

## Sycomore Asset Management formalises its partnership with boutique investment firm azValor and strengthens its presence in Southern Europe

Paris, March 8<sup>th</sup> 2016

### **azValor is now part of Sycomore Asset Management's Club Synergy**

Sycomore Asset Management today announces that it has formalised its partnership with azValor, the recently launched Spanish investment boutique. azValor's role will be to select Spanish and Portuguese small caps for inclusion in the Synergy Smaller Cies fund. azValor's management team, which includes Alvaro Guzman de Lazaro, Fernando Bernad and Beltran Parages, has worked in close collaboration with Sycomore Am since 2003 under the Bestinver brand.

Co-managed by 6 local and independent stock pickers, Synergy Smaller Cies invests in small cap companies exhibiting sustainable earnings growth.

### **An agreement to structure international development**

In February, Sycomore AM signed an agreement with Allfunds Bank, the leading distribution platform in Southern Europe markets. From March 14<sup>th</sup>, over 400 investors will have access to a wide range of investment solutions, including Sycomore Partners, a flexible equity/cash fund particularly suited to the European market's volatility. Investors will also be able to invest in our patrimonial, absolute return, long-only equity, and credit strategies.

### **Sycomore Sélection Responsable, our core European equity fund**

The robust performance of our Sycomore Sélection Responsable fund (€200 m under management), launched in January 2011 and co-managed by Founding Partner Cyril Charlot and Head of ESG Research Bertille Presta, confirms our belief that applying innovative ESG criteria can unlock long-term value and help mitigate risk. Since inception, the fund has outperformed the Eurostoxx TR\* index by 37%, while keeping volatility 4.2 percentage points lower than the benchmark.

In order to improve the clarity of the range, Sycomore AM chose to merge this fund with Sycomore Eurocap (€180 m under management). Sycomore Sélection Responsable absorbed Sycomore Eurocap, thereby becoming Sycomore Asset Management's core European equity fund.

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## About Sycomore Asset Management

Founded in 2001, Sycomore Asset Management is a French entrepreneurial investment firm majority-owned by its founding partners and employees. The firm specialises in the management of listed European stocks. Sycomore Asset Management's investment expertise is based on a proprietary fundamental analysis methodology designed to identify sustainable growth drivers.

Sycomore AM receives regular fund awards and has been rated "High Standards" by Fitch Ratings since 2008. The firm employs 45 people and manages around 3.4 billion euros (data as of 31.12.2015) in mutual funds and segregated mandates.

Sycomore AM works with institutional clients (private and public pension funds, insurance companies, banks, corporations) and distribution partners (IFAs, fund distribution platforms...) in France and abroad. In January 2016, the firm won the *Gestion de Fortune* award for "Best Asset Management Company".

*\*Data as of 24.02.2016, institutional share class. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns and is not consistent over time. The FCP funds offer no performance or income guarantees and carry a risk of capital loss. Before investing, please read each fund's Key Investor Information Document carefully. These documents are available on our website: [www.sycomore-am.com](http://www.sycomore-am.com).*

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