

Verus teams up with eVestment for diversity disclosure

SEATTLE, WA - September 29, 2020

<u>Verus</u>, a leading investment consulting and OCIO provider, announced today a joint effort with eVestment, a global leader in <u>institutional investment data and analytics</u>, to encourage the institutional asset management industry for disclosure of more data on employee diversity and initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion within their firms and industry.

Today, Verus sent a call to action to fellow consulting firms to invite them to join this initiative. By teaming up, Verus and eVestment believe the asset management industry will be more responsive to this data request.

Shelly Heier, President of Verus, stated, "We believe diversity of perspective and thought, which can be an outcome of a more diverse team, can contribute to better investment results. Many of our clients also share our passion to improve diversity in the investment industry, but it has been frustrating to not have any way to measure diversity and efforts for improvement. It's long overdue to collect this information and we're excited to have a partner in eVestment that is able to collect the information needed."

eVestment has committed to enhance its questionnaire to include diversity statistics at the firm and team level, as well as details on firm policies and initiatives to increase the level of gender and ethnic diversity within senior leadership and investment teams. They anticipate the database questionnaire will be updated such that the 12/31/20 data collection process slated for January 2021 includes this data.

According to Erika Spence, Global Head of Data Strategy at eVestment, "Verus is not alone in its desire for this data. We receive ongoing requests from both asset owners and investment consultants for more data on diversity and inclusion from managers, at both the firm and strategy levels. Working with Verus will allow us to collect more of this data, and advance transparency around D&I for the institutional industry."

Verus recently published a <u>white paper</u> on diversity, that outlines broader elements of diversity – beyond ownership – that may be used to characterize the demographic qualities of an investment firm.

Verus will be holding a webinar for press, clients and managers on October 7 to discuss the paper and this initiative in more detail.

About Verus

Verus Advisory, Inc. (Verus) is an independent, employee-owned provider of non-discretionary consulting and discretionary management (OCIO) services since 1986.

About eVestment

eVestment, a Nasdaq company, provides institutional investment data, analytics and market intelligence covering public and private markets. Asset managers and general partners reach the institutional marketplace through our platform, while institutional investors and consultants rely on eVestment for manager due diligence, selection and monitoring. eVestment brings transparency and efficiency to the global institutional market, equipping managers, investors and consultants to make data-driven decisions, deploy their resources more productively and ultimately realize better outcomes.

Verus Media Contact

Kim ShepherdShephard Communications, LLC
312-623-5123
v-kshepherd@verusinvestments.com