

# **MSCI Hedge Fund Indices Performance – August 2005**

New York, September 26, 2005. MSCI announced today its August 2005 performance figures for the MSCI Hedge Fund Indices<sup>SM</sup>. Below is a summary of performance data for selected indices.

				3 yr	3 yr	3 yr
	August	YTD	1 Year	Ann. Ret.	Std Dev.	Sharpe
MSCI Hedge Fund Composite Index - Equal Weighted <sup>SM</sup>	0.78%	3.78%	9.90%	9.07%	3.56%	2.04
MSCI Hedge Fund Composite Index - Asset Weighted <sup>sM</sup>	0.84%	3.78%	9.26%	8.72%	3.06%	2.26
Process Groups						
MSCI Directional Trading Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.79%	0.96%	7.68%	6.12%	6.79%	0.64
MSCI Relative Value Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.42%	0.98%	2.21%	4.48%	1.62%	1.65
MSCI Security Selection Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.94%	5.57%	13.42%	10.96%	5.14%	1.78
MSCI Specialist Credit Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.87%	5.39%	11.76%	15.36%	3.32%	4.08
MSCI Multi-Process Group Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.60%	4.68%	11.64%	11.30%	3.51%	2.70
Geography						
MSCI Hedge Fund Developed Markets Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.77%	3.55%	9.37%	8.50%	3.50%	1.91
MSCI Hedge Fund Emerging Markets Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.73%	6.93%	16.44%	16.85%	5.13%	2.94
MSCI Hedge Fund Global Markets Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.93%	3.89%	10.76%	9.82%	4.30%	1.87
MSCI Hedge Fund Europe Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.92%	6.81%	11.27%	6.17%	2.90%	1.51
MSCI Hedge Fund North America Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.65%	3.56%	10.25%	10.04%	4.14%	1.99
MSCI Hedge Fund Japan Index <sup>SM</sup>	3.02%	8.92%	6.95%	10.63%	6.17%	1.43
Size						
MSCI Hedge Fund Core Fund Composite Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.77%	4.11%	9.59%	8.44%	3.04%	2.18
MSCI Hedge Fund Small Fund Composite Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.79%	3.38%	10.00%	9.23%	3.92%	1.90
MSCI Hedge Invest Index <sup>†</sup>	0.56%	1.61%	5.12%	5.09%	2.76%	1.19
MSCI EQUITY AND FIXED INCOME INDICE	S					
MSCI World Equity Index <sup>SM</sup>	0.75%	3.55%	18.11%	14.84%	13.14%	0.99
MSCI World Sovereign Debt Index <sup>SM</sup>	1.81%	-3.22%	6.39%	9.08%	7.45%	0.98

Data is as of August 31, 2005. All hedge fund indices listed above are equal weighted unless noted otherwise.

<sup>†</sup> MSCI Hedge Invest Index: MTD returns are based upon performance from the last Tuesday in previous month until the last Tuesday in reported month. Pro forma historical performance data for the period before July 15, 2003, relies on significant assumptions, and is provided for illustration purposes only. As with all historical performance data, it may not be used to predict future characteristics or performance of the index or relied on in making any investment decisions.



For the month of August, the MSCI Hedge Fund Composite Index<sup>SM</sup>, an equal weighted index posted a gain of 0.78%. The MSCI World Equity Index<sup>SM</sup> and MSCI World Sovereign Debt Index<sup>SM</sup> posted gains of 0.75% and 1.81% respectively. The MSCI Hedge Fund Database has grown to over 2,300 hedge funds and more than 190 indices representing more than \$265 billion in assets. Over 95% of the funds in the database reported performance as of August's index calculation.

Among the process groups, the MSCI Security Selection Index<sup>SM</sup> posted the highest gain of 0.94% followed by the MSCI Specialist Credit Index<sup>SM</sup>, which gained 0.87%. The MSCI Relative Value Index<sup>SM</sup> posted the lowest return by posting a gain of 0.42%.

For August under the MSCI Directional Trading Index<sup>SM</sup>, the Discretionary Trading funds posted the highest gain of 1.06%, while Systematic Trading funds posted the lowest return of 0.55%. Within the MSCI Relative Value Index<sup>SM</sup>, the Convertible Arbitrage funds posted the highest return for the month by gaining 0.59%, while Statistical Arbitrage funds posted the highest return by gaining 4.04% year-to-date.

Under the MSCI Security Selection Index<sup>SM</sup>, the Short Bias funds posted the highest return for the month by gaining 1.80%, bringing the year-to-date gain to 5.22%. The Long Bias funds have the highest year-to-rate return of 6.08%. Within the MSCI Specialist Credit Index<sup>SM</sup>, the Distressed Securities funds gained 0.82% and 6.79% for the month and year-to-date respectively.

By geography, the MSCI Hedge Fund Japan Index<sup>SM</sup> posted the largest gain of 3.02% followed by the MSCI Hedge Fund Global Markets Index<sup>SM</sup> and the MSCI Hedge Fund Europe Index<sup>SM</sup>, which gained 0.93% and 0.92% respectively. In terms of year-to-date, the MSCI Hedge Fund Japan Index<sup>SM</sup> posted the highest gain of 8.92%. Note: MSCI Hedge Fund indices are hedged to remove the effect of currency on fund performance.

In terms of hedge fund size, the MSCI Hedge Fund Small<sup>1</sup> Fund Composite Index<sup>SM</sup> outperformed the MSCI Hedge Fund Core<sup>2</sup> Fund Composite Index<sup>SM</sup> by 0.02% for the month. In terms of risk-adjusted returns, the Core funds had higher Sharpe ratio of 2.18, while Small funds had a Sharpe ratio of 1.90.

Below is a brief description of the MSCI Hedge Fund Process Groups:

The **MSCI Directional Trading Index**<sup>SM</sup> - MSCI defines Directional Trading strategies as those based upon speculating on the direction of market prices of currencies, commodities, equities, and bonds in the futures and cash markets.

The **MSCI Relative Value Index**<sup>SM</sup> - Relative Value strategies focus on spread relationships between pricing components of financial assets or commodities.

The **MSCI Security Selection Index**<sup>SM</sup> - Security Selection managers combine long positions and short sales with the aim of benefiting from their ability in selecting investments while offsetting systematic market risks.

The MSCI Specialist Credit Index<sup>SM</sup> - Specialist Credit funds seek to lend to credit-sensitive issuers.

The **MSCI Multi-Process Group Index**<sup>SM</sup> - Multi-Process Group comprises funds that practice a strategy whereby a single investment process does not account for more than 80% of their risk capital.

Small Fund Composite Index comprises funds with assets greater than \$15mm but less than \$100mm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Core Fund Composite Index comprises funds with assets greater than \$100mm.

## **About MSCI Barra**

MSCI (www.msci.com) develops and maintains equity, REIT, fixed income, multi-asset class and hedge fund indices that serve as the benchmark for an estimated USD 3 trillion on a worldwide basis and owns Barra, Inc. ("Barra"). Barra analytics (www.barra.com) help the world's largest investors analyze, measure and manage portfolio and firm-wide investment risk. MSCI Barra is headquartered in New York, with research and commercial offices around the world. Morgan Stanley, a global financial services firm and a market leader in securities, asset management, and credit services, is the majority shareholder of MSCI, and Capital International Inc., part of the global investment management group of The Capital Group Companies, Inc., is the minority shareholder. MSCI Barra is a service mark of Morgan Stanley Capital International Inc. ("MSCI" or "MSCI Barra").

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