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Fundinfo partners with Luxembourg data manager

By Alf Wilkinson 13 March 2018

Zurich-based fund information and research platform fundinfo has partnered with Luxembourg's F2C to create a "one-stop shop" for asset managers.

Under the deal F2C will become part of the Fundinfo Group, allowing the Swiss firm to offer a "single offering" to fund houses as it looks to reduce the number of external service providers it uses.

The arrangement will harness the expertise of Fundinfo, which has traditionally focused on publication and dissemination of data and documentation, and F2C in the area of data management and the creation of documents.

Philipp Portmann, chief executive officer of Fundinfo, says the combination of the two firms' capabilities offers a "one-stop shop" of both production and dissemination of information "for the first time in the market".

He highlights that the move comes at a time when active managers are under pressure to "reduce complexity in order to be more cost efficient [and to] be able to compete on cost", given the competition of passive funds.

However, the arrival of Mifid II and the regulation governing packaged retail and insurance-based investment products are factors that have "massively increased" the level of complication for firms, Mr Portmann adds.

The CEO also points to "the indirect pressure from distributors, such as platforms, that have passed on the pressure to asset managers".

By teaming up with F2C, Fundinfo is attempting to meet demand for a "single source of data" as asset managers look to "keep things simple", he says.

Laurent Halbgewachs, CEO of F2C, underlines that there is a "close cultural fit" between the two organisations. He will join Fundinfo's management board.

F2C serves more than 50 asset management clients, including Axa Investment Managers, Carmignac and UBS. Meanwhile Fundinfo has more than 550 commercial agreements with fund firms.

Additional reporting by Ed Moisson.

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