



MEDIA RELEASE

10 February 2011

ASX to host ETF conference to mark 10-year anniversary

Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) will host an exchange traded fund (ETF) conference in Sydney on 2 June 2011, coinciding with the 10th year of ETF trading in Australia on ASX.

The ETF conference will be the first of its kind to be held in Australia catering for institutional investors and is expected to attract interest from across the Asia Pacific region.

Will Wilson, ASX General Manager Sales and Marketing, said: "The ASX ETF conference will not only mark 10 years of ETFs on ASX, but will promote the features of this rapidly expanding product group to an institutional audience, including asset allocators, portfolio managers, superannuation fund managers and investment advisers. In addition, the event will provide the growing number of retail financial advisers with increased technical knowledge for using ETFs in their client portfolios."

ASX-quoted ETFs were first offered for trading over certain S&P/ASX indices in August 2001. The sector, including exchange traded commodities (ETCs), has since grown strongly and now covers domestic and international equities, property, commodities and, since 1 February 2011, currency.

ETFs and ETCs provide Australian investors with greater opportunity to diversify and internationalise their portfolios. The total suite available on ASX now stands at 47 with a combined market capitalisation of \$5.1 billion, growing by 39% in the 12 months to 31 December 2010.

Will Wilson added: "The conference program will highlight the opportunities for further growth of the ETF sector within Australia and, in particular, the expansion of ETFs across an increasing range of asset classes. The unique positioning of ASX in the ETF industry will ensure that the conference will offer a strong line-up of speakers and valuable networking opportunities."

The providers of the ETFs and ETCs quoted on ASX - Australian Index Investments (Aii), BetaShares, BlackRock (iShares), ETF Securities, Perth Mint, Russell Investments, State Street (SPDRs) and Vanguard Investments - are expected to participate in the conference. The event will be held at the refurbished Exchange Square premises. A full program of speakers will be announced in coming weeks.

For more information about the first currency-based ETF in Australia, launched on 1 February 2011, click here: http://www.asxgroup.com.au/media/MR ETF_currency_Feb_2011_FINAL.pdf.

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