

PRESS RELEASE - 28 June 2022, London

Comgest funds now available on over 25 UK investment platforms following strong wholesale demand

Comgest, the global asset management group with a single focus on quality growth equities and over £34.6 billion assets under management (AUM)¹, has signed agreements with over 25 UK investment platforms to onboard a suite of its long-term, quality growth funds. The onboardings follow strong demand for Comgest's funds by UK discretionary fund managers and intermediary investors, with platforms enabling greater accessibility of the Group's products. Comgest's funds are now available on major UK platforms including Aegon, Standard Life Elevate and Wrap, Hargreaves Lansdown, Ascentric, Fidelity Funds Network, Fusion, Novia, Novia Global, Hubwise, Nucleus, Praemium, Advance by Embark, Transact, Seven IM, AllFunds, AJ Bell, James Hay, Aviva and Raymond James.²

Comgest manages concentrated portfolios with a quality growth and responsible investment approach via global, regional and single country portfolios that cover developed and emerging markets. Funds within the Irish-domiciled Comgest Growth plc fund umbrella range that are now accessible to UK investors via platforms include the Morningstar gold-rated³ Comgest Growth Europe ex UK fund, which has returned 9.26% against the comparative index's⁴ 4.75% p.a. over the last 5 years⁵ and is currently listed as a finalist for the upcoming 2022 Investment Week Fund of the Year Award; and the Comgest Growth Japan fund which has returned 8.56% against the index's 6.11% p.a. over the last 5 years⁶ and won the 2021 Investment Week Fund of the Year Award.⁷ Comgest has seen strong demand for its expertise in European and Japanese equities in the UK wholesale market, with these two strategies amounting to over 58% of the Group's UK assets under management which represented £3.1bn in 2021.

The successful platform onboarding is a reflection of Comgest's growing presence in the UK market. Comgest began investing on behalf of UK clients in 1999, and in 2018 opened a representative office in London to enhance servicing capabilities for its UK investor base which includes pension funds, not-for-profit organisations, family offices, wealth managers, private banks and other intermediaries. The UK market represents approximately 9% of the Comgest's total AUM of £34.6bn and has been growing steadily in recent years, with around £1bn of new inflows in 2021.⁸

Comgest's bottom-up investment strategy, which aims to identify companies with sustainable long-term earnings per share growth and robust business models, integrates ESG analysis throughout the investment process with the goal of reducing long-term risk for investors.⁹ At present, Comgest's public funds which are classified as Article 8 under the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) represent 93% of the total AUM in the Comgest Growth plc umbrella, domiciled in Ireland.¹⁰ Comgest achieved an A+ score on all three pillars of the UN PRI Assessment (Strategy & Governance, Listed Equity – Incorporation, Listed Equity – Active Ownership) and is a signatory to the UK Stewardship Code and the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative.¹¹

¹ As at 31/12/21.

² Full list of platforms available below in notes to editors.

³ Ratings and awards mentioned in this document can change at any time and do not constitute a buy recommendation.

⁴ Indices used are for comparative purposes only and none of the portfolios discussed seek to replicate an index.

⁵ Source: Comgest / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated. Performance figures are from the GBP SU ACC share class and data is as of 31-May-2022 expressed in GBP. Past performance does not predict future returns. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. The comparative index is MSCI Europe ex UK.

⁶ Source: Comgest / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated. Performance figures are from the JPY I ACC share class for the Comgest Growth Japan fund and data is as of 31-May-2022 expressed in JPY. Past performance does not predict future returns. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. The comparative index is TOPIX.

⁷ Investment Week winners list: <https://bit.ly/3bv98Lk>. Ratings and awards mentioned in this document can change at any time and do not constitute a buy recommendation.

⁸ As at 31/12/21.

⁹ Please refer to our [Responsible Investment Policy](#) available on our website for a full description of our ESG integration process.

¹⁰ Article 8 funds are defined as "a Fund which promotes, among other characteristics, environmental or social characteristics, or a combination of those characteristics, provided that the companies in which the investments are made follow good governance practices."

¹¹ UN PRI: Please refer to the full [Assessment Report](#) to see all ratings and links to the [PRI assessment methodology](#) and to our [Transparency Report](#) for any additional information. Visit Comgest's ESG section of our [website](#) for further information on "Our Commitments".

Arnaud Cosserat, CEO of Comgest, said: “The UK is an important market for Comgest and home to some of our largest and most loyal client relationships extending over 15 years. The availability of Comgest’s funds through platforms such as Aegon and Standard Life is key to delivering our quality-growth funds within the UK market. We look forward to working closely with our new platform partners.”

Jane Russell, responsible for Global Consultant Relations & UK Investor Relations, said: “Comgest is committed to providing our UK investors with local channels to access our funds and local servicing with our growing UK-based investor relations team. Following strong demand across the wholesale market, we are extremely pleased to have partnered with UK platforms to provide investors with greater access to Comgest’s funds.”

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Notes to editors:

Select Comgest funds can found via the below platforms*:

Abrdn Wrap; Abrdn Elevate; Embark; Aegon; AJ Bell; Allfunds; Ascentric M&G; Aviva; Eden Park; Fidelity Funds Network; Fundment; Fusion; Hargreaves Lansdown, Hubwise; James Hay; Nedbank; Novia; Novia Global; Nucleus; Parmenion; Pershing; Praemium; Quilter; Raymond James; Seven IM; Transact; True Potential

*The selection of Comgest funds and share classes available vary by platform.

About Comgest:

Comgest is an independent, global asset management group with headquarters in Paris and offices in Amsterdam, Boston, Dublin, Düsseldorf, Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, two branch offices in Milan and Brussels and a representative office in London. Since inception in 1985, Comgest has pursued a long-term ‘Quality Growth’ and responsible investment style with the objective of selecting quality companies with solid prospects for sustainable growth. With more than 200 employees of 30 different nationalities, Comgest serves a diverse global client base and manages assets of over £34.6 billion (unaudited data as of 31 December 2021).

Important information

Fund and index data are as of 31 May 2021 unless otherwise stated.

The Comgest Growth fund mentioned above is a UCITS compliant sub-fund of Comgest Growth plc, an open-ended umbrella-type investment company with variable capital and segregated liability between sub-funds incorporated in Ireland. Comgest Growth Plc is authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland.

Before making any investment decision, investors must read the latest offering documentation (e.g. prospectus and Key Investor Information Document (“KIID”) for UCITS funds), available at our offices free of charge and on our website at www.comgest.com. A more detailed description of the risk factors that apply to the funds is set out in the prospectus.

Past investment results are not necessarily indicative of future investment results.

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