

# RIZE ETF LIMITED ACQUIRED BY ARK INVEST LLC

### London, UK - 19 September 2023

Europe's first specialist thematic ETF provider, Rize ETF Limited ("Rize ETF"), has today been acquired by ARK Invest LLC ("ARK Invest" or "ARK"), the parent of ARK Investment Management LLC, the investment manager led by CEO Cathie Wood

Rize ETF's founders will remain with the enlarged company steadfast in their commitment to develop and deliver its products in the manner that has garnered acclaim across Europe. By merging Rize ETF's expertise in thematic and sustainable index investing with ARK's innovative actively managed approach centred on disruptive innovation, the combined entity will offer its clients a more diverse array of investment options.

ARK's acquisition marks a significant step for its global expansion strategy and will pave the way for the firm to introduce its suite of cutting-edge innovation ETFs, under the UCITS framework, to investors across Europe, the United Kingdom, and beyond, while also facilitating the sustained growth and expansion of Rize ETF's thematic and sustainable index ETFs in Europe and around the world.

Founded in 2019 by ETF industry veterans, Stuart Forbes, Rahul Bhushan, Jason Kennard and Anthony Martin, Rize ETF has become known across Europe for its innovative approach to building high quality, research-led and purpose-built thematic and sustainable index ETFs. Prior to Rize ETF, the Founders were integral to the building out of the European UCITS ETF business for ETF Securities, which was acquired by Legal & General in 2018. All of the founders will remain and continue to lead the growth and development of ARK Invest Europe.

Cathie Wood, Founder, CIO, and CEO of ARK Invest said: "Today's acquisition advances ARK Invest's commitment to offer high-quality thematic investment solutions to a global investor audience, particularly European investors who have not been able to access our products. We believe that the European ETF market presents a strong growth opportunity as new and younger investors continue to gain access to ETFs via the growth of digital platforms, and as active ETFs increase market share by meeting the demand for innovative investment exposures.

"We are delighted to welcome the talented Rize ETF team into the ARK family. By merging its passion for thematic and sustainable index investing with ARK's innovative actively managed approach centred on disruptive innovation, we can offer our clients a more diverse array of investment options to invest in the future. Together, we will continue to educate and empower investors, helping them to achieve their long term financial goals."

Stuart Forbes, Co-Founder of Rize ETF added: "The acquisition offers ARK an entry into the European ETF market, capitalising on our expertise and track record in building multiple European ETF businesses. Leveraging ARK's global network and our expertise in European distribution, we aim to strengthen our collective global presence. This initiative signifies not just business growth, but a collaborative exchange of global asset management best practices, insights and tactics."

Rahul Bhushan, Co-Founder of Rize ETF, stated: "Over the past five years, we've carved out a niche in thematic and sustainable ETFs. Uniting with ARK, a frontrunner in disruptive innovation investing and research, we are poised to offer an augmented product lineup spanning three pivotal growth areas in European ETFs: thematics, sustainability and actives. This collaboration not only facilitates a broader selection for our clients but also fosters a deeper engagement with research, steadfastly upholding our mutual dedication to sustainability."

### **NEW RELEASE**

In the coming period, the Rize ETF name and brand will gradually be retired to pave the way for "ARK Invest Europe". Under the new ARK Invest Europe platform, existing Rize ETF index products will be distributed under the "ARK" prefix. ARK Invest Europe will continue to uphold the high standards of investment research, portfolio management and client service for which ARK is known, all while tapping into Rize ETF's deep expertise covering the full lifecycle of ETFs beginning with product strategy and index development, legal and regulatory, tax, portfolio management and operations, capital markets, research, and marketing and distribution.

ARK purchased Rize ETF from AssetCo, a UK asset and wealth management business primarily involved in acquiring, managing, and operating asset and wealth management activities and interests, together with other related services. As part of this agreement, ARK and AssetCo will partner to support the launch, on the newly established ARK Invest Europe platform, of several ETF products for the River and Mercantile business, AssetCo's active equity asset management subsidiary. ARK is minority-owned by Nikko Asset Management.

