

## **Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®)**

**Energy Sector:** The Energy Sector comprises companies engaged in exploration & production, refining & marketing and storage & transportation of oil & gas and coal & consumable fuels. It also includes companies that offer oil & gas equipment and services.

**Materials Sector:** The Materials Sector includes companies that manufacture chemicals, construction materials, glass, paper, forest products and related packaging products, and metals, minerals and mining companies, including producers of steel.

**Industrials Sector** – The Industrials Sector includes manufacturers and distributors of capital goods such as aerospace & defense, building products, electrical equipment and machinery and companies that offer construction & engineering services. It also includes providers of commercial & professional services including printing, environmental and facilities services, office services & supplies, security & alarm services, human resource & employment services, research & consulting services. It also includes companies that provide transportation services.

**Consumer Discretionary Sector:** The Consumer Discretionary Sector encompasses those businesses that tend to be the most sensitive to economic cycles. Its manufacturing segment includes automotive, household durable goods, leisure equipment and textiles & apparel. The services segment includes hotels, restaurants and other leisure facilities, media production and services, and consumer retailing and services.

**Consumer Staples Sector:** The Consumer Staples Sector comprises companies whose businesses are less sensitive to economic cycles. It includes manufacturers and distributors of food, beverages and tobacco and producers of non-durable household goods and personal products. It also includes food & drug retailing companies as well as hypermarkets and consumer super centers.

**Health Care Sector:** The Health Care Sector includes health care providers & services, companies that manufacture and distribute health care equipments & supplies and health care technology companies. It also includes companies involved in the research, development, production and marketing of pharmaceuticals and biotechnology products.

**Financials Sector** – The Financials Sector contains companies involved in banking, thrifts & mortgage finance, specialized finance, consumer finance, asset management and custody banks, investment banking and brokerage and insurance. This Sector also includes real estate companies and REITs.

**Information Technology Sector** – The Information Technology Sector comprises companies that offer software and information technology services, manufacturers and distributors of technology hardware & equipments such as communications equipment, cellular phones, computers & peripherals, electronic equipment and related instruments and semiconductors.

**Telecommunication Services Sector:** The Telecommunication Services Sector contains companies that provide communications services primarily through a fixed-line, cellular or wireless, high bandwidth and/or fiber optic cable network.

**Utilities Sector:** The Utilities Sector comprises utility companies such as electric, gas and water utilities. It also includes independent power producers & energy traders and companies that engage in generation and distribution of electricity using renewable sources.