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Bellevue Asset Management receives award for best Swiss Small/Mid Cap Equity Fund

The Management Team of the BB Entrepreneur Switzerland Fund was proud to win the award for best equity fund in the Swiss Small/Mid Cap category at the Morningstar 2012 Fund Awards on February 1. BB Entrepreneur Switzerland outperformed 41 other fund asset classes in the same category over a period of 3 to 5 years as measured by risk-adjusted performance to win this distinction. This latest award is further proof of the viability of the focused, innovative investment strategy pursued by the Fund, which invests in listed family- or owner-managed companies in Switzerland.

The BB Entrepreneur Switzerland Fund (ISIN CH0023244368) was launched in 2006 and has already collected multiple awards in the meantime. It is now proud to have received the 2012 Morningstar Switzerland award for best fund in the Swiss Small/Mid Cap Equity category. "We are particularly pleased to have received this Morningstar award because the scoring system is based on risk-adjusted, sustained outperformance over a multi-year period," says Birgitte Olsen, Lead Portfolio Manager for the Fund. "That approach is in complete accord with the philosophy of many of the family-run businesses in our portfolio, in which the company's longer-term goals and interests come before short-term profit maximization." The BB Entrepreneur Switzerland Fund outperformed the SPI Index by 18% from the date of launch in April 2006 to the end of January 2012 and it achieved this excess performance on slightly less volatility than the benchmark.

The positive qualities of owner-managed companies that have been corroborated in numerous scientific studies, such as a sound financial basis, a clear focus on core competencies, a self-reinforcing corporate culture and a penchant for thinking in generations instead of quarters, lead to a superior performance in the long term. Birgitte Olsen's team uses a fundamental bottom-up approach when selecting its investments and its investment process is free from any benchmark restrictions. During the entrepreneurial due diligence process, the team also finds inspiration and insights by meeting directly with company executives. "The universe of owner-managed companies offers outstanding quality and it is highly efficient for us as stock-pickers," Birgitte Olsen adds.

Bellevue Asset Management is a pioneer manager of funds focused on owner-managed businesses and has already accumulated more than five years of experience in this fund category. It is the only asset manager to offer a broad range of entrepreneur concepts. The BB Entrepreneur Europe (Lux) Fund (ISIN LU0415391860) was launched in April 2009 and has since gained 62.7% in value versus a 37.4% gain by the Europe Stoxx 600 Index (B-EUR, data as of January 31, 2012). In 2011 BB Entrepreneur Europe also became the first and, as of yet, only entrepreneur fund to be given an "A" fund management rating from Standard & Poor's. This Fund likewise offers the additional advantage of slightly less volatility risk relative to its benchmark index, the Europe Stoxx 600. Bellevue Asset Management recently launched two more entrepreneur funds, one for European small caps and one for Asia.

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Bellevue Asset Management

Bellevue Asset Management is an independent and highly specialized asset management boutique focused on managing equity portfolios for selective sector and regional strategies as well as institutional portfolios, particularly in the areas of New Markets, Swiss/European equities and healthcare stocks. Bellevue Asset Management is also entrusted with various mandates from institutional investors.

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