and takeover defences.

The firm also provides issuers with expertise in corporate events solutions such as post-merger unexchanged holder programs and information agent services. Georgeson is a Computershare company.

For more information, visit www.georgeson.com.

Notes to Editors

Media – for more information, contact Lucy Newcombe, Marketing Director

0870 702 0003 ext 1780 or <mailto:lucy.newcombe@computershare.co.uk>

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