

# THE FUTURE MEANS BUSINESS

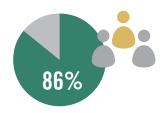
The investment implications of transformative new corporate models

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A broad coalition of stakeholders is propelling companies to "doing good while doing well," with significant implications for investors in those companies.

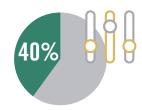
## **Key Stakeholders Pushing for Purpose**

#### **ENLIGHTENED EMPLOYEES**



Recent surveys show 86% of millennials in the U.S. **prefer purposeful work** to a higher salary.<sup>1</sup>

## **ESG INVESTORS**



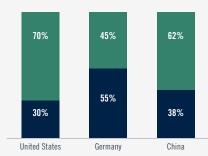
Shareholder proposals related to ESG in the U.S. have more than doubled in the past two decades, and currently account for nearly 40% of all shareholder proposals submitted to Russell 3000 companies.<sup>2</sup>

#### **CUSTOMER ACTIVISM**



83% of consumer activists now claim it is more important than ever to **show support for companies** that do the right thing by buying from them.<sup>3</sup>

## **Broader Purposefulness Growing as a Corporate Goal**



Focuses primarily on shareholders and profit maximization

Considers a range of stakeholders and operates under profit with purpose

Source: PGIM 2019 proprietary survey of over 300 public and private companies across the United States, Germany and China.

## **Key Insights**



### **CONVENTIONAL WISDOM**

Companies are focused solely on maximizing shareholder value.



#### **PGIM'S PERSPECTIVE**

Firms are increasingly driven by priorities other than profits and are positioning themselves as agents of social change.

# **Investment Implications**

O 1 ESG INTEGRATION

02 POTENTIAL PITFALLS

 $03^{ESG}_{2.0}$ 

04 CORE/SATELLITE APPROACH

05 CORPORATE REPORTING

Integrate relevant ESG metrics into the investment process — an imperative for both ESG champions and skeptics.

Re-evaluate the potential pitfalls of an exclusion-list approach to ESG, which comes with unintended consequences.

Move beyond formulaic methodologies and be discerning about ESG factors that are truly material for a specific firm and industry. Core focuses on strong investment performance while tilting towards better ESG exposure; satellite targets a specialized investment aimed at generating outsized social returns.

Continue to influence corporate reporting to drive higher-quality ESG data and outcomes.



- 1. Jenkin, Matthew, "Millennials want to work for employers committed to values and ethics," The Guardian, May 5, 2015. < https://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2015/may/05/millennials-employers-values-ethics-jobs>; Mejia, Zameena, "Nearly 9 out of 19 millennials would consider taking a pay cut to get this," CNBC, June 28, 2018. < https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/27/nearly-9-out-of-10-millennials-would-consider-a-pay-cut-to-get-this.html
- 2. Grewal, Jody, Serafeim, George and Yoon, Aaron, "Shareholder Activism on Sustainability Issues," Harvard Business School Working Paper, No. 17-003, July 2016. <a href="https://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Pages/item.aspx?num=51379">https://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Pages/item.aspx?num=51379</a>
- 3. "Battle of the Wallets: The Changing Landscape of Consumer Activism," Weber Shandwick and KRC Research, 2018. <a href="https://www.webershandwick.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Battle\_of\_the\_Wallets.pdf">https://www.webershandwick.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Battle\_of\_the\_Wallets.pdf</a>

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