



## AXELTIS, FUND CHANNEL AND MFEX ON THE PODIUM AT THE FPG AWARDS 2015 IN PARIS

Luxembourg, Friday, January 22

**The second edition of the FPG Awards, the most important European award for best fund distribution platform, was held Thursday, January 21 in Paris. During an exceptional evening on the Seine and in the presence of 100 personalities from the sector, the Fund Platform Group (FPG) association presented seven different winners with the 11 trophies awarded this year.**

Launched in 2014, these awards were devised by FPG to motivate major industry players to constantly compete in improving the quality of their services. *"After a memorable first meeting in London, the second awards ceremony for the best European fund platforms in Paris represents a tremendous annual recognition of the quality, vitality and daily savoir-faire of our members"*, explained Edouard Bokuetenge, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the FPG. This meeting between key industry players was also an opportunity for the FPG to present its annual report on the distribution of funds developed in collaboration with SWIFT, a global leader in the secure exchange of financial information.

For this prize, the best European fund distribution platforms were judged on various criteria given in a questionnaire distributed to their major customers and counterparts (fund managers, institutional investors, transfer agents and fund distributors). The rating scale of course tended to reward candidates who had been able to offer the greatest level of satisfaction to each category of counterparts and to their customers.

For this second edition of the FPG Awards, seven winners shared the 11 prizes awarded on Thursday, January 21, 2016 in Paris. The biggest winner is the French group **Axeltis** with the highest number of mentions for excellence among the responses (21): judged "outstanding" by 11 fund managers and by 10 fund distributors. **Fund Channel** wins second place in the standings with 19 mentions of excellence. It was deemed "outstanding" by 11 fund managers and "commended" by 8 fund distributors. The only winner to be judged "excellent", the most from the two categories of respondents, the Franco-Swedish group **MFEX** obtained the third highest number of mentions of excellence: 13 including seven from fund managers and six from fund distributors. Next came **BNP Paribas Securities Services** with 12 mentions of excellence, **UBS Fund Center** (10) **Attrax** (9) and **Swiss Canto** with 6 mentions.

Initially planned for Thursday, November 26, 2015 on the same boat as last night's ceremony, FPG Awards 2015 were postponed following the tragic events of November 13 in the French capital. The Board of Directors of FPG decided to reorganize this award ceremony in Paris, in the same place, in support of the French people.

*"Our coming to your beautiful capital in these troubled times is testimony to the affection and solidarity that our members, from all over Europe, bring to you in these difficult times which you are going through,"* said Edouard Bokuetenge. *"I am, personally, very happy that the French group Axeltis, after a hard and good fight, won the highest award of this edition in Paris."*

## Press Release

Another highlight of the evening: the publication, exclusively to those attending, of the **annual report of the FPG on the fund distribution sector**. Developed in collaboration with SWIFT, the global leader in the secure exchange of financial information, the report was highly anticipated by those in the industry. Completed over a six-week period between September and October 2015, the study on which the report is based was conducted with 49 of the most influential people in European fund platforms and buyers and sellers of funds. It managed to get their views on the development, the constraints and the prospects for growth in the funds platform industry.

*"The new regulations, particularly MIFID II, are pushing the fund and fund distribution sectors to reinvent themselves" said Richard Jones, a member of the Board of the FPG. "Innovation and digitalization are the only means to meet the challenges that they face. The study gives accurate feedback on the latest trends and the viewpoints of the main actors."*

### **The report highlights four main points:**

1. The considerable impact of the MIFID II regulation
2. Rebates remain the engine of market growth
3. The challenge of costs related to due diligence
4. The necessity of digital transformation