# MSCI press release

#### **HEDGE FUND INDICES**

### $MSCI\ Hedge\ Fund\ Indices\ Performance-October\ 2003$

**New York, November 25, 2003** MSCI announced today its October 2003 performance figures for the MSCI Hedge Fund Indices<sup>SM</sup>. Below is a summary of performance data for selected indices.

#### **MSCI HEDGE FUND INDICES**

	Oct-03	YTD	1 Year	2002	3 Year Ann. Ret.	3 yr Std Dev	3 yr Sharpe
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MSCI Hedge Fund Composite Index SM - Equal Weighted	1.94%	11.82%	14.03%	2.55%	7.99%	3.40%	1.72
MSCI Hedge Fund Composite Index <sup>SM</sup> - Asset Weighted	1.86%	10.71%	13.08%	3.09%	7.35%	2.90%	1.79
Process Groups							
MSCI Directional Trading Index	1.50%	7.93%	11.11%	11.02%	12.43%	8.31%	1.24
MSCI Relative Value Index SM	0.84%	5.79%	7.62%	6.16%	6.64%	1.47%	3.05
MSCI Security Selection Index <sup>SM</sup>	2.75%	15.36%	16.83%	-2.61%	5.96%	6.15%	0.62
MSCI Specialist Credit Index <sup>SM</sup>	1.89%	18.75%	23.30%	4.82%	12.53%	4.18%	2.48
MSCI Multi-Process Group Index <sup>SM</sup>	1.88%	14.89%	17.52%	0.91%	9.31%	4.24%	1.69
Asset Class							
MSCI Hedge Fund Equity Index <sup>SM</sup>	2.26%	12.41%	13.76%	-1.41%	5.41%	4.84%	0.67
MSCI Hedge Fund Fixed Income Index <sup>SM</sup>	1.41%	13.80%	16.58%	7.07%	11.75%	2.35%	4.08
MSCI Hedge Fund Diversified Index <sup>SM</sup>	1.64%	9.99%	13.23%	9.16%	12.65%	5.94%	1.77
Geography							
MSCI Hedge Fund Developed Markets Index sm	1.86%	10.95%	13.18%	2.42%	7.61%	3.30%	1.65
MSCI Hedge Fund Emerging Markets Index <sup>SM</sup>	2.90%	20.45%	22.60%	5.38%	11.53%	6.87%	1.37
MSCI Hedge Fund Global Markets Index SM	2.24%	15.92%	17.86%	2.26%	9.85%	4.01%	1.92
MSCI Hedge Fund Europe Index SM	1.34%	5.25%	5.18%	-1.17%	2.61%	2.42%	0.19
MSCI Hedge Fund North America Index <sup>SM</sup>	2.13%	13.44%	16.11%	-0.17%	6.70%	4.88%	0.93
MSCI Hedge Fund Japan Index <sup>SM</sup>	3.51%	18.81%	18.43%	7.38%	11.99%	4.50%	
Domicile							
MSCI Offshore Hedge Fund Composite Index SM	1.55%	9.76%	11.64%	2.97%	7.38%	2.45%	2.13
MSCI Onshore Hedge Fund Composite Index	2.11%	13.03%	15.51%	1.30%	7.52%	4.46%	
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MSCI EQUITY AND FIXED INCOME INDICES							
MSCI World Equity Index SM	5.83%	21.52%		-21.06%	-9.11%	17.55%	
MSCI World Sovereign Debt Index 3m	-0.47%	8.82%	14.40%	19.59%	10.72%	7.78%	N/A

Data as of October 31, 2003. All hedge fund indices listed above are equal weighted and are expressed in US dollars unless noted otherwise.

