



INVESTOR ALERT

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Did the Annual Shareholders' Meeting Remind You of a Bad Day at the Zoo?

A company's reputation hinges on every interaction in every situation. One very visible point of interaction is the annual shareholders meeting. An investor can begin to assess a company by the atmosphere at the annual meeting. Is the meeting characterized by behavior that is considerate and respectful? Is calm, deliberate and thoughtful discourse the norm? Do participants interact with appropriate etiquette? If not, then the meeting may resemble a zoo with a cacophony of noise, excessive control by bouncer-sized "zoo-keepers", and participants subjected to intimidation, arrogance, and discourtesy. (Add a few activists dressed in animal costumes and the metaphor is complete). If that is the case, it's time for the investor to escape from that zoo to the relative safety of the "jungle out there".