



London
STOCK EXCHANGE



Joint News Release

24 October 2006

FTSE GROUP AND LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE LAUNCH NEW RUSSIAN INDEX

FTSE Group, the award winning global index provider, in conjunction with the London Stock Exchange today announced details of a new index covering Russian securities trading on the Exchange's International Order Book (IOB). The FTSE Russian IOB Index is a market capitalisation weighted index designed to measure the performance of the ten biggest and most liquid Russian Depository Receipts on a real time basis.

The introduction of the index reflects growing institutional demand for exposure to one of the largest and fastest growing markets in the world, while the IOB eases the problems and inefficiencies normally associated with investment in developing markets. The index will be suitable for the creation of new financial products.

Martin Graham, Director of Markets at the London Stock Exchange, said:

“With Gazprom, one of the leading constituents of the new index, now reaching its tenth year of listing on the Exchange, Russian Depository Receipts on the IOB have become a mature and liquid market. Trading in Russian IOB securities so far this year has reached \$164.2 billion, an increase of over 200 per cent on the value traded during the same period last year. The FTSE Russia IOB index will provide the growing pool of IOB participants with more sophisticated benchmarking to manage their investments. ”

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Paul Grimes, Chief Operating Officer, FTSE Group, said:

“FTSE is committed to offering investors a complete suite of index products to measure and analyse all facets of the investment landscape. The introduction of the index reflects growing interest in the Russian Depository Receipt market on the IOB.”

Calculation of the FTSE Russia IOB Series started on 23 October, in US dollars. The index constituents at launch are; OAO Gazprom, Lukoil (OAO), Surgutneftegaz, MMC Norilsk Nickel, Unified Energy Systems of Russia, OJSC OC Rosneft, OAO Novatek, Sistema JFSC, OJSC Novolipetsk Steel and Evraz group. All Russian DRs trading on the International Order Book will be eligible for inclusion in the FTSE Russia IOB Index. Full index details and ground rules are available at www.ftse.com/iob.

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Notes to editors:

About FTSE Group:

FTSE Group is a world-leader in the creation and management of indices. With offices in Beijing, London, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Madrid, Paris, New York, San Francisco, Boston, Shanghai and Tokyo, FTSE Group services clients in 77 countries worldwide. It calculates and manages the FTSE Global Equity Index Series, which includes world-recognized indices

ranging from the FTSE All-World Index, the FTSE4Good series and the FTSEurofirst Index series, as well as domestic indices such as the prestigious FTSE 100. The company has collaborative arrangements with the Athens, AMEX, Cyprus, Euronext, Johannesburg, London, Madrid, NASDAQ and Taiwan exchanges, as well as Nomura Securities and Xinhua Finance of China. FTSE also has a collaborative agreement with Dow Jones Indices and has developed a single sector classification system for global investors.

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.

About the London Stock Exchange:

The London Stock Exchange is the world's premier international equity exchange and a leading provider of services that facilitate the raising of capital and the trading of shares.

The London Stock Exchange is the most international equities exchange by trading in the world and Europe's largest pool of liquidity. By the end of 2005, the market capitalisation of UK and international companies on the London Stock Exchange's markets amounted to £4.1 trillion, with £5.2 trillion of equity business transacted over the year.

The London Stock Exchange is a Recognised Investment Exchange (RIE) under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and is supervised by the Financial Services Authority.

About Depositary Receipts:

Depositary Receipts (DRs) are negotiable certificates which represent ownership of a given number of a company's shares and can be listed and traded independently from the underlying shares. There are a number of forms of DRs including American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), Global Depositary Receipts (GDRs) both of which can be listed in London.

About the IOB:

The IOB is the Exchange's order book for the trading of international Depositary Receipts, negotiable certificates which represent ownership of a given number of a company's shares and can be listed and traded independently from the underlying shares.