

# ESG Integration Forum US 2020

Building a better long-term future

Thursday, December 3 – Friday, December 4, 2020

LIVE AND VIRTUAL

*The ESG Integration Forum exists to bring corporate stakeholders from Legal, Finance and Sustainability together to learn how to better respond to investors' ESG expectations.*

*After a turbulent year much has changed and ESG is evidently more important than ever before for listed companies. In this virtual event happening from December 3-4 we look at how trends are developing in ESG as a result of the events of 2020 and then focus on the actions you can take to take your ESG program to the next level and help your investors make informed voting and investment decisions.*

## Agenda at a glance

All times below are in EST (Eastern Standard Time)

TIME (EST)	Thursday December 3: ESG Trends
9.45 am	Welcome to the forum & networking
10.00 am	Opening keynote: How the future of work will impact ESG integration
10.30 am	How corporate boards can navigate climate risks
11.30 am	Materiality matters: Learn how companies in your sector are managing their most relevant ESG risks
	<i>Materials</i>   <i>Energy &amp; Utilities</i>   <i>Financials</i>   <i>Consumer Goods</i>   <i>TMT</i>   <i>Industrials</i>   <i>Healthcare</i>
12.15 pm	Expo break
12.45 pm	Getting buy-in from the board: Setting targets around social and human capital factors
1.30 pm	Networking
2.00 pm	Linking climate reporting to the bottom line: Debunking different types of climate risk
2.45 pm	How artificial intelligence is evolving the ESG landscape
3.30 pm	Closing keynote: Standardization developments in ESG ratings and frameworks
4.00 pm	Summary and end of day 1

TIME (EST)	Friday, December 4: ESG Actions
10.45 am	Welcome to the forum & networking
11.00 am	Reinventing ESG reporting: A shift from what's happened to where we're going
11.45 am	Workshop: Taking the next step in your ESG journey
12.30 pm	ESG and the Earnings Call: Integrating Long-term Thinking into Short-term Discussions
1.30 pm	Expo break
2.00 pm	Covid-19 as a catalyst for better year-round engagement on ESG
2.45 pm	Networking
3.15 pm	Generating decision useful data: Understanding the ESG ecosystem and how they use your disclosures
4.00 pm	Preparing for the next AGM season
4.45 pm	Summary and close of conference

[Detailed agenda below](#)

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TIME (EST)	Thursday December 3: ESG Trends						
9.45 am	<b>Welcome to the forum &amp; networking</b>						
10.00 am	<b>Opening keynote: How the future of work will impact ESG integration</b> The ESG integration forum's mission since its inception has been to help internal stakeholders at companies work together to better respond to investor expectations on environmental, social, and governance factors. As the office becomes more of a spoke and your peers will be further spread out, we look at what is needed from leadership, the board, investor relations, governance and sustainability teams to insure ESG is integrated throughout the businesses and stakeholders have a good understanding of your ESG impacts.						
10.30 am	<b>How corporate boards can navigate climate risks</b> The current pandemic has reinforced the need for directors to understand and navigate business disruption. There are important lessons to learn from COVID that can be applied to the environmental, social and governance risks we face ahead. Here we discuss the tools and recommendations for corporate directors to understand the impact of ESG risks on business and how boards can address these issues as a part of their core risk oversight role.						
11.30 am	<b>Materiality matters: Learn how companies in your sector are managing their most relevant ESG risks</b> A series of short and sharp sector-specific discussions outline the material issues for your sector and share how companies are measuring, managing, reporting and communicating around these factors.						
	<i>Materials</i>	<i>Energy &amp; Utilities</i>	<i>Financials</i>	<i>Consumer Goods</i>	<i>TMT</i>	<i>Industrials</i>	<i>Healthcare</i>
12.15 pm	Expo break						
12.45 pm	<b>Getting buy-in from the board: Setting targets around social and human capital factors</b> Given the increased investor interest in social and human capital issues we investigate how this translates to your investor relations, governance and sustainability activities. We go into particular detail around the process of setting targets and getting buy-in from management throughout the organization and comfort from the boards around setting public targets on 'S' factors.						
1.30 pm	Networking						
2.00 pm	<b>Linking climate reporting to the bottom line: Debunking different types of climate risk</b> The TCFD movement is gaining moment and changes the way that companies and investors are looking at how climate-related risks impact their businesses and, in this session, we take a deep dive into physical and transitional risks and examine how they relate to your businesses.						
2.45 pm	<b>How artificial intelligence is evolving the ESG landscape</b> This session looks ahead at how the buy-side are using alternative data and artificial intelligence to inform their decision making and understanding of risks, we also look at what tasks can be automated to reduce reporting fatigue allowing companies to take action and achieve their targets. We also look at how the role of passive investing in the capital markets will change after Covid-19 and how that will influence ESG investing.						
3.30 pm	<b>Closing keynote: Standardization developments in ESG ratings and frameworks</b> This year there has been more developments toward getting more standardized ESG reporting, with framework providers, standard setters and ratings agencies release a statement of intent to move toward more comprehensive corporate reporting. We have also seen the IFRS propose a new body, the Sustainability Standards Boards, however many investors have also developed their own framework toward ESG. In this session we aim to get a better understanding of the sort of disclosures that investors are looking at to inform their voting and investing decisions.						
4.00 pm	Summary and end of day 1						

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TIME (EST)	Friday, December 4: ESG Actions
10.45 am	<b>Welcome to the forum &amp; networking</b>
11.00 am	<b>Reinventing ESG reporting: A shift from what's happened to where we're going</b> In this session we share examples of how companies are responding to ESG reporting trends. Covering all aspects from presentation, content and delivery this practically focused session will keep you updated on the latest trends in ESG reporting and show you how you can implement this into your own reporting processes.
11.45 am	<b>Workshop: Taking the next step in your ESG journey</b> During this interactive workshop we look to help answer all of those questions about setting off on the next stage of your ESG journey, in an open Q&A discussion we look to help, whether you're looking to start your ESG program, take your ESG reporting to the next level, update your materiality assessment or understand what actions you can take to stay ahead of the curve, this peer-led session will answer all of your questions.
12.30 pm	<b>ESG and the Earnings Call: Integrating long-term thinking into short-term discussions</b> While a traditional earnings call focuses on quarterly financial results, investors and issuers alike understand that longer-term strategic content, including ESG content, can also be critical to convey a company's outlook and strategy, and that ESG performance can directly impact financial performance. How can issuers begin to include this type of content into the traditional quarterly call format – and should they?
1.30 pm	Expo break
2.00 pm	<b>Covid-19 as a catalyst for better year-round engagement on ESG</b> As ESG engagement from the buy-side becomes more formalized we look at best practice in ESG engagement and ask whether the move to virtual will create better year-round engagement with investors, ratings agencies, proxy advisors and other stakeholders moving forward. We also share best practice around hybrid, virtual and in-person ESG and governance roadshows and AGMs.
2.45 pm	Networking
3.15 pm	<b>Generating decision useful data: Understanding the ESG ecosystem and how they use your disclosures</b> In this discussion we aim to understand what ESG ratings agencies, investors and proxy advisers use, and what they don't! Aimed to help provide a better overview on the type of information that investors are using to help inform their voting and investment decisions we hear from different stakeholders to provide a clearer picture on the type of information you should be disclosing on ESG factors.
4.00 pm	<b>Preparing for the next AGM season</b> In our final session we look at how best to prepare for your next AGM by focusing on the hot topics likely to be raised by activists and supported by your shareholders and focus on the best way to prepare and manage some of these challenges.
4.45 pm	Summary and close of conference