

PRESS RELEASE

Match On firstwire: Vasakronan Issues First DLT-Based Green Note

Vasakronan's first ever registered bond was self-arranged and placed directly with DekaBank / firstwire continues to digitalize debt capital markets

Cologne/Germany, 6th of December 2021 firstwire underpins its unique position for self-arranged DLT-based debt transactions. The Stockholm based real-estate company Vasakronan AB used the marketplace to self-arrange the first fully Digital Registered Green Note ("digitale Namensschuldverschreibung") based on DLT in the European market, thereby pioneering a new format. The EUR 50 million issuance was placed directly with DekaBank on the firstwire marketplace in a straight through processed transaction.

After the security token issuance by the DAX-listed German real estate company Vonovia SE earlier this year on firstwire, this Vasakronan transaction is another milestone for DLT debt issuance.

Vasakronan used firstwire for the first time. "By borrowing in an entirely new market, we're creating more opportunities to broaden our investor base. A green NSV is in line with our long-term environmental goals and carrying it out digitally, without third parties, simplifies the loan process," says Thomas Nystedt, Group Treasurer at Vasakronan. Vasakronan has been an experienced issuer in the international debt capital markets for many years and uses a broad range of financial instruments.

Investors and issuers use firstwire to transact with each other without the need for intermediaries. firstwire connected to DekaBank's SWIAT (Secure Worldwide Interbank Asset Transfer) network to facilitate a broader range of digital settlement infrastructure to its clients. firstwire's technology and smart matching algorithms allow issuers and investors to mutually transact within seconds. "By transferring to the blockchain, the processes are not only much faster, but also more secure. Registered bonds become liquid and thus more attractive as an asset class," says Michael Cyrus, Head of Money/Forex & Repo/Lending at DekaBank.

Michael Dreiner, CEO and founder of firstwire observes that the adaption to technology-led transactions is accelerating and more international issuers are becoming users. "Our smart matching algorithm is very attractive for users. We will see more international transactions going forward and this transaction exemplifies our international reach. Besides, we are continuing to broaden our offering in debt capital markets."



About firstwire

firstwire digitalizes debt capital markets with a web-based marketplace. The Cologne- based FinTech brings together large mid-sized companies and corporations with banks and institutional investors of all kinds, under the slogan “Your market. Your community.” Find out more at <https://firstwire.market>

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