



Press Release

S&P and ASX Announce Details of Two New Domestic Indices

Sydney, May 17, 2007 - In February this year Standard & Poor's Index Services (S&P) and the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) announced changes to their Australian index methodology to allow foreign-domiciled companies to be considered for inclusion in the S&P/ASX indices.

To cater for those investors who want a purely Australian benchmark (i.e. excluding foreign-domiciled companies) two new indices will be created consisting exclusively of Australian domestic companies. The new indices, available in June 2007, will provide investors with a benchmark to monitor the performance of Australian domestic companies and also a means to construct internationally diversified portfolios with a clear and concise allocation to Australian equities.

The new indices will have the following names and index codes:

<u>Index Name</u>	<u>Index Code</u>	<u>Comment</u>
S&P/ASX All Australian 50	XAF	Large-cap index akin to the S&P/ASX 50
S&P/ASX All Australian 200	XAT	Liquid benchmark index akin to the S&P/ASX 200

The new S&P/ASX All Australian 50 index will replace the S&P/ASX 50 as the Australian market representation within the S&P Global 1200.

Companies will be eligible for inclusion in the new indices if:

- The company is incorporated or registered in Australia and traded on the ASX;
- The company is incorporated or registered overseas but has an exclusive listing on the ASX;
- The company is incorporated or registered overseas and is traded on other overseas markets, but most of the trading activity occurs on the ASX; and
- ASX listed New Zealand- and Papua New Guinean-domiciled companies are treated as domestic for index purposes.

The constituents of the new indices will be announced on June 1, 2007, as part of the June quarter index rebalance, with the effective implementation date set for Monday, June 18, 2007. The index price history for the new indices will be the same as that for the S&P/ASX 50 and S&P/ASX 200, as index eligibility did not formally and explicitly extend to foreign-domiciled companies prior to this date.

Further details relating to the new indices are available in the updated S&P/ASX Australian Index Methodology paper. The updated methodology paper includes specific details for index eligibility relating to both domestic and foreign-domiciled securities, together with detailed rules relating to ongoing index maintenance. The methodology paper is available at www.standardandpoors.com.au (under the Indices tab).

For more information contact:

Standard & Poor's

Simon Karaban, Index Services
(61) 2 9255 9875 Tel

Sharon Beach, Media
(61) 3 9631 2152 Tel

ASX Media

Matthew Gibbs

ASX Investors and analysts:

Dimitri Burshtein

Manager, Corporate Relations
(BH) +61 2 9227 0218
(Mobile) 0411 121219
matthew.gibbs@asx.com.au
www.asx.com.au/media

General Manager, Investor Relations and Corporate Finance
(BH) +61 2 9227 0279
(Mobile) 0414 629 751
dimitri.burshtein@asx.com.au
www.asx.com.au/shareholder

About Standard & Poor's

Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies (NYSE:MHP), is the world's foremost provider of financial market intelligence, including independent credit ratings, indices, risk evaluation, investment research and data. With approximately 7,500 employees, including wholly owned affiliates, located in 21 countries and markets, Standard & Poor's is an essential part of the world's financial infrastructure and has played a leading role for more than 140 years in providing investors with the independent benchmarks they need to feel more confident about their investment and financial decisions. For more information, visit <http://www.standardandpoors.com.au>

About ASX

As one of the world's top-10 listed exchange groups, measured by its market capitalisation, ASX group was created through the merger of the Australian Stock Exchange and SFE Corporation, operator of the Sydney Futures Exchange. ASX group operates under the brand Australian Securities Exchange. The Australian Securities Exchange spans the markets for corporate control, capital formation and price discovery and functions as an operator, supervisor, central counterparty clearer and payments system facilitator. The diverse domestic and international customer base of the Australian Securities Exchange includes issuers of a variety of listed securities, corporates, investment banks, trading banks, fund managers, hedge funds, CTAs, and proprietary and retail traders. More information on ASX can be found on our website www.asx.com.au