

MSCI[®]

news and information

EQUITY INDICES

MSCI EAFE INDEX FORMS BASIS OF EFA OPTIONS

New York, September 23, 2002. MSCI announced today that it has entered into a non-exclusive agreement with the Chicago Board Options Exchange (“CBOE”) which grants CBOE the right to use the MSCI EAFE[®] Index to market and trade options on the iShares MSCI EAFE Exchange Traded Fund (“EFA Options”). On September 25, 2002 CBOE will list the EFA options.

The MSCI EAFE Index, created in 1969, is widely recognized as the preeminent benchmark in the United States for measuring international stock market performance¹. It comprises 21 MSCI country indices, representing the developed markets outside of North America in Europe, Australasia and the Far East. The iShares MSCI EAFE Exchange Traded Fund has been one of the fastest growing exchange traded funds (ETF) since its introduction in August 2001, and has by far the most assets under management of any internationally-focused ETF. The iShares MSCI EAFE Exchange Traded Fund is designed to track the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index.

Henry Fernandez, President and CEO of MSCI said, "We are delighted to have licensed our MSCI EAFE Index to the CBOE in connection with the listing of options on the iShares MSCI EAFE Exchange Traded Fund. Since its launch by BGI, the iShares MSCI EAFE Exchange Traded Fund has been an outstanding success. The options offer another investment tool for US equity investors, who overwhelmingly use the MSCI EAFE Index as their international equity benchmark."

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¹ Pensions and Investment Magazine Survey, July 2000.



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