

Nasdaq Launches U.S. Corporate Bond Exchange

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Success of Nordic bond listings and U.S. listings switches leads to platform expansion

NEW YORK, Dec. 06, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Nasdaq (Nasdaq: NDAQ) today announced it launched a Corporate Bond exchange for listing and trading of corporate bonds. The Securities and Exchange Commission approved this exchange on November 13, 2018.

"Fixed income investors have undergone a number of market structure and technological changes since the 2008 financial crisis, while at the same time companies have increased their issuance to take advantage of a low interest rate environment," said Ted Bragg, head of U.S. Fixed Income at Nasdaq.

"Nasdaq-listed companies today have underwritten more than 3,000 corporate bonds, and there exists an opportunity for public companies to list their equity and debt in a more cost effective way, using Nasdaq trading technology and surveillance, which is substantial."

PepsiCo claimed the inaugural listing on November 27 when it announced it will transfer the securities exchange listing for four separate senior notes due between 2021 and 2028.

This new exchange will run on the Nasdaq Stock Market license and will be powered by the <u>Nasdaq Financial Framework</u>, Nasdaq's next generation market infrastructure technology platform. Surveillance will be conducted by the <u>Nasdaq Regulatory team</u>, including use of its global market surveillance system, <u>SMARTS</u>.

Nasdag Nordics currently lists 1,287 corporate bonds across six exchanges, seeing more than 80% growth since 2013, and Nasdaq will bring this experience from that market to its entry into the U.S. bond listing market. Sustainable bonds account for about 10% of total corporate and municipal bonds listed on Nasdaq Nordic, and has grown nearly four-fold since 2015.

About Nasdaq:

Nasdaq (Nasdaq: NDAQ) is a leading global provider of trading, clearing, exchange technology, listing, information and public company services. Through its diverse portfolio of solutions, Nasdaq enables customers to plan, optimize and execute their business vision with confidence, using proven technologies that provide transparency and insight for navigating today's global capital markets. As the creator of the world's first electronic stock market, its technology powers more than 100 marketplaces in 50 countries, and 1 in 10 of the world's securities transactions. Nasdaq is home to approximately 4,000 total listings with a market value of approximately \$15 trillion. To learn more, visit: https://business.nasdaq.com.

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