As of August 31, 2023, Rize ETF managed \$452 million across 11 UCITS ETFs classified as either SFDR Article 8 or 9, domiciled in Dublin and distributed throughout Europe. ARK manages approximately \$25 billion in ETFs and other products globally.

Additional details about the acquisition will be released in the coming weeks.

### **About ARK Investment Management LLC**

ARK Investment Management LLC is a federally registered investment adviser and privately held investment firm. Specializing in thematic investing in disruptive innovation, the firm is rooted in over 40 years of experience in identifying and investing in innovations that should change the way the world works. Through its open research process, ARK identifies companies that it believes are leading and benefiting from cross-sector innovations such as robotics, energy storage, multi-omic sequencing, artificial intelligence, and blockchain technology. ARK's investment strategies include Autonomous Technology and Robotics, Next Generation Internet, Genomic Revolution, Fintech Innovation, Space Exploration & Innovation, 3D Printing, Israel Innovative Technology, Venture Capital, and the overall ARK Disruptive Innovation Strategy. For more information about ARK, its offerings, and original research, please visit www.ark-invest.com.

### **About Rize ETF**

Rize ETF is Europe's first specialist thematic ETF issuer. The company specialises in the creation of thematic and sustainable indices and ETFs. Rize ETF was created in 2019 by thematic ETF pioneers Rahul Bhushan, Stuart Forbes, Anthony Martin and Jason Kennard, with the company's first ETFs launching in February 2020. The founding team are a proven team of ETF experts with over 40 years of combined experience. The team is specialised in creating high quality, research-led and purpose-built thematic and sustainable indices and ETFs that leverage the unique insights and expertise of the best, most credible research experts in each theme. Rize ETF is on a mission to provide investors with access to the world's most compelling megatrends that not only resonate with their long-term convictions but also align with their personal values and belief systems. For further information, please visit www.rizeetf.com.

# **Further Enquiries**

Cornerstone Communicate: Richard Acworth/ Ben Larter: Tel: 07917 080 365 or 07825 880 830 richard@cornerstonecomms.co.uk / ben@cornerstonecomms.co.uk

### Disclaimer:

# **Marketing Communication / Financial Promotion:**

Communications issued in the European Economic Area ("EEA"): This marketing communication has been issued by IQ EQ Fund Management (Ireland) Limited ("IQ EQ") acting in its capacity as management company of Rize UCITS ICAV ("Rize ETF"). IQ EQ is authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. IQ EQ is registered in Ireland with registration number 148223.

**Communications issued in jurisdictions outside of the EEA:** This marketing communication has been issued by Rize ETF Limited ("**Rize UK**") which is an Appointed Representative of Aldgate Advisors Limited, a firm authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA FRN 763187). Rize UK is registered in England and Wales with registration number 11770079.

This is a marketing communication. This is not a contractually binding document. Please refer to the prospectus and Fund-specific supplement and Key Investor Information Document (the "**KIID**") of the relevant Fund and do not base any final investment decision on this communication alone.

### You should seek professional investment advice before making any decision to invest in a Fund.

This marketing communication is not being provided to you on the basis that you are a client of IQ EQ or Rize UK. Neither IQ EQ nor Rize UK is acting on your behalf and neither entity is responsible for providing protections that would otherwise be afforded to clients of IQ EQ or Rize UK. This marketing communication is for information purposes only. Its contents, and the fact of its distribution, do not constitute investment advice, nor do they constitute tax, legal or any other form of advice or service. It does not constitute or form part of any offer to issue or sell, or the solicitation of any offer to buy or sell any investment. It shall not form the basis of, or be relied upon in connection with, any contract. Information and opinions contained herein have been compiled from sources believed to be reliable but neither IQ EQ nor Rize UK nor any of their respective partners makes any representations as to its accuracy or completeness. Any opinions, forecasts or estimates herein constitute a judgement that is subject to change without notice. IQ EQ and Rize UK disclaim all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed by any person on the information contained within this marketing communication.

