

KAS BANK Case Study

Proxy Voting

“Broadridge has helped us in many areas, including the establishment of our proxy voting service for the markets where we have a direct link with a Central Securities Depository”, said Henk Brink, Director of Securities Services at KAS BANK.

KAS BANK

KAS BANK the well-established global custodian bank in the Netherlands, has enabled proxy voting for its institutional investor clientele via its relationship with Broadridge. KAS BANK is a specialist European bank providing a comprehensive range of securities and investor services. It primarily focuses on the requirements of institutional investors (e.g., asset managers, insurance companies, investment funds and pension funds, as well as banks and brokers). KAS BANK positions itself as strictly neutral, independent and low risk.

The bank's main focus is on value-added services in the area of treasury, risk control and management information. These services have been developed in support of its main service areas, which are investment administration, custody, clearing and settlement.

As an independent provider, KAS BANK practices neutrality and views the international financial markets from the perspective of its clients. Its neutral position precludes conflicts of interest, enabling the bank to offer a comprehensive range of services underpinned by commitment, long-term partnership and complete transparency.

In awareness of the growing demand by clients and with the aim of applying corporate governance within the financial industry, KAS BANK decided to offer its clients an international proxy voting service.

Worldwide, institutional investors are under increasing pressure to actively use their voting rights at shareholders' meetings. For the sake of efficiency, the bank decided to outsource this business to Broadridge because of its global electronic voting experience and expertise. Through Broadridge, KAS BANK now provides a proxy voting service, which enables its clients to exercise their voting rights at shareholders' meetings worldwide.

Due to its strict neutral position, KAS BANK does not play an active role in influencing proxy voting responses. Thanks to Broadridge, clients are notified of the agendas of shareholders' meetings, enabled to exercise electronic proxy voting and receive reports on the aggregate voting results. Moreover, in Belgium and the Netherlands, KAS BANK also acts, upon request, as representative at shareholders' meetings. Broadridge assists KAS BANK in this task at shareholders' meetings.

Broadridge was selected for its:

- Proxy voting services, which is a significant completion of KAS BANK's services as Global Custodian.
- Long expertise and client-centric focus.
- Neutrality and absence of conflicts of interest.
- Tailor-made services.
- Global electronic voting platform, ProxyEdge[®], which is used by investors in over 50 countries and enables clients to cast a vote within and across borders.
- Generation of reminder notices alerting clients that they can still use their voting right.
- Process transparency and large online reporting capacity.
- Increased linkage to non-North American issuers, via the International Shareholder Communications Programme, allowing an extended communication between shareholders and the same issuers and a better traceability of vote instructions through the custody pipeline.
- State-of-the-art redundant systems subject to internal and external audit trails.
- Team of market specialists committed to keeping clients informed of market developments in countries where KAS BANK has a direct connection.