

PRESS RELEASE

German Translation of the SASB Standards Now Available

Translations are released amidst rising use of SASB Standards by European businesses

San Francisco/London, 17 November 2021— The Value Reporting Foundation today announced that German translations are now available for the SASB Standards, which are available for 77 industries. The German translations follow the French and Spanish translations, with Japanese translations forthcoming.

German-domiciled companies that are already using the SASB Standards as part of their public reports include adidas, BASF, Bayer, Daimler, Deutsche Bank, Merck and Siemens. BASF has been involved in SASB's standard-setting process since 2014. In a <u>case study</u>, Dr. Stefanie Wettberg, Senior Vice President of Investor Relations, says: "Analysts and investors demand robust information on material ESG topics to be able to holistically assess a company's medium and long-term performance. They need sector-specific information to derive the appropriate benchmarks. SASB [Standards] meet this need by providing a structured framework for the relevant KPIs by industry."

Use of SASB Standards is growing in Europe. While there were 59 European companies reporting with the SASB Standards as of the end of 2020, there are now 283 European SASB reporters. This represents a 380% increase year over year. Of the 283 companies, 173 are in the S&P Euro 350 index (thus, 49% of Europe's top companies disclose using SASB Standards). Additionally, the co-headquarters of the new International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) will be in Frankfurt.

"Germany is quickly becoming a global sustainable finance hub. Bolstered by the recent announcement that it will be the seat of the ISSB Board, I am pleased that today's publication of German translations of the SASB Standards will help companies meet the demand resulting from this emerging focus on robust sustainability disclosure. Furthermore, I'd like to recognize the German business leaders at the forefront of the global momentum toward standardization of sustainability disclosure. Use of SASB Standards by companies and investors around the world continues to accelerate at a phenomenal pace and robust translations play a vital role in meeting this demand," says Value Reporting Foundation CEO Janine Guillot.

As SASB Standards have become more widely used internationally, the SASB Standards Technical Staff has found that the applicability of select disclosure topics or accounting metrics may be limited due to regional or jurisdictional differences. The <u>SASB Standards Application Guidance</u> and <u>Implementation Primer</u> (also available in German) provide guidance on how to disclose modifications made to metrics to improve their applicability to a particular company. Additionally, the Staff is working to enhance the international applicability of SASB Standards via its <u>Standards Internationalization Advancement Project—feedback</u> is encouraged.

The translated Standards and underlying translation glossary were reviewed by Dr. Florian Kiy and Jens Berger from Deloitte Germany. The Value Reporting Foundation is grateful for their support.

To download the translated Standards, click <u>here</u>.

About the Value Reporting Foundation

The Value Reporting Foundation is a global nonprofit organization that offers a comprehensive suite of resources designed to help businesses and investors develop a shared understanding of enterprise value—how it is created, preserved or eroded over time. The resources — including Integrated Thinking Principles, the Integrated Reporting Framework and SASB Standards — can be used alone or in combination, depending on business needs. These tools, already adopted in over 70 countries, comprise the 21st century market infrastructure needed to develop, manage and communicate strategy that creates long-term value and drives improved performance. To learn more, visit www.valuereportingfoundation.org.

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