



GMI and Si2 Partner to Offer Corporations and Investors a Powerful ESG Proxy Research Resource

GMI and Si2 to produce a series of ESG briefings to help boards and their advisors prepare for the 2012 proxy season

Si2's Shareholder Proposal Analysis teamed with GMI Analyst platform to provide top level advice for investors engaged on ESG Issues

October 11, 2011 – GMI and Si2 announced today a strategic partnership to provide seamless subscription access, account management and special pricing to the firms' **ESG Board Briefing Research**, **Shareholder Proposal Analysis**, and **Executive Pay Scorecards** to their institutional and corporate clients. The combination of GMI's market-leading compensation analysis with Si2's expert insights into key environmental and social issues and proposal analysis creates a vital resource for corporations seeking to inform their boards and investors seeking to make critical voting decisions.

"Given the potential impact of ESG risk on a company's value, it has become increasingly important for investors and corporate stakeholders to have a better understanding of which companies are effectively managing this kind of risk," said GMI's CEO Jack Zwingli. "The partnership brings together two firms known for their in-depth expertise in different areas of ESG research, providing clients with a convenient means of accessing their insights through a single platform."

Subscribers to both subscription services will now be able to access Si2 shareholder proposal analysis through a company's profile in the GMI Analyst platform. In addition, the two firms are offering a joint proxy season research package designed to inform corporations and investors about key issues and votes for 2012. The package will include in-depth briefings on the most important social and environmental issues of the shareholder proposal season; a review of the first year of Say on Pay in the United States and its implications for 2012; and a set of Executive Pay Scorecards, available for a company and a set of its peers, which will rate compensation disclosed in 2012 proxies.

"This partnership leverages the strengths of both firms to offer a combined package superior to the sum of its constituent parts," said Si2 Executive Director Heidi Welsh. "This is the first time corporate boards and institutional investors can come to one place for comprehensive, independent research and analyses of the complex E, S and G factors confronting corporations and shareowners, including climate change, human rights and executive pay."

*** Potential subscribers interested in more information should contact VP of Institutional Sales Drew Buckley on +1 207 874 6921. ***

About GMI

GMI is the leading independent provider of global corporate governance and ESG ratings and research. GMI ratings, covering more than 20,000 companies worldwide, are built on extensive research and modeling that incorporates a broad spectrum of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) metrics. GMI ratings also encompass accounting transparency issues, to support the goal of identifying companies at risk. GMI ratings are widely used by leading institutional investors, banks, insurers, auditors, regulators and corporations seeking to incorporate corporate governance and ESG factors into risk assessment and decision making. GMI's clients have found a valuable link between GMI ratings and major negative events, such as regulatory actions, shareholder litigation, material financial restatements and financial distress – all of which impact investment returns and company performance. GMI is a signatory to the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment Initiative (PRI), a network committed to incorporating ESG research into the investment process. GMI is the combined entity of GovernanceMetrics International, The Corporate Library and Audit Integrity, which all merged in December 2010. For more information please visit www.gmiratings.com.

About Si2

Supported by the largest-endowed U.S. colleges and universities, as well as public and private pension fund clients, the Sustainable Investments Institute (Si2) provides in-depth, impartial analysis of the environmental and social policy shareholder resolutions filed at U.S. companies and the fundamental sustainability issues these proposals raise for corporations and investors. Si2's powerful online tools and comprehensive reports enable investors to prepare for proxy season, to make informed, independent voting decisions, and to develop broader investment policies on key environmental and social issues. The institute also conducts research on particularly fraught topics of broad interest, including a forthcoming examination of political spending governance and a separate report on hydraulic fracturing, both sponsored by the IRRC Institute. Si2's reports review and analyze organized efforts to influence corporate social and environmental performance, the impact and implications of these stakeholder campaigns and other emerging investor sustainability risks.

For more information about GMI, contact:

Emma Murphy
The Neibart Group
Tel: +1 718 875 4545
emurphy@neibartgroup.com

For more information about Si2, contact:

Heidi Welsh, Executive Director, tel. +1 301 432 4721, email heidi@siinstitute.org
Peter DeSimone, Deputy Director, tel. +1 202 907 8383, email peter@siinstitute.org
Visit them at www.siinstitute.org