

PRESS RELEASE

## **OYSTER European Subordinated Bonds Fund has passed the EUR 100 million mark**

**Geneva, 23 October 2017 – Launched in August 2016 by SYZ Asset Management, the institutional asset management entity of SYZ Group, to take advantage of the wave of balance sheet restructurings in the financial sector, the fund OYSTER European Subordinated Bonds has passed the EUR 100 million mark. The fund is managed by Milan-based co-portfolio managers Andrea Garbelotto and Antonio Ruggeri, both highly experienced investors in European corporate bonds with a deep knowledge of the subordinated debt market.**

When launched in August last year, the fund *OYSTER European Subordinated Bonds* was added to the existing fixed income & credit range of the SYZ Asset Management offering, giving investors access to alternative and attractive sources of yield and total return in credit. As result of the continued balance sheet clean-ups and new regulation on the banking sector, the European subordinated bond space is rapidly expanding and today exceeds EUR 660 bn<sup>1</sup>. Despite attractive yields, ninety-five per cent of issuers have investment grade ratings and solid fundamentals. With a current average yield similar to the high yield sector, subordinated bonds offer investors new and compelling sources of return.

Early investors in the fund have benefited from the attractive returns over the past year that have been supported by active management of its expert investment team. The significant commitments to the fund since its launch are a testament to the opportunity of the strategy and the performance achieved. The fund's approach appeals to investors seeking diversification in their bond allocation, as well as those searching for higher yielding bonds via a robustly risk-managed process.

### **Diversified exposure to European subordinated bonds**

The strategy provides investors with an actively managed (not benchmark-driven), diversified exposure to European subordinated bonds. This asset sub-class has recently gained in attractiveness due to regulatory changes that have made issuing traditional debt expensive or in case of financial institutional quite challenging. The issuance of subordinated debt is becoming ever popular with both issuers due to its favourable balance sheet impact and investors in terms of yield and total return potential.

### **Managed by a team of highly experienced investors in European corporate bonds**

Since its inception<sup>2</sup>, the fund has returned +8.4% and is ranked in the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile by Morningstar and the 11<sup>th</sup> percentile by Lipper relative to their respective peer groups<sup>3</sup>. The team, who have an average industry experience of 23 years, manage both the *OYSTER European Subordinated Bonds* Fund, as well as their ancillary fund, *OYSTER European Corporate Bonds*, which has also enjoyed solid success.

“The management philosophy showcases a high-conviction portfolio”, said Andrea Garbelotto. “We take time to carry out in-depth research and we allocate meaningfully to maximise the value of our analysis efforts. We have carefully built our exposure to the segment and developed proprietary models to select the best mispriced opportunities”.

Katia Coudray, Chief Executive Officer, SYZ Asset Management added: “The opportunity in subordinated debt is a long-term story that takes advantage of structural changes for banks and insurance companies, who need to contend with both balance sheet optimisations and new regulations on solvency. Investors have predominately looked to profit from these structural shifts via equities, but as we have shown, subordinated debt is also a very attractive way to invest in this segment”.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Bloomberg, BofA Merrill Lynch, data as at September 2017

<sup>2</sup> August 31, 2016

<sup>3</sup> As of October 6, 2017

The *OYSTER European Subordinated Bonds* fund is registered in eleven European countries: Austria, Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

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## Administrative information

### OYSTER European Subordinated Bonds

Available share classes	ISIN	Mgmt Fee	Perf. fee
Class C EUR	LU1457568472	1.20%	None
Class I EUR	LU1457568043	0.65%	None
Class R EUR	LU1457568399	0.80% <sup>4</sup>	None

*Risk profile:*

Lower risk Higher risk  
 Typically lower rewards Typically higher rewards



### OYSTER European Corporate Bonds

Available share classes	ISIN	Mgmt Fee	Perf. fee
Class C EUR	LU0167813129	1.00%	None
Class I EUR	LU0933609827	0.45%	None
Class R EUR	LU0335770011	0.60%	None

*Risk profile:*

Lower risk Higher risk  
 Typically lower rewards Typically higher rewards



The prospectus, the key investor information documents, the articles of association and the annual and semi-annual reports on the funds are available from the representative and payment agents.

<sup>4</sup> The net management fee was set at 0.40% for the first twelve consecutive months following the launch date of this sub-fund

## **Note to the Editor**

### **About OYSTER Funds**

OYSTER is a UCITS investment fund range, developed by SYZ Asset Management to address the needs of a diversified client base including professionals. With a strong commitment to performance, this Luxembourg SICAV comprises nearly 30 sub-funds, covering a variety of asset classes, markets and investment styles. OYSTER is currently registered and/or distributed in various European and Asian countries through a varied distribution network. To satisfy a discerning and demanding client base, SYZ Asset Management entrusts management of its OYSTER funds to internal and external fund managers. A number of strategies have resulted in certain sub funds being the recipients of internationally recognised awards.

### **About SYZ Asset Management\***

SYZ Asset Management, the institutional asset management entity of the SYZ Group, provides investment solutions to institutional investors and financial intermediaries. Based on a strong conviction approach, SYZ Asset Management strategies are designed to fulfil the portfolio and risk management requirements of demanding investors. The company offers managed accounts and several ranges of investment funds, among which OYSTER Funds, a UCITS Luxembourg SICAV, offering a diversified range of recognized products covering a variety of asset classes and investment styles entrusted to internal and external fund managers. SYZ Asset Management was awarded "Best Swiss Asset Management Company" in the category "26 to 40 rated funds" at the European Funds Trophy 2016.

[www.syzassetmanagement.com](http://www.syzassetmanagement.com)

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### **About SYZ Group**

Founded in Geneva in 1996, SYZ is a fast growing Swiss banking group exclusively dedicated to asset management, through two complementary business lines: high-end private banking and institutional asset management. SYZ offers private and institutional investors comprehensive portfolio management, with an active investment style and a focus on risk reduction that is clearly committed to providing absolute performance through alpha generation. SYZ is an independent, family-owned company with a global footprint. The Group has a solid capital base and benefits from being privately held and independent.

[www.syzgroup.com](http://www.syzgroup.com)

### **Disclaimer**

OYSTER SICAV is an open-ended multi-fund investment company established and regulated in Luxembourg. Copies of the SICAV's current Prospectus and Key Investor Information Document can be obtained from SYZ Asset Management (Luxembourg) SA. Past performance is not a guide to the future, and the value of investments can fall over time as well as rise. An investment in sub-funds of OYSTER SICAV involves risks that are more fully described in the Prospectus. The content of this media release is provided solely for information purposes and constitutes neither a recommendation to buy or sell. Always consider taking independent investment advice from a person properly authorized and regulated prior to investing.