## MSCI press release (continued)

The equal weighted MSCI Hedge Fund Composite Index<sup>SM</sup> posted a 1.94% return for the month of October, underperforming the MSCI World Equity Index<sup>SM</sup> which gained 5.83% and outperforming the MSCI World Sovereign Debt Index<sup>SM</sup> which fell 0.47%. The MSCI Hedge Fund Database has grown to over 1,650 hedge funds. More than 99% of the funds in the database reported performance as of October's index calculation. The MSCI Hedge Fund Indices are composed of more than 190 indices representing more than \$175 billion in assets. As previously announced, MSCI has changed its method of calculating currency conversion for the MSCI Hedge Fund Indices. The performance of index constituent funds that are not denominated in US dollars will be converted into US dollars in a manner that presumes the currency risk to be fully hedged. As a result, the historical indices may change based on this new methodological approach.

Security Selection was the best performer in October with a 2.75% gain, bringing its year to date return to 15.36%. As equity markets climbed in October, Long Bias was the best performing investment process within Security Selection posting a 3.86% gain bringing its year to date return to 22.15%. In contrast, Short Bias lost 3.95% relative to a rising equity market. By market cap focus, Security Selection Small Cap funds gained 4.88% outperforming Security Selection Mid and Large Cap funds which returned 1.94%. This small cap outperformance is consistent with the performance of the relevant U.S. equity market indices. The MSCI U.S. Small Cap 1750 Index gained 8.13% in October while the MSCI U.S. Prime Market 750 Index, comprised of mid-to-large cap stocks, gained 5.72%. The overall MSCI U.S. Investable Market 2500 Index rose 5.97% and the MSCI Hedge Fund Equity Index SM gained 2.26% in October.

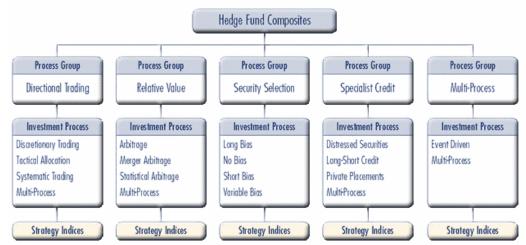
Directional Trading gained 1.50% in October bringing its year to date return to 7.93%. Directional Trading funds have the highest three year standard deviation at 8.31%, mostly driven by Systematic Trading funds with a 13.01% three year standard deviation. Relative Value funds have continued to perform consistently with a low three year standard deviation of 1.47%, lower than any other process group. Relative Value has the highest three year Sharpe ratio of 3.05.

By geography, funds focusing on Japan gained 3.51% outperforming funds investing in North America and Europe which gained 2.13% and 1.34%, respectively. The MSCI Hedge Fund Emerging Market Index<sup>SM</sup> gained 2.90% outperforming the MSCI Hedge Fund Developed Market Index<sup>SM</sup>, which gained 1.86%. This is consistent with the equity markets as EMF gained 8.30% and World Equity gained 5.83%.

MSCI defines Directional Trading strategies as those based upon speculating on the direction of market prices of currencies, commodities, equities, and bonds in the futures and cash markets. Relative Value strategies focus on spread relationships between pricing components of financial assets or commodities. Security Selection managers combine long positions and short sales with the aim of benefiting from their ability in selecting investments while offsetting systematic market risks. Specialist Credit funds seek to lend to credit-sensitive issuers. The Multi-Process group comprises funds which practice a strategy whereby a single investment process does not account for more than 80% of their risk capital.

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#### **MSCI Hedge Fund Indices – Index Structure**



For further information on MSCI indices or MSCI data, please visit our web site at www.msci.com or contact:

 Dorsey Horowitz, MSCI, New York
 + 1 212 762 5790

 Adrian Franken, MSCI, London
 + 44 20 7425 6660

 Jammy Chan, MSCI, Hong Kong
 + 852 2848 6740

 Olivia Vong, MSCI, Tokyo
 + 813 5424 5470

Daniel Guthrie/Beany McLean, Luther Pendragon, London

+ 44 20 7618 9100

Ed Rowley/Kayt Makosy, Abernathy MacGregor, New York

+ 1 212 371 5999

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