



## **RIZE ETF'S MEDICAL CANNABIS ETF ADDS FOUR NEW COMPANIES TO CREATE EUROPE'S MOST DIVERSIFIED CANNABIS EQUITY PORTFOLIO**

**London, UK – March 20<sup>th</sup> 2020** - Rize ETF, Europe's first specialist thematic ETF issuer, has today rebalanced its Global Medical Cannabis ETF (FLWR), which is listed on the London Stock Exchange. Following today's rebalance, **FLWR** remains Europe's most liquid and diversified Medical Cannabis ETF.

The Rize Medical Cannabis and Life Sciences UCITS ETF (**FLWR**) adds four new companies to its holdings today, taking the total number of companies to 27.

The four new companies to enter the ETF will have a combined weight of approximately 5%.

- **Ecofibre Ltd (Australian Stock Exchange: EOF) – Hemp & CBD**  
Ecofibre is an Australian market-leader in hemp technologies and provides innovative solutions that address emerging health and resource sustainability issues. The company's principal activities are breeding, growing, processing and distributing hemp products. Its 'Ananda' retail brands are positioned for the health and wellbeing segment. Hemp is a versatile and US federally-legal product.
- **Little Green Pharma Ltd (Australian Stock Exchange: LGP) – Biotechnology/Pharma**  
Little Green Pharma is an Australian medical cannabis company. It is the first Australian company to achieve production of a locally-grown medical cannabis product for patient use.<sup>1</sup> The company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange in February and operates a vertically integrated model comprising of cultivation, production, R&D, manufacturing and distribution.<sup>2</sup>
- **Perrigo (NYSE: PRGO) – Big Pharma**  
Perrigo, the world's largest non-prescription drug company, through its recent partnership with Israel's leading medical cannabis company, BOL Pharma, has created the world's first government-sponsored medical cannabis incubator in Israel.<sup>3</sup> The company is now investing millions of shekels in a plan that calls for six companies with breakthrough technology in the medical cannabis field to be admitted into the incubator annually. The incubator is an audacious move by Israel's Ministry of Health and its Medical Cannabis Unit to give the country's medical cannabis industry a big boost and global competitive advantage. Indeed, medical cannabis has a very long history in Israel. For example, tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, the psychoactive compound in cannabis, was first isolated in 1964 by Israeli scientists Raphael Mechoulam of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem's Centre for Research on Pain, and Yechiel Gaoni of the Weizmann Institute.
- **GrowGeneration Corp (Nasdaq: GRWG) – Agriculture Tech & Supplies**  
GrowGeneration is the largest hydroponics player in North America.<sup>4</sup> The company is a leading marketer and distributor of nutrients, growing media, advanced indoor and greenhouse lighting, ventilation systems and accessories for hydroponic gardening. It owns a chain of 25 stores/service centres, including an online e-commerce store, and operates in 10 different states throughout the US and Canada. The company up-listed from the OTC market to the Nasdaq Stock Exchange in November 2019, which made it eligible for inclusion into our ETF.

<sup>1</sup> Little Green Pharma, "Organisations", March 2020. Available at: <https://www.littlegreenpharma.com/our-difference/organisation>

<sup>2</sup> Health Europa, "Little Green Pharma trades on ASX and signs cannabis supply agreement", February 2020. Available at: <https://www.healtheuropa.eu/little-green-pharma-trades-on-asx-and-signs-cannabis-supply-agreement/97952/>

<sup>3</sup> Health Europa, "World's first government supported medical cannabis in Israel", January 2020. Available at: <https://www.healtheuropa.eu/worlds-first-government-supported-medical-cannabis-incubator-in-israel/96444/>

<sup>4</sup> Seeking Alpha, "GrowGeneration: A High Potential 'Pick and Shovel' Play", October 2019. Available at: <https://seekingalpha.com/article/4297034-growgeneration-high-potential-pick-and-shovel-play-initiating>

## NEW RELEASE

**FLWR** is currently the cheapest Medical Cannabis ETF available in the European market, and, unlike its European competitors, provides investors with a *holistic* and *global* exposure to the medical cannabis investment opportunity.

*“FLWR offers European investors the chance to participate in the growth of biotech/pharmaceutical companies across the world, not just in North America, working on the development of new-form drugs derived from the cannabis plant. The market continues to expand rapidly, buoyed by the tailwinds of favourable legislation, social acceptance and medical recognition”* says **Rahul Bhushan, Co-Founder at Rize ETF**.

*“It is our view that an ETF tracking this exciting investment opportunity must remain dynamic and adaptive, and able to capture the companies that are strategically tilting their businesses to take advantage of the revenue-generating possibilities that cannabis offers. We ensure this level of responsiveness by virtue of the market intelligence and stock research offered by our specialist partners at New Frontier Data who power up this ETF”* says **David Barfoot, Head of UK, Ireland and Channel Islands at Rize ETF**.

FLWR is purpose-built by Rize ETF in collaboration with index provider Foxberry and cannabis market intelligence firm New Frontier Data. The ETF also adopts a multi-tiered due diligence process to ensure that companies are excluded from the ETF if they are either non-compliant with state and federal laws in the countries in which they operate and/or directly involved in the production and/or distribution of cannabis and/or cannabis-derived products containing more than hemp-defined levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) for the recreational consumer market. The methodology pursuant to which the exclusions are governed can be accessed at: <https://rizeetf.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Rize-Global-Medical-Cannabis-Exclusion-List-22-January-2020.pdf>

**Capital at Risk Warning: An investment in the Fund(s) involves risks, including illiquidity, lack of dividends, loss of investment and dilution, and it should be done only as part of a diversified portfolio. The Funds may be registered or otherwise approved for distribution to the public in one or more European jurisdictions. Investors should continue to consider the terms of investment in any Fund (or Share Class thereof) carefully and seek professional investment advice before taking any decision to invest in such Fund (or Share Class thereof).**

\* Ends \*

### **About Rize ETF**

Rize ETF was founded in 2019 by Rahul Bhushan, Stuart Forbes, Anthony Martin and Jason Kennard. The team of proven ETF experts bring 30 years of combined ETF experience, having previously built and managed the ETF platform for Legal & General Investment Management (LGIM) that was acquired from ETF Securities in March 2018.

The team specialises in thematic investing and collaborating with specialists in new sectors/themes to make them investable early. They launched Europe’s first Robotics ETF in 2014 and, the following year, Europe’s first Cybersecurity ETF – each of which has attracted assets of over £1bn.

The Rize ETF team sees itself as appealing to a new generation of investors that have global perspectives and a less siloed approach to investing. Its focus on thematic ETFs will allow it to accelerate the launch of timely, relevant and accessible investment products.

Further information is available at <https://rizeetf.com>

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