



## **Arabesque S-Ray partners with Allianz X, Commerz Real, DWS, and Land Hessen**

- **Three of Germany’s leading financial institutions and a German federal state join as new shareholders in Arabesque S-Ray**
- **Allianz X, Commerz Real, DWS, and Land Hessen co-invest \$20million in Arabesque S-Ray as part of its Series A investment round**
- **Partnerships to accelerate Arabesque S-Ray’s growth as a global ESG data provider, with new products to include S-Ray Real Estate**

**Frankfurt/ London/ Munich, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019** -- Arabesque S-Ray, a leading global data provider of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) metrics, today announced strategic partnerships with four new co-investors: Allianz X, Commerz Real AG, DWS Group, and Land Hessen. Allianz X led Arabesque’s Series A funding round, with the four shareholders jointly investing \$20 million USD.

Using ESG big data and machine learning models, Arabesque S-Ray provides technology that is used by many of the world’s largest institutional investors, corporations, and consultancies to assess the sustainability performance of over 7,000 companies globally. The new strategic partnerships will allow Arabesque S-Ray to enhance its client relationships and expand its business by developing new ESG data products and services to meet growing global demand for sustainability information. This will include S-Ray Real Estate, an AI-based tool for evaluating the sustainability of real estate objects. The technology will use traditional data sources on an asset-level, together with new emerging digital sources from Internet of Things (IoT) sensors and devices within buildings.

“The issues of climate change and human rights, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, are now widely understood throughout society. And the financial sector can make a decisive contribution to a more sustainable economic system,” said **Andreas Feiner, CEO of Arabesque S-Ray GmbH**. “The demand for ESG data and services is increasing exponentially. Our partnership with three of the leading financial institutions in Germany, together with the state of Hessen – with its focus on sustainability and technology – will enable us to meet this global demand from Frankfurt.”

“Sustainability assessments are becoming increasingly important for making informed investment decisions, including our own. We believe in an accelerated growth trajectory for Arabesque S-Ray due to its strong

position in the growing ESG data and consulting market, and superior tech capabilities,” said **Dr. Nazim Cetin, CEO of Allianz X**. “Allianz’s commitment to environmental, social, and governance issues means we integrate ESG into our core business decisions. Our performance in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index reflects this, with Allianz topping the list as the most sustainable insurer in 2018 for a second consecutive year.”

**Andreas Muschter, CEO of Commerz Real**, said: “Alongside digital transformation, the responsible use of the world’s precious resources is the dominant topic of our age. As a specialist for real assets we have the opportunity, and also the responsibility, to make a significant contribution to sustainability.” In addition to performance promises, returns, and costs, Commerz Real expects it to become a key indicator for customers and investors in their purchase or leasing decisions. “In this respect, Arabesque S-Ray is a perfect example of how digitalisation acts as a catalyst for the swift implementation of sustainability,” added Muschter.

“Sustainability is at the core of what we do,” said **Asoka Woehrmann, CEO of DWS**. “We want to continue to deliver new solutions to our clients and make even better investment decisions for them in this paradigm-shifting era. Our investment in and cooperation with Arabesque S-Ray is another step for DWS towards taking a leading position in the field of sustainable investment.”

**Mr Tarek Al-Wazir, Hessian Minister of Economics, Energy, Transport and Housing**, said: “Stopping climate change and its dramatic effects requires enormous investment that is not achievable without private capital. Investors, however, need to be able to recognise whether their investments are indeed sustainable or simply a product of “greenwashing”. Transparent criteria and tools for decision-making are therefore crucial elements in attracting private investment. That is one of the goals of ‘Green Finance Clusters Frankfurt e.V.’ I am pleased that our involvement in Arabesque S-Ray will contribute to its growth in Frankfurt. The government of the Hessian State has a strong interest in ensuring that the leading financial centre of the eurozone is also at the forefront of green finance.”

