



# press release

## RIXML.ORG ADOPTS GLOBAL INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION STANDARD (GICS)<sup>SM</sup> DEVELOPED JOINTLY BY MSCI AND S&P

New York, April 4, 2001. RIXML.org has adopted the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)<sup>SM</sup>, developed jointly by MSCI and Standard & Poor's. The RIXML standard will provide a structure for classifying investment research in a way that will enable consumers of research to define specific sorting, filtering, and personalization criteria across all research publishers. The GICS will be utilized within the RIXML standard for classifying and retrieving research by industry classification.

"We commend RIXML.org and their members for their efforts in creating a standard for the electronic exchange of investment research," said Henry Fernandez, President and CEO of MSCI. "MSCI and Standard & Poor's are honored to be part of RIXML.org's efforts to define standards for the investment research community."

"Standard & Poor's and MSCI's joint efforts to create an industry standard are further bolstered by the support of the RIXML.org consortium," said Jim Branscome, Managing Director of Standard & Poor's Investment Analysis. "We fully support the efforts of the investment community in working together to develop open, global standards for delivery of investment research, and are gratified that they have chosen GICS as the industry standard."

### About RIXML.org

RIXML.org is a consortium of buy- and sell-side financial industry leaders who joined forces to develop RIXML (Research Information Exchange Markup Language), an open, global standard for the tagging and delivery of investment research. On March 26, 2001 RIXML.org announced that version 1.0 of the RIXML specification is now available for comment. For more information about the RIXML specification and RIXML.org, please visit the web site at [www.rixml.org](http://www.rixml.org).

### About the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)

In August of 1999, MSCI, a premier provider of global indices and benchmark related products and services, and S&P, a leading global provider of financial information and index services, collaborated on the development of GICS. GICS is designed to facilitate the investment research and investment management process for financial professionals worldwide. The GICS classification facilitates industry analysis by classifying companies at four different levels – sectors, industry groups, industries and sub-industries. Due to the global nature and flexibility of GICS, the GICS industry classification has become widely adopted throughout the industry. For a detailed description of the classification standard, please refer to the MSCI web site at [www.msci.com](http://www.msci.com) or the S&P web site at [www.spglobal.com](http://www.spglobal.com).

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MSCI is a leading provider of global indices and benchmark related products and services to investors worldwide. Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co., a global financial services firm and a market leader in securities, asset management, and credit services, is the majority shareholder of MSCI, and The Capital Group Companies, Inc., a global investment management group, is the minority shareholder.

Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies (NYSE: MHP), provides independent financial information, analytic services and credit ratings to the world's financial markets. With more than 4000 employees in 21 countries, Standard & Poor's is an integral part of the global financial infrastructure.

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