Capital at Risk Warning – Please note that the value of an investment and any income taken from it is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up. You may not get back the amount you originally invested. If your investment currency is different to the Funds' currency of denomination (USD) or the currencies in which the Funds' assets are denominated (which may be a range of different global currencies), then the return you will get from your investment may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations between your investment currency and such currencies.

The products referred to in this marketing communication are offered by Rize UCITS ICAV ("Rize ETF"). Rize ETF is an open-ended Irish collective asset management vehicle which is constituted as an umbrella fund with variable capital and segregated liability between its sub-funds (each, a "Fund") and registered in Ireland with registration number C193010 and authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland as a UCITS. Rize ETF is managed by IQ EQ Fund Management (Ireland) Limited ("IQ EQ"). The prospectus (including the Fund-specific supplements and other supplements), the KIIDs, the constitutional document of Rize ETF and the latest annual and semi-annual reports of Rize ETF, the latest Net Asset Values of the Funds and details of the underlying investments of the Funds (together, the "Fund Information") are available at <a href="http://www.rizeetf.com">http://www.rizeetf.com</a>. Any decision to invest must be based solely on the Fund Information. Investors should read the Fund-specific risks in Rize ETF's prospectus, Fund-specific supplements and the KIIDs. The indicative intra-day net asset values of the Funds are available at <a href="http://www.solactive.com">http://www.solactive.com</a>.

The Funds are not offered or aimed at residents in any country in which (a) Rize ETF and the Funds are not authorised or registered for distribution and where to do so is contrary to the relevant country's securities laws, (b) the dissemination of information relating to Rize ETF and the Funds via the internet is forbidden, and/or IQ EQ or Rize UK are not authorised or qualified to make such offer or invitation.

The Funds may be registered or otherwise approved for distribution to the public or certain categories of investors in one or more jurisdictions. Where this is the case, a country-specific web page and copies

### **NEW RELEASE**

of the Fund Information will be available at <a href="http://www.rizeetf.com">http://www.rizeetf.com</a>. The fact of such a registration or approval, however, does not mean that any regulator (including the FCA) has determined that the Funds are suitable for all categories of investors.

**United Kingdom:** This is a financial promotion. For the purposes of the United Kingdom Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("**FSMA**"), Rize ETF is a UCITS that has been recognised by the Financial Conduct Authority (the "**FCA**") pursuant to s.264 of the UK Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. The Fund Information is available in English free of charge upon request from the Facilities Agent in the United Kingdom, IQ EQ Fund Management (Ireland) Limited, at Dashwood House, 69 Old Broad Street, London, EC2M 1QS.

**Germany:** This is a financial promotion. The offering of the Shares of Rize ETF has been notified to the German Financial Services Supervisory Authority (BaFin) in accordance with section 310 of the German Investment Code (KAGB). The Fund Information in English (and the KIIDs in German language) can be obtained free of charge upon request from the Information Agent in Germany, German Fund Information Service Ug (Haftungsbeschränkt), at Zum Eichhagen 4, 21382 Brietlingen, Germany.

**Switzerland:** This is an advertising document. The state of the origin of the fund is Ireland. In Switzerland, the Representative in Switzerland is 1741 Fund Solutions AG, Burggraben 16, CH-9000 St. Gallen. The Paying Agent in Switzerland is Tellco AG, Bahnhofstrasse 4, 6430 Schwyz. The Fund Information may be obtained free of charge from the Representative. Past performance is no indication of current or future performance. The performance data do not take account of the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of units in the Fund.

**Austria:** This is a marketing communication and serves exclusively as information for investors. Under no circumstances may it replace advice regarding the acquisition and disposal of investments which may result in a total loss of the investment. The Fund Information in English (and the KIIDs in German language) can be obtained free of charge upon request from the Paying and Information Agent in Austria, Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG, Am Belvedere 1, 1100 Vienna, Austria.

**United States:** This marketing communication and its contents are not directed at any person that is resident in the United States ("**US person**"), and no offer or invitation is made to any US person to acquire or sell any service, product or security referred to. The provision of any information in this marketing communication does not constitute an offer to US persons to purchase securities.