

MV Credit partners with Loomis Sayles to launch a private markets solution for the UK DC market

London, 13 April, 2021, MV Credit and Loomis, Sayles & Company, as affiliates of Natixis Investment Managers, have developed an innovative solution to address the needs of the UK Defined Contribution (DC) market, providing access to yielding private credit with some liquidity.

The MV Dual Credit Fund brings together the combined experience and expertise of MV Credit, a European private credit specialist and Loomis Sayles, a global investment firm with active fixed income, equity, multi-asset and alternatives capabilities. The fund offers investors an innovative way to access the private credit market, whilst also maintaining a degree of liquidity.

The solution was developed to address the needs of the seed investor, Smart Pension, and is tailored to meet the regulatory requirements of the master trust.

The MV Dual Credit Fund will be managed by MV Credit. The allocation to private credit will be composed of predominantly European senior leveraged loans with a small allocation to illiquid subordinated debt. The liquid credit allocation will be managed by the Loomis Sayles Alpha Strategies team. It will have a global remit, focussing on corporate credit (both investment grade and high yield), bank loans, securitized assets and emerging market debt.

The strategy would be an attractive part of a long-term investment plan, allowing investors to benefit from a highly diversified portfolio, with enhanced returns and reduced volatility.

Murtaza Merchant, Partner at MV Credit, said:

“There has been significant interest from UK DC schemes to obtain access to the private credit market and we are proud to be at the forefront of innovation which addresses this interest. The fund offers investors the ability to access private credit assets whilst meeting liquidity needs in a responsible way.

“The launch is the culmination of almost two years of hard work and co-operation between MV Credit and Loomis Sayles with focus on the investment strategy and governance in order to meet the stringent requirements of the UK DC market. MV Credit and Loomis Sayles are both affiliates of Natixis Investment Managers, which brings an added level of assurance to investors.

“We are delighted to gain the support of Smart Pension as a seed investor in the fund and hope to expand this relationship in the coming years.”

Alex Thompson, Vice President and Investment Director for the Custom Income Strategies and Alpha Strategies groups at Loomis Sayles, added:

“Loomis Sayles is well known for our expertise in liquid, performing credit, yet we have observed with interest the growth of the private credit market. Aligning with a specialist manager such as MV Credit allows us to effectively span the divide between public and private, offering our clients a broader, more diverse multi asset credit offering.

“While the two firms are investing in different asset classes, which clearly require specialist expertise, there are common traits shared between us that have aided the collaboration needed to bring this product to market. While the investment philosophies and processes

necessarily differ, both firms promote a team-based approach and place a significant emphasis on proprietary research within their respective fields. Diversity and ESG considerations are also important to the culture of both firms.”

The MV Dual Credit fund will be seeded with around £100m of assets from the Smart Pension default fund. Smart Pension is the cornerstone investor, but the fund will be accessible to other UK pension schemes opening up opportunities for these schemes to access this strategy.

About MV Credit

MV Credit is an independently managed private credit firm founded in 2000. One of the first private credit firms to be established in Europe, MV Credit possesses one of the longest established management teams in the private credit space, with a senior team who has on average over twenty years' experience. Since inception MV Credit has invested circa €6bn in debt financing deals, building over time strong long-term relationships with reputable private equity sponsors. MV Credit invests in senior and subordinated debt across Europe, targeting non-cyclical, defensive industries and regions where the team have a strong understanding. The firm's deep experience enables it to add value by providing tailored financing solutions to high-quality businesses, alongside adding value through active engagement.

<https://www.mvcredit.com/>

About Loomis Sayles

Since 1926, Loomis, Sayles & Company has helped fulfill the investment needs of institutional and mutual fund clients worldwide. The firm's performance-driven investors integrate deep proprietary research and integrated risk analysis to make informed, judicious decisions. Teams of portfolio managers, strategists, research analysts and traders collaborate to assess market sectors and identify investment opportunities wherever they may lie, within traditional asset classes or among a range of alternative investments. Loomis Sayles has the resources, foresight and the flexibility to look far and wide for value in broad and narrow markets in its commitment to deliver attractive sustainable returns for clients. This rich tradition has earned Loomis Sayles the trust and respect of clients worldwide, for whom it manages £254.5 billion in assets (as of December 31, 2020).

