

MSCI Launches New Multi-Factor Indexes

New York – December 3, 2013 – [MSCI](#) Inc. (NYSE: MSCI) today announced the launch of the [MSCI Multi-Factor Indexes](#). This innovation offers institutional investors a basis for passively implementing index-linked multi-factor strategies transparently and cost-effectively.

MSCI Multi-Factor Indexes are available in standard combinations provided by MSCI or as a custom mix created by the client. Both approaches can be based on underlying flagship indexes such as [MSCI EAFE](#), [MSCI ACWI](#), [MSCI World](#) and [MSCI Emerging Markets](#). MSCI offers investors insight for dynamically managing their custom Multi-Factor Index through a new analytical tool called IndexMetrics.

“Combining factor indexes makes sense from a diversification standpoint,” said Remy Briand, Head of MSCI Index Research. “Factor returns have historically been quite cyclical, with some factors underperforming the market cap-weighted benchmark for several years in a row. Combining factors has historically yielded a smoother ride over time.”

Equity factor investing was pioneered in the 1970s based on research, data and analytics created by Barra – today an MSCI company. In recent years, MSCI has developed a range of indexes that provide institutional investors with a basis for implementing a transparent and efficient passive approach to seek the excess returns historically obtained through active factor investing. In 2008, MSCI introduced the industry’s first Minimum Volatility Index. Today, more than USD 60 billion in assets are benchmarked to MSCI Factor Indexes¹.

Alain Dubois, Head of Index Product Development for MSCI, said, “MSCI is the first index provider to give institutional investors tools that provide an easy way to analyze and adjust their allocations among factor indexes when their views of the market change. We are essentially providing them with the flexibility to actively manage their passive factor portfolios.”

Briand added, “Factor indexes should not be viewed as replacements for market capitalization weighted indexes. Market cap indexes represent broad and neutral market exposure. They also aim to minimize turnover and are macro consistent. They are complementary to factor indexes and can be used for benchmarking the performance of factor strategies.”

MSCI has published a series of research papers that describe the financial science behind factor-based investing and the effects of diversifying across multiple factors, as well as explaining various use cases for factor indexes by institutional investors considering factor allocations.

- [Foundations of Factor Investing](#)
- [Deploying Multi-Factor Index Allocations in Institutional Portfolios](#)
- [MSCI Index Metrics - An Analytical Framework for Factor Investing](#)

For more information about MSCI Multi-Factor Indexes and the full range of MSCI Factor Indexes, visit www.msci.com/factorindexes.

¹ As of June 30, 2013 according to eVestment, Lipper and Bloomberg

-Ends-

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 approximately USD 7.5 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 corporate governance research, data 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 March 31, 2013, as reported on July 31, 2013 by eVestment, Lipper and Bloomberg

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

Media Enquiries:

Kristin Meza, MSCI, New York	+ 1.212.804.5330
Jo Morgan, MSCI, London	+ 44.20.7618.2224
Sally Todd Christian Pickel, MHP Communications, London	+ 44.20.3128.8515

MSCI Global Client Service:

EMEA Client Service	+ 44.20.7618.2222
Americas Client Service	1.888.588.4567 (toll free)/+ 1.212.804.3901
Asia Pacific Client Service	+ 852.2844.9333

This document and all of the information contained in it, including without limitation all text, data, graphs, charts (collectively, the “Information”) is the property of MSCI Inc. or its subsidiaries (collectively, “MSCI”), or MSCI’s licensors, direct or indirect suppliers or any third party involved in making or compiling any Information (collectively, with MSCI, the “Information Providers”) and is provided for informational purposes only. The Information may not be reproduced or disseminated in whole or in part without prior written permission from MSCI.

The Information may not be used to create derivative works or to verify or correct other data or information. For example (but without limitation), the Information may not be used to create indices, databases, risk models, analytics, software, or in connection with the issuing, offering, sponsoring, managing or marketing of any securities, portfolios, financial products or other investment vehicles utilizing or based on, linked to, tracking or otherwise derived from the Information or any other MSCI data, information, products or services.

The user of the Information assumes the entire risk of any use it may make or permit to be made of the Information. NONE OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDERS MAKES ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE INFORMATION (OR THE RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY THE USE THEREOF), AND TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, EACH INFORMATION PROVIDER EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF ORIGINALITY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS, NON-INFRINGEMENT, COMPLETENESS, MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE) WITH RESPECT TO ANY OF THE INFORMATION.

Without limiting any of the foregoing and to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, in no event shall any Information Provider have any liability regarding any of the Information for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential (including lost profits) or any other damages even if notified of the possibility of such damages. The foregoing shall not exclude or limit any liability that may not by applicable law be excluded or limited, including without limitation (as applicable), any liability for death or personal injury to the extent that such injury results from the negligence or willful default of itself, its servants, agents or sub-contractors.

Information containing any historical information, data or analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

None of the Information constitutes an offer to sell (or a solicitation of an offer to buy), any security, financial product or other investment vehicle or any trading strategy.

You cannot invest in an index. MSCI does not issue, sponsor, endorse, market, offer, review or otherwise express any opinion regarding any investment or financial product that may be based on or linked to the performance of any MSCI index.

MSCI’s indirect wholly-owned subsidiary Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. (“ISS”) is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Except with respect to any applicable products or services from ISS (including applicable products or services from MSCI ESG Research, which are provided by ISS), neither MSCI nor any of its products or services recommends, endorses, approves or otherwise expresses any opinion regarding any issuer, securities, financial products or instruments or trading strategies and neither MSCI nor any of its products or services is intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such.

The MSCI ESG Indices use ratings and other data, analysis and information from MSCI ESG Research. MSCI ESG Research is produced by ISS or its subsidiaries. Issuers mentioned or included in any MSCI ESG Research materials may be a client of MSCI, ISS, or another MSCI subsidiary, or the parent of, or affiliated with, a client of MSCI, ISS, or another MSCI subsidiary, including ISS Corporate Services, Inc., which provides tools and services to issuers. MSCI ESG Research materials, including materials utilized in any MSCI ESG Indices or other products, have not been submitted to, nor received approval from, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory body.

Any use of or access to products, services or information of MSCI requires a license from MSCI. MSCI, Barra, RiskMetrics, IPD, ISS, FEA, InvestorForce, and other MSCI brands and product names are the trademarks, service marks, or registered trademarks of MSCI or its subsidiaries in the United States and other jurisdictions. The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) was developed by and is the exclusive property of MSCI and Standard & Poor’s. “Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)” is a service mark of MSCI and Standard & Poor’s.