
ICB Global Classification System adopted by The Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP)

Sydney, Tokyo, Hong Kong, London, New York – 13 September 2011: FTSE Group (“FTSE”), the award winning global index provider, today announces that renowned Chicago-based academic institution – Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP) – has chosen the Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB) as their preferred classification system.

Located in Chicago, the Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP) forms an integral part of the Booth School of Business, celebrated for its cutting-edge financial and economic research. With comprehensive coverage, ICB forms a robust and independent research tool, offering a consistent standard across analysis, stock selection and performance measurement. CRSP will be using ICB, in future stock market research, financial analysis and within their comprehensive database.

ICB forms the definitive global classification standard adopted by the international investment community, from global index providers, to financial media, fund managers and leading stock exchanges, which together represent over 65% of the world’s market capitalisation. Forming an independent investment tool, ICB is suitable for use in a range of practices from benchmarking to performance measurement and research/analysis.

The transparent and comprehensive classification system enables categorisation of individual securities across four levels of granularity; Industry, Supersectors, Sectors and Subsectors. Covering a universe of 75,000 stocks across 73 countries, the leading system offers extensive geographic reach in one single data source.

“CRSP is developing a family of investable indexes and related research products which include market-cap, value/growth and industry sector indexes,” stated David Barclay, CRSP Chief Operating Officer. “We are very pleased to include FTSE’s ICB structure in this effort. Its unique balance of broad categorisation and granular information is highly regarded by our academic and commercial clients.”

Sudir Raju, Managing Director for ICB at FTSE said of the announcement "We are pleased to licence CRSP with ICB. Their academic research is referenced by leading financial institutions around the world. The addition of ICB will provide CRSP with a definitive global classification system for use across their research and database requirements."

-Ends-

More information, please contact:

Hong Kong

Emily Mok, Tel: +852 2164 3333 or email media@ftse.com

London

Eoin Bedford, Tel: +44 20 7866 1821 or email media@ftse.com

New York

Jill Mathers/Laurel Manning Tel: +1 212-314-1141 or email media@ftse.com

Sydney

Natalie Brooke, Tel: +61 2 92 93 2867 or email media@ftse.com

Tokyo

Stewart Ueno/Kentaro Kamei, Tel: +81 3 35 81 3444 or email media@ftse.com

Notes to Editors

About FTSE Group

FTSE Group (FTSE) is a world-leader in the provision of global index and analytical solutions. FTSE calculates indices across a wide range of asset classes, on both a standard and custom basis. FTSE indices are used extensively by investors worldwide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation, portfolio hedging and the creation of a wide range of index derivatives, funds, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), and other structured products.

FTSE has built an enviable reputation for the reliability and accuracy of our indices and related data services. FTSE has a long tradition of listening and responding to the market so that it is at the forefront of developing new approaches to index design, many of which are now accepted as the market standard. FTSE prides itself in continuing to invest significant resource in researching and developing new index solutions.

The foundation for FTSE's global, regional, country and sector indices is the FTSE global equity universe, which covers over 8,000 securities in 48 different countries and captures 98% of the world's investable market capitalization. FTSE's flagship global benchmark, the FTSE All-World, is used by investors worldwide to structure and benchmark their international equity portfolios.

Exchanges around the world have chosen FTSE to calculate their domestic indices. These include ATHEX, Bolsas y Mercados Españoles, Borsa Italiana, Bursa Malaysia, Casablanca SE, Cyprus Stock Exchange, IDX, JSE, LSE, NASDAQ Dubai, NYSE Euronext, PSE, SGX, Stock Exchange of Thailand and TWSE. In addition, FTSE works with a variety of companies and associations to deliver innovative index solutions which provide the market with fresh opportunities.

About CRSP

The [Center for Research in Security Prices](#) (CRSP) is the recognized leading provider of research-quality, historical market data and returns. Founded in 1960 to develop the first definitive measurement of long run market returns, CRSP data underpin research and teaching at over 420 leading academic institutions in 36 countries. CRSP databases are also widely used in the commercial sector to backtest quantitative investment strategies, and in the government sector for policy and regulatory research.

CRSP's flagship US Stock and Index Databases have facilitated seminal research in finance and investing for over 50 years. CRSP's new series of transparent and investable real-time indexes provide the necessary foundation for the development of related research products, central to CRSP's scholarly heritage.

CRSP is one of 13 research centers at the [Booth School of Business](#)