



SRP 3-minute Q&A: Marcel Tak, IFA, publicist, fund manager

Marc Wolterink, 20 February 2017

There are many ways to start a career in structured products, and a variety of different views of what are good products. In a series of interviews, SRP asks market practitioners to reveal their thoughts about the market and the path they have taken to become part of it.

Marcel Tak, independent financial adviser, financial publicist, and one of the fund managers of the Bufferfund investment fund, answers the questions.

What are the prospects in the Dutch market for the next 12 months?

There are a number of (foreign) parties who carefully try to make inroads in the Dutch market for notes and certificates. However, I do not expect a real recovery of the market where we would see a number of new emissions on a weekly basis.

What was your first job?

Policy adviser at the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment.

What subject did you study in higher education?

Macroeconomics, VU University, Amsterdam

Are structured products complex investments?

There are very simple products but also some products which are more complex. It is always necessary that the potential investor carefully looks at the precise product terms.

What is the main benefit of buying a structured products?

A structured product offers a change in the risk/return ratio of the underlying asset. The investors can choose exactly those products which fit in their vision and/or risk profile.

Do you buy structured products, if so, which type do you prefer?

Yes through participations in my own investment fund (Bufferfund) which invests in capped bonus certificates. These are products where you have a greater chance of a return, but, in return, you accept a maximisation on the return you can achieve.

Which is the best structured products market?

Germany. There is no doubt about that.

What's the best structured product you have ever seen?

A note on a basket of commodities, at the time when commodities recorded huge backwardation. 100% capital protection and 170% participation in the rise of the underlying basket of commodities.

Bicycle or taxi?

Train. Best means of transport ever.

“Comprehensive and insightful research. Extremely useful and a valuable source of information.”

Kevin Burke

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