



MSCI Launches ESG Indices

London - September 7, 2010 - MSCI Inc. (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, including indices, portfolio risk and performance analytics and corporate governance services, announced today the launch of a family of MSCI ESG Indices. With over 40 years of expertise in index construction and maintenance, MSCI aims to set new standards for ESG indices — allowing clients to more effectively benchmark their ESG investment performance, issue index-linked ESG investment products, as well as manage, measure and report on their compliance with ESG mandates.

The indices are designed to respond to clients' needs for ESG indices in three main areas:

- ESG “best-of-class” indices, such as the MSCI World ESG Index, that are designed to include eligible companies with high ESG ratings compared to their sector or industry group peers;
- Values-based indices, such as the MSCI KLD 400 Social Index, for use by investors wishing to invest in accordance with specific values or ethical beliefs; and
- Environmental indices, such as the MSCI Global Environment Index, for use by investors seeking focused exposure to specific environmental themes such as alternative energy or clean technology.

Additionally, MSCI calculates custom ESG indices using unique ESG requirements specified by clients.

“MSCI’s clients worldwide, especially those who are signatories to the United Nation’s Principles for Responsible Investing (UNPRI), are increasingly focused on ESG issues. ESG factors help assess externalities that can impact an entire portfolio,” said Remy Briand, Head of MSCI Index and ESG Research. “A growing number of asset managers are now subject to ESG-related mandates that will shape their strategies going forward. We are committed to providing innovative tools to support our clients in this expanding market.”

MSCI ESG Indices utilize research from MSCI’s in-house ESG Research business unit—unique among major index providers. Built upon the expertise of sustainability pioneers KLD, Innovest and IRRC, MSCI ESG Research is a leading source of ESG ratings, screening and compliance tools to advisers, managers and asset owners worldwide.

MSCI ESG Indices combine the widely-accepted MSCI Global Investable Market Indices Methodology with ratings and analysis from the MSCI ESG Research group. “The MSCI World ESG Index, based on the MSCI World Index, brings together a unique combination of MSCI’s index expertise with the deep ESG research insight that MSCI acquired through its recent acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc.,” said Thomas Kuh, Business Manager of the MSCI ESG Indices. “We expect these indices will hasten the development of consistent and reliable ESG standards for the market.”

For more information on the MSCI ESG Indices: www.msci.com/esg_indices

MSCI ESG Best-of-Class Indices

- MSCI World ESG Index
- MSCI World exUSA ESG Index
- MSCI EAFE ESG Index

MSCI North America ESG Index
MSCI Europe ESG Index
MSCI Pacific ESG Index
MSCI USA ESG Index
MSCI USA Large Cap ESG Index
MSCI USA Mid Cap ESG Index
MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Index
MSCI USA SMID ESG Index
MSCI USA IMI ESG Index
MSCI USA Broad ESG Index
MSCI USA ESG Select Index

MSCI Values-based Indices

MSCI KLD 400 Social Index
MSCI USA Catholic Values Index

MSCI Environmental Indices

MSCI Global Environment Index
MSCI Global Alternative Energy Index
MSCI Global Clean Technology Index
MSCI Global Sustainable Water Index
MSCI Global Green Building Index
MSCI Global Pollution Prevention Index
MSCI Global Climate Index

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About MSCI Inc.

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 which include over 120,000 daily indices covering more than 70 countries; Barra portfolio risk and performance analytics covering global equity and fixed income markets; RiskMetrics market and credit risk analytics; ISS governance research and outsourced proxy voting and reporting services; FEA valuation models and risk management software for the energy and commodities markets; and CFRA forensic accounting risk research, legal/regulatory risk assessment, and due-diligence. MSCI is headquartered in New York, with research and commercial offices around the world.

Certain products and services of MSCI ESG Research, including products and services utilized in MSCI ESG Indices, are provided by Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. ("ISS") and/or KLD Research & Analytics, Inc. ("KLD"), which are both indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of MSCI.

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

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