## MSCI<sup>®</sup> press release

## **EQUITY INDICES**

## MSCI DEVELOPING NEW US EQUITY INDICES FOR DOMESTIC INVESTORS

**Princeton, August 2, 2002.** MSCI, a leading provider of international equity, fixed income and hedge fund indices announced today that it is developing a new family of US equity indices for domestic investors. The new index series will reflect the full breadth of investment opportunities within the US equity markets by capitalization size, value/growth investment styles and sector groups. The new index family will be introduced in phases beginning in early 2003.

The new MSCI US equity indices will feature large, mid and small cap indices that aggregate into an investable market index. A micro cap index will also be developed that, in combination with the investable market index, will aggregate into a total market index. The benchmarks will define value and growth styles independently of each other using a new multi-factor approach, and sector indices will be calculated based on the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)<sup>SM</sup>. The new index methodology contains a number of innovations designed to offer investors a best of breed benchmark series covering the total US market. A summary of the methodology has been posted on MSCI's web site at www.msci.com.

"MSCI is developing this product in response to significant client demand for a US equity index series that features the disciplined approach to index methodology, data integrity and level of service that MSCI brings to international equity investors," said Henry Fernandez, President and CEO of MSCI. "Extensive consultations with investors indicate that the MSCI US equity index series will be welcomed by asset owners, consultants and asset managers as a valuable tool for asset allocation and portfolio performance measurement."

These new indices are designed with features that specifically address the concerns that investors have consistently voiced about existing US domestic benchmarks. Improvements include:

- Thorough and transparent index construction and maintenance methodology
- Eight different variables (three for value and five for growth) used to more accurately reflect value and growth styles
- Buffer zones that reduce index turnover caused by the temporary migration of securities from one size or style sub index to another

The addition of the new MSCI US equity index series to the existing family of MSCI International Equity Indices<sup>SM</sup> will allow US asset owners and investment managers to efficiently manage and allocate global equity portfolios using MSCI's domestic and international indices, all sharing common features such as:

- Free float-adjustment of constituent weights
- Consistent treatment of corporate events
- Consistent industry classification of US and international equity securities using the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)

More details regarding this new index series will be made available over the next several months.

For further information on MSCI indices or MSCI data, please visit our web site at www.msci.com or contact MSCI Client Services:

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