

LFIS Enters into 3-Year Research Partnership with the Quantitative Management Initiative

- New partnership focuses on developing innovative areas of quantitative research and exploring their applications for asset management
- A collaborative effort between LFIS and leading Parisian quantitative asset management and academic institutions

Paris: 30 May 2018 – **\$12.5 billion⁽¹⁾ asset manager La Française Investment Solutions (“LFIS”) announces a partnership with the Quantitative Management Initiative (“QMI”) to develop new areas of quantitative research with potential real-world application for asset management.** The partnership is in line with the QMI's commitment to promote quantitative finance and its contribution to investment management in terms of research, risk management and creating value for investors globally.

The QMI was launched in 2012 and is part of France's *Fondation du Risque* and supported by the *Institut Louis Bachelier*. Associated research is principally carried out by teams from the leading Paris universities of Paris-Dauphine and ENSAE (*Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Economique*). The initiative aims to produce world-class research with practical applications by encouraging cooperation between quantitative management professionals and academic researchers. The initiative leverages on France's rich quant heritage, extensive pool of research and quantitative investment management talent and amplifies this powerful combination on a global platform.

The partnership between LFIS and QMI will focus on the three main stages of quantitative investing, artificial intelligence and signal generation, portfolio construction and risk management and real-world implementation challenges. A worldwide call for research projects aligned with these themes will soon be issued. Proposed projects will be assessed by a Committee including representatives from Paris-Dauphine, the *Fondation du Risque*, LFIS and other leading quantitative asset managers. LFIS' support will help finance selected research projects, with the findings presented at a closing conference. Leading the initiative from LFIS will be the firm's Head of Quantitative Research and Development, Guillaume Garchery, and Head of Factor Investing, Luc Dumontier.

Sofiene Haj-Taieb, CIO of LFIS, commented: “A quantitative approach is an essential part of our DNA at LFIS and is evident in both our premia and credit strategies. We view this approach as one of the major disruptors in the investment management industry. This partnership with QMI amplifies our internal research efforts through access to the universe of manager and academic talent in the field. We hope the partnership will support and nurture the next generation of quantitative talent. Most of all, we intend to

apply the findings to help our clients go beyond traditional asset management approaches and to access a robust, repeatable roadmap for performance.”

Gaëlle Le Fol, Professor at Dauphine and Scientific Director of QMI, said: “We are thrilled to welcome LFIS as a partner in this initiative. The firm’s strong quantitative research and development capabilities are a valuable source of ideas and inspiration for our research. Through this partnership we seek to build and strengthen the collaboration between the academic and professional worlds of quantitative management and to bring the QMI’s research to life”.

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(1) Source: LFIS unaudited data as of March, 29 2018, excluding certain assets under management raised during the current year and scheduled to mature intra-year in 2018. The EUR/USD exchange rate used is based on March 29, 2018 Fininfo closing rate i.e. 1 EUR equals 1.22985 USD.

Notes to Editors

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About La Française Investment Solutions

Launched in 2013, La Française Investment Solutions has \$12.5 billion of assets under management as of March 29, 2018⁽¹⁾. LFIS’ innovative set-up combines asset management expertise and specialist quantitative capabilities to deliver performing solutions for the long-term. This unique blend of skills underlies a broad range of value-added investments including absolute return, investment outcome funds and tailor-made investment solutions adapted to the needs of today’s investors.

LFIS is part of the French asset manager La Française Group and its entrepreneurial spirit is complemented by the support of La Française Group and its majority shareholder Crédit Mutuel Nord Europe. Over more than 40 years, La Française Group has developed core competencies in third-party asset management, with 596 employees and EUR 66 billion in assets across four core activities: securities, real estate, direct investing and investment solutions (as of December 31, 2017).

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(2) Source: La Française Group [unaudited] data.

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