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## PRESS INFORMATION

### **European award for the Austrian enso GmbH: "Best Hydro-Power Investment Partner Europe 2020"**

- **New subsidiary eHydro500 GmbH plans to invest EUR 500 million in hydropower projects with international partners and the "Climate Endowment Hydropower Fund".**
- **Dr. Günther Rabensteiner, a former member of the board of Austrian Verbund AG, is the managing director of the new company.**

*Raaba-Grambach/Austria, December 9th, 2020* - Capital Finance International (CFI) annually honors companies and organizations that play a pioneering role in their respective economic environment. **enso GmbH** was awarded the "**Best Hydro-Power Investment Partner - Europe 2020**" by CFI as an international asset manager in the area of the hydropower asset class. enso GmbH, an Austrian company established by the initiator Dr. Gilbert Frizberg, works as an ASSET Manager in the hydropower plant investment area and currently manages 35 international hydropower plant investments in Norway, Albania and Turkey with a total annual production of 381.6 GWh. In addition to the enso group's investment company enso hydro GmbH, third-party power plant operators also rely on the know-how of enso GmbH's international team.

"We are a lean organisation and were set up early on as an internationally spread team with intensive use of virtual meetings. We were thus optimally prepared for the current Covid-19 crisis", explains Wolfgang Kröpfl, CEO of the enso Group. "We make a significant contribution to reducing the carbon footprint and not only meet the dual goal of **positive impact** and **climate sustainability**, combined with long-term **returns for investors**, not only with our investments, but also in our daily activities."

### **enso GmbH relies on sustainable investment funds**

enso GmbH has taken another step into the future with the establishment of the subsidiary eHydro500 GmbH and other internationally active partners. As managing director of the new company, Dr. Günther Rabensteiner, former board member of Verbund AG, could be won. eHydro500 GmbH is the exclusive investment advisor to the Climate Endowment Hydropower Fund, which was launched on October 6, 2020 together with Nixdorf Kapital AG and the Climate Endowment Group in Luxembourg. The fund is designed as an open fund for institutional and professional investors. With the targeted EUR 500 million equity investment in hydropower, the reduction to 1/100 of the current CO<sub>2</sub> footprint compared to the current EU electricity mix per kilowatt hour will be achieved. Hydropower plants have a lifespan of around 100 years, offer the highest levels of efficiency and have among the lowest electricity production costs within renewable energy sources. Hydropower plants thus make a significant contribution to the climate goals of the European Union.

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#### **About enso GmbH**

enso GmbH emerged from the "enso Energie-Netzwerk Südost GmbH" founded in 1999. From 2004 to 2009 it was wholly owned by the Frizberg family, who have been operating hydropower plants since 1902.

During this period the company dealt with energy and infrastructure projects in the successor states of Yugoslavia and Turkey. The company has been operating under the name enso GmbH since 2010 and focuses exclusively on the asset management of hydropower plants and portfolios. Today enso GmbH is majority owned by the Frizberg family. The industrial families Kapsch and Trierenberg as well as the management of enso GmbH also hold shares.

[www.enso.at](http://www.enso.at)

#### About CFI.co

CFI.co, a print journal and online resource reporting on business, economics and finance, recognises that the traditional distinction between emerging and developed markets is now far less meaningful as world economies converge. Headquartered in London, the world's most multicultural city, CFI.co brings you coverage and analysis of the drivers behind change. Combining the views of leading multilateral and national organisations with thought leadership from some of the world's top minds – our dedicated editorial team ensure that readers better understand the forces influencing and reshaping the global economy.

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Release of Award on CFI-Website:

<https://cfi.co/awards/europe/2020/enso-gmbh-best-hydro-power-investment-partner-europe-2020/>

<https://cfi.co/magazine/cfi-co-autumn-2020/>

Page 103 Announcement resp. page 74 enso GmbH presentation



Wolfgang Kröpfl (MBA), CEO of enso Gruppe. © enso GmbH



Dr. Gilbert Frizberg, Initiator majority shareholder of enso GmbH and managing director eHydro500 GmbH. © enso GmbH