

OPERA Press Release

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[Albourne Partners](#) and [Thompson Reuters](#) announce their intention to collaborate on an **Open Protocol Enabling Risk Aggregation ('OPERA')**.

- OPERA will align the alternative investment industry with the full existing universe of financial industry protocols by working within an appropriate context such as the FIX Protocol framework.
- OPERA will define and maintain the protocols, grades and templates that will ensure that risk and performance information from the alternative investment industry will be consistently calculated, summarised and conveyed.
- OPERA will ensure that all of its work and activities are fully independent and publicly available.

OPERA is proposed at a time when investors are seeking greater transparency; when the world's best hedge funds are prepared to give it to attract secure long term capital and when the world's regulators are demanding it. OPERA effectively aspires to be the supporting technical appendix behind the systematic data reporting requirements set out by global regulators.

OPERA will form a team based on banks and IT providers that are already involved in the ever-evolving system of financial protocols, but it will also seek the involvement of major hedge funds, their investors and administrators.

We have always been supportive of well thought out transparency and disclosure to investors and welcome this opportunity to continue in that direction, explains Dan Och of Och Ziff. Bruce Cundick of the Utah Retirement Systems adds: we have been campaigning vigorously for ever higher standards within the hedge fund industry and a greater clarity in communication is a factor. We see this as supportive of our efforts.

Gerry Buggy Head of Hedge Fund Strategy at Thomson Reuters adds *Our conversations with both hedge funds and investors have a common set of threads, Risk Monitoring, Risk Comparison and Risk Aggregation. By using an open protocol, output can be compared on a like for like basis. Openness and transparency are key, we have seen this with our valuation and pricing business.*



Greater transparency on exposure to risk is both good for the industry and inevitable, explains. HFSB Chairman, Antonio Borges. *No one is better placed than the industry itself 'investors and managers', to tackle the challenge of converting good intent into workable detail.*

As next steps, an explanatory paper prepared by the working group on OPERA will be available on www.operastandards.org. After an internet based consultative period the first version of the protocols will be released.

We are keen to collaborate with the key thought leaders amongst the front-line service providers to work on a public initiative that we feel has great potential for our industry. There is now global recognition that the hedge fund industry is the most appropriate home for many risk taking activities. As a firm, we are totally committed to getting that home in order for the sake of the public good, concludes Simon Ruddick, Albourne's Managing Director.