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## Patents in the food industry

Paul Severin



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In many people's opinion, green gene technology is the only option to solve the problem of food security. The seeds market is dominated by a handful of companies and this development has been exacerbated by the increase in patents on seeds and grains. This raises the question of whether the basic idea of patents, which are supposed to promote innovation and inventions, make sense in connection with food.

Find out more in our latest sustainability magazine [ERSTE RESPONSIBLE RETURN – The ESG-Letter](#)

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Paul Severin has worked at Erste Asset Management since April 2008. Until 2012 he was responsible for the company's product management; he has directed communications and PR activities since April 2012. From 1992 to 2008, he was director of equity fund management and deputy director for institutional funds at Pioneer Investments Austria in Vienna.

His career in the securities business began in 1992 at Constantia Privatbank as a portfolio manager and analyst. He worked as primary analyst at Creditanstalt Investmentbank in Vienna from 1994 to 1999.

He studied international business at Innsbruck University and Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, USA. Before his university studies, he worked at Dornbirner Sparkasse in letters of credit and export financing.

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