



## **Alquity and VAM Funds building world-class international investment management business**

- **Access to exceptional fund managers Driehaus, atomos/WTW (formerly Willis Towers Watson) and Foresight**
- **Alquity's high-quality ESG and impact funds will over time be available to VAM's 400 Independent Financial Adviser firms**
- **Increases AUMA to over US\$640 million and boosts ability to attract fund inflows**

London, 23 October 2023 – Leading responsible investment manager, Alquity, has taken its second major step towards creating a multi-billion dollar, world-class international investment management business through its acquisition of fund management group, VAM Funds.

The new company will bring advisers a platform offering with a broad suite of client options, combining VAM's access to exceptional fund managers, Driehaus Capital Management, atomos/WTW (formerly Willis Towers Watson) and Foresight, with Alquity's leading ESG and impact funds.

The strategic deal continues an exciting year for Alquity that sees a rapidly scaled group with AUMA more than doubling to over US\$640 million since the start of 2023, enhancing its ability to grow its funds and increase inflows from partnerships with advisers and intermediaries. The combined group will have deeper access to global market locations, with staff on the ground in the US, UK, mainland Europe, Africa, and Asia, as well as greater resources including enlarged operations, sales, and marketing teams.

The company aims to shake up the international advisory market ESG offering, tapping into the increasing global demand for sustainable investment strategies. Alongside VAM's existing outstanding investment managers, Alquity will build out its leading high-quality ESG and impact funds platform, incorporating Alquity funds alongside other high-quality sustainable and impact offerings.

VAM Funds' established platform of 400 international Independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) will gain access to the best of the best in both traditional asset managers and a dedicated ESG and impact platform. The first addition to the VAM platform will be Alquity's Indian Subcontinent Fund, which has a 5-star rating on Morningstar for performance and 5 Globes for sustainability.

The companies will remain as separate brands, with VAM Funds' clients maintaining access to the current full range of funds and services, including the distribution of funds from all the existing third-parties.

**Paul Robinson, Founder & Executive Chairman of Alquity, said:** "This strategic acquisition creates a fast growing, high-quality international investment management platform that offers the best of the best investment access for advisers alongside award winning service.

"We look forward to building on our relationships with exceptional fund managers, Driehaus Capital Management, atomos/WTW, and Foresight to continue to offer clients a broad choice of strong-performing investment options.

"This deal creates a new scaled company enabling us to accelerate our fund growth, attract more institutional investments, and broaden the quality offering to clients.



“As well as expanding VAM Funds’ successful international multi-asset IFA business, over time we will also offer Alquity’s high-quality ESG and impact funds, tapping into the increasing demand for sustainable investment products.”

The acquisition follows the retirement of VAM Funds’ chairman, Peter de Putron.

**Peter de Putron, Chairman of VAM Funds, commented:** “After 40 years in the financial services industry the time has come for me to retire. As part of my succession plan, I have sought out a team to take VAM on the next phase of its journey and I am delighted that Alquity will be that team.”

**Haig Bathgate CFA, Head of Investments, atomos, commented:** “We welcome the opportunity to build on our VAM Funds relationship with Alquity, to continue to offer our world-class innovative investment management products and services to their clients.

“In addition to our extensive in-house capability and global investment outlook, atomos has an exclusive partnership with WTW which provides expertise in portfolio construction, asset allocation, and selection of third-party managers. We also offer privileged access to the top five equity managers selected by WTW.”

Alquity’s acquisition of VAM Funds will see AUM rise to more than US\$470m and its AUMA will increase to over US\$640m. Revenue will increase from US\$1.76 million to US\$7.68 million.

This deal builds on Alquity’s plan to expand its investor base. Last year, it formed a joint venture with U.S.-based Spouting Rock Asset Management (Spouting Rock) and created a distribution platform to give U.S. investors access to its world-class ESG and impact funds.

Prior to that, in 2021, Alquity formed a partnership with East Capital Group, as well as completing its capital raise with backing from the founders of Investible, Australia’s leading seed stage investor, and from asset management pioneer Martin Gilbert.

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### **About Alquity**

Alquity is a responsible investment manager which links listed equities and impact. Since 2010 it has been connecting investors to their investments and to social progress, seeking to deliver better outcomes for all. It has developed a 3-D investment approach for its pioneering funds, delivering high-quality ESG, generating returns and transforming lives in the regions in which it invests.

As well as investing in great companies that operate responsibly, Alquity also makes catalytic contributions of 10% of its fee revenue to support the poor and marginalised in society to create jobs



and businesses through the Alquity Transforming Lives Foundation, a UK registered charity. This award-winning approach in turn generates economic growth that benefits company holdings, employees, communities and investors – its Virtuous Circle. Alquity’s funds include Global Impact, Future World, Alquity Asia, Alquity Indian Subcontinent and Alquity Africa. The company is headquartered in London, with investments around the world. Assets Under Management and Administration (AUMA) as of September 2023 are US\$280m.

### **About VAM Funds**

Founded in 2001, VAM Funds is a fund management group offering a range of funds investing across the spectrum of asset classes including listed equities, infrastructure and real assets stocks, and multi-asset portfolios. It offers investors across the globe access to investment talent that may not have been traditionally available to them in their home markets.

VAM Marketing has built a market leading tech led service solution giving advisers exceptional award winning service.

VAM Funds is regulated in Luxembourg under UCITS V legislation and uses its expertise and flair to access some of the industry’s most talented global investment managers on behalf of its financial adviser clients.