



Media Information

FTSE Group launches European Sector Indices with iShares ETFs

London, 14 November 2002: - FTSE Group, the global index company, today announces the launch of the new FTSE European Sector Index Series, a set of eight tradable indices designed to allow fast and efficient trading for investors worldwide. The indices will go live on November 18th 2002 with Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) issued by iShares, the world's leading ETF provider, managed by Barclays Global Investors (BGI).

With the addition of more tradable indices to FTSE's growing product portfolio, FTSE is rapidly expanding its reach in the ETF market. There are now 26 ETFs listed on FTSE's European indices, with almost €800 million of assets under management. The development of the FTSE European Sector Index Series follows on from the successful launch of the FTSE Global Sector Index Series in February 2001.

The new index series covers eight of the most traded sectors, developed in response to the increasing trend towards sector-based investment. The FTSE European Sector Index Series provides investors with indices that have highly liquid constituents and low turnover. It is expected that additional products will be launched on the index series in the near future.

Mark Makepeace, Chief Executive, FTSE Group said today: "With the addition of iShares on the new FTSE European Sector Index Series, FTSE is making a considerable step

forward in the ETF market. FTSE has worked extensively with the market to create a set of indices that we are confident will fulfil the growing needs of today's investors."

John Demaine, Director of iShares commented: "FTSE Group is one of the most established and successful global index providers. Our European iShares will benefit from being aligned to such a widely benchmarked index provider as FTSE."

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Notes to Editors

About FTSE

FTSE Group is a world-leader in the creation and management of indices. With offices in London, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Madrid, Paris, New York and San Francisco, FTSE Group services clients in 77 countries worldwide. It manages and develops globally recognised indices ranging from the FTSE All-World Index to the FTSE 100, the FTSE4Good indices and the recently launched FTSE Global Style Index Series. The company has collaborative arrangements with the Athens, Cyprus, Euronext, Johannesburg, London, Luxembourg, and Madrid exchanges, as well as with Nikkei of Japan (Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc) and Xinhua Financial Network of China.

FTSE indices are used extensively by investors world-wide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation, portfolio hedging and for creating a wide range of index tracking funds. Independent committees of senior fund managers, derivatives experts, actuaries and other experienced practitioners review all changes to the indices to ensure that they are made objectively and without bias. Real-time FTSE indices are calculated on systems managed by Reuters. Prices and FX rates used are supplied by Reuters.