**ENDS**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Arabesque S-Ray GmbH**

S-Ray® is an AI-based tool developed by [Arabesque](#) that analyses the sustainability performance of approximately 7,000 of the world's largest listed corporations using self-learning quantitative models and data scores. The technology systematically combines over 200 ESG metrics with news signals from over 30,000 sources across 170 countries. It is the first tool of its kind to rate companies on the normative principles of the United Nations Global Compact (GC Score). Additionally, S-Ray provides an industry-specific assessment of companies' performance on financially material sustainability criteria (ESG Score). Both scores are combined with a preferences filter that assesses a company's business involvements. S-Ray daily data products and services are used by some of the world's leading financial institutions, investors, corporations and consultants. [www.arabesque.com/s-ray](http://www.arabesque.com/s-ray)

### **About AllianzX**

Allianz X is the digital investment unit of the Allianz Group, one of the world's leading insurers and asset managers, and part of the Group's Renewal Agenda. Allianz X invests in digital growth companies that are part of our ecosystems related to insurance: Mobility, Connected Property, Connected Health, Wealth Management & Retirement, and Data Intelligence & Cybersecurity. Allianz X provides an interface between portfolio companies and the digital ecosystem within Allianz and drives innovation across Allianz's operating entities and global lines of business. [www.allianzx.com](http://www.allianzx.com)

### **About Commerz Real AG**

Commerz Real is a subsidiary of German Commerzbank Group with more than 45 years of market experience and approximately 31 billion euros in assets under management. The company combines comprehensive know-how in asset management and a broad-based structuring expertise to deliver its signature range of services of fund products focused on tangibles and bespoke financing solutions. The fund spectrum includes the open-ended real estate fund Hausinvest, institutional investment products as well as entrepreneurial participations in real estate, aircraft, regenerative energy and ships. In its role as leasing company of Commerzbank Group, Commerz Real offers tailored equipment leasing concepts along with bespoke financing arrangements for assets such as real estate, big-ticket equipment and infrastructure projects.

Commerz Real has been managing the digital transformation of the company since 2016 through its own Digital Factory with the core areas digital asset management, digital front office and cultural transformation. The objective is the optimisation of the business model of Commerz Real, the flexibilisation and automation of all business processes where possible, as well as the more effective and profitable use of data. In order to attain this goal Commerz Real also cooperates with young technology companies from the real estate sector, so-called proptechs. [www.commerzreal.com](http://www.commerzreal.com)

### **About DWS Group**

DWS Group (DWS) is one of the world's leading asset managers with EUR 704bn of assets under management (as of 31 March 2019). Building on more than 60 years of experience and a reputation for excellence in Germany and across Europe, DWS has come to be recognized by clients globally as a trusted source for integrated investment solutions, stability and innovation across a full spectrum of investment disciplines.

We offer individuals and institutions access to our strong investment capabilities across all major asset classes and solutions aligned to growth trends. Our diverse expertise in Active, Passive and Alternatives asset management – as well as our deep environmental, social and governance focus – complement each other when creating targeted solutions for our clients. Our expertise and on-the-ground-knowledge of our economists, research analysts and investment professionals are brought together in one consistent global CIO View, which guides our strategic investment approach.

DWS wants to innovate and shape the future of investing: with approximately 3,600 employees in offices all over the world, we are local while being one global team. [www.dws.com](http://www.dws.com)

### **About the State of Hessen**

Hessen Kapital I GmbH, Hessen Kapital III (ERFE) GmbH and TF H III Technologiefonds Hessen GmbH are three public funds administered by the Federal State of Hessen, Germany, through BM H Beteiligungs-Managementgesellschaft Hessen mbH, Hessen's primary public equity capital provider. As a subsidiary of the commercial bank Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen-Girozentrale, BM H funds are integrated into the work of Wirtschafts- und Infrastrukturbank Hessen, Hessen's development bank, providing equity to Hessian entrepreneurs and SMEs through either nominal capital or silent partnerships. To date, BM H has invested a total of 103million EUR in approximately 250 Hessian companies. [www.bmh-hessen.de](http://www.bmh-hessen.de)