

MSCI Licenses Risk Premia Indices to BlackRock for 3 New iShares ETFs

New York – April 24, 2013 – [MSCI](#) Inc. (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, has announced that MSCI Risk Premia Indices are the basis for three new US listed ETFs launched by [BlackRock](#). BlackRock has licensed the MSCI USA Momentum, MSCI USA Risk Weighted and MSCI USA Value Weighted Indices for a new series of iShares MSCI Factor ETFs. MSCI Risk Premia Indices tilt to a specific factor – for example momentum, size or value – which historically has produced superior long-term risk adjusted returns relative to market cap weighted indices.

These new iShares MSCI Factor ETFs add to the twelve existing iShares ETFs listed globally that are based on the MSCI Minimum Volatility Indices, which also belong to the MSCI Risk Premia Index family. ETF assets benchmarked to the MSCI Minimum Volatility Indices have grown significantly year-over-year, from USD358 million as of March 31, 2012 to USD6.5 billion as of April 15, 2013.

This is the latest in a series of ETF products indexed to MSCI that have launched recently. So far this month, over a third of the total ETFs introduced into the global market have been based on MSCI indices.

Diana Tidd, Managing Director and Head of the MSCI Index Business in the Americas, said, “We continue to see high demand for MSCI indices as the basis for ETFs. This latest agreement with BlackRock is further confirmation of this trend.”

“BlackRock selected the MSCI Risk Premia Indices because of their optimal design and to provide investors with broad, diversified equity market exposure,” said Patrick Dunne, Head of iShares Global Markets and Investments.

For more information: [MSCI Risk Premia Indices Overview](#).

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About MSCI

MSCI Inc. is a leading provider of investment decision support tools to investors globally, including asset managers, banks, hedge funds and pension funds. MSCI products and services include indices, portfolio risk and performance analytics, and governance tools.

The company's flagship product offerings are: the MSCI indices with close to USD 7 trillion estimated to be benchmarked to them on a worldwide basis¹; Barra multi-asset class factor models, portfolio risk and performance analytics; RiskMetrics multi-asset class market and credit risk analytics; IPD real estate information, indices and analytics; MSCI ESG (environmental, social and governance) Research screening, analysis and ratings; ISS governance research and outsourced proxy voting and reporting services; and FEA valuation models and risk management software for the energy and commodities markets. MSCI is headquartered in New York, with research and commercial offices around the world.

¹As of September 30, 2012, as published by eVestment, Lipper and Bloomberg on January 31, 2013

For further information on MSCI, please visit our web site at www.msci.com

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