Includes the assets of Loomis, Sayles & Co., LP, and Loomis Sayles Trust Company, LLC. Loomis Sayles Trust Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Loomis, Sayles & Company, LP.

About Natixis Investment Managers

Natixis Investment Managers serves financial professionals with more insightful ways to construct portfolios. Powered by the expertise of more than 20 specialized investment managers globally, we apply Active Thinking[®] to deliver proactive solutions that help clients pursue better outcomes in all markets. Natixis Investment Managers ranks among the world's largest asset management firms¹ with nearly €1.135 trillion assets under management²

Headquartered in Paris and Boston, Natixis Investment Managers is a subsidiary of Natixis. Listed on the Paris Stock Exchange, Natixis is a subsidiary of BPCE, the second-largest banking group in France. Natixis Investment Managers' affiliated investment management firms include AEW; Alliance Entrepreneurs; AlphaSimplex Group; DNCA Investments;³ Dorval Asset Management; Flexstone Partners; Gateway Investment Advisers; H2O Asset Management; Harris Associates; Investors Mutual Limited; Loomis, Sayles & Company; Mirova; MV Credit; Naxicap Partners; Ossiam; Ostrum Asset Management; Seeyond; Seventure Partners; Thematics Asset Management; Vauban Infrastructure Partners; Vaughan Nelson Investment Management; Vega Investment Managers;⁴ and WCM Investment Management. Additionally, investment solutions are offered through Natixis Investment Managers Solutions, and Natixis Advisors offers other investment services through its AIA and MPA division. **Not all offerings available in all jurisdictions.** For additional information, please

visit Natixis Investment Managers' website at im.natixis.com | LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/natixis-investment-managers](https://www.linkedin.com/company/natixis-investment-managers).

Natixis Investment Managers' distribution and service groups include Natixis Distribution, L.P., a limited purpose broker-dealer and the distributor of various U.S. registered investment companies for which advisory services are provided by affiliated firms of Natixis Investment Managers, Natixis Investment Managers S.A. (Luxembourg), Natixis Investment Managers International (France), and their affiliated distribution and service entities in Europe and Asia.

* Assets under management ("AUM") as of December 31, 2020 is \$1,135 trillion.

¹ Cerulli Quantitative Update: Global Markets 2020 ranked Natixis Investment Managers as the 17th largest asset manager in the world based on assets under management as of December 31, 2019.

² Assets under management ("AUM") as of December 31, 2020 is \$1,135 trillion. AUM, as reported, may include notional assets, assets serviced, gross assets, assets of minority-owned affiliated entities and other types of non-regulatory AUM managed or serviced by firms affiliated with Natixis Investment Managers.

³ A brand of DNCA Finance.

⁴ A wholly-owned subsidiary of Natixis Wealth Management.

In the British Isles: Provided by Natixis Investment Managers UK Limited which is authorised and regulated by the UK Financial Conduct Authority (register no. 190258) - registered office: Natixis Investment Managers UK Limited, One Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5ER. When permitted, the distribution of this material is intended to be made to persons as described as follows: in the United Kingdom: this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at investment professionals and professional investors only; in Ireland: this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at professional investors only; in Guernsey: this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at only financial services providers which hold a license from the Guernsey Financial Services Commission; in Jersey: this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at professional investors only; in the Isle of Man: this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at only financial services providers which hold a license from the Isle of Man Financial Services Authority or insurers authorised under section 8 of the Insurance Act 2008.

The fund referenced above may not be offered or sold in the U.S., to citizens or residents of the U.S., or in any other jurisdiction where it would be unlawful to offer or sell the funds.

MALR027088