

Press Information, 26 09 2017

Berlin Hyp achieves top score in sustainability rating

Berlin Hyp has been named an industry leader in oekom research's sustainability ratings. As a result, the rating agency has confirmed Berlin Hyp's above-average commitment to sustainability management, honoured the bank's investment products (green bonds) and recognised its responsible business practices towards people and the environment.

The sustainability rating agency oekom has awarded Berlin Hyp, which specialises in large-volume real estate financing, a "B-" rating, the highest score given within the rating-group of Financials/Mortgage & Public Sector. This rating means both prime status and inclusion in the category "good".

"We are proud of the recognition of our sustainability strategy, in which we promote the financing of green buildings on the one hand as well as issuing green bonds on the capital market on the other," said Matthias Arnheiter, Head of Corporate Strategy and Sustainability Officer at Berlin Hyp. "Furthermore, this top position confirms and respects the successful consideration of sustainability aspects in all our operating processes." The sustainable management of measures aimed at creating a social and fair working environment, and the bank's activities as an issuer of green bonds in more than one asset class since 2016 has played a particularly instrumental role in Berlin Hyp's outstanding performance.

The excellent rating confirms Berlin Hyp's plans to continue focusing on promoting the financing of sustainable, climate-friendly real estate in the future whilst actively supporting the dynamic development of the market for sustainable bonds through green bonds. The financing of energy-efficient buildings and their refinancing via green bonds is one of Berlin Hyp's strategic goals. Loans for green buildings are to account for 20 % of the bank's total loan portfolio by 2020.

oekom research AG is one of the world's leading rating agencies in the sustainable investment segment. The agency has been actively helping to shape the sustainable investment market since 1993 and now rates more than 3,700 companies from 56 industries worldwide. oekom research's analyses currently influence around € 600 billion in assets under management. Berlin Hyp was evaluated as part of the oekom corporate ratings as at 22 September 2017.

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Berlin Hyp specialises in large-volume real estate finance for professional investors and housing societies, for whom the Bank develops individual financing solutions. As an enterprise forming a Group together with the German savings banks, it also makes an extensive spectrum of products and services available to these institutions. Berlin Hyp's clear focus, almost 150 years of experience and its close proximity to the Savings Banks Finance Group characterise the Bank as a leading German real estate and Pfandbrief bank.