



Press Release

Standard & Poor's Announces the December 31st Semi-annual Rebalancing for the S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index

New York, December 29, 2008– Standard & Poor's Index Services today announced the December 31st semi-annual rebalancing of the S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index. The index was launched on Monday, October 20th, and is rebalanced weekly to maintain 100 constituents. All rebalancing related changes to the Index will become effective after the close of business on Wednesday, December 31st, 2008.

A list of the index constituents can be [found here](#).

The S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index is a market value-weighted index designed to measure the performance of the largest facilities in the leveraged loan market. As of December 22, 2008, the Index had a total market value of \$157 billion. The Index consists of 100 loan facilities drawn from the leading broad market leveraged loan indicator - the S&P/LSTA (Loan Syndications and Trading Association) Leveraged Loan Index, which covers more than 1,100 facilities and has a market value of more than \$480 billion.

All syndicated leveraged loans covered by the S&P/LSTA Leveraged Loan Index universe are eligible for inclusion in the S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100. The S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index is rules based, although the S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index Committee reserves the right to exercise discretion, when necessary.

Standard & Poor's calculates the S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index using the LSTA/LPC Mark-to-Market Pricing to value each tranche in the index. The index only uses prices from LSTA/LPC Mark-to-Market pricing, which is based on bid/ask quotes gathered from dealers. S&P Loan Commentary and Data, a leading information provider to the leveraged finance community, is the source of loan data and the calculation agent for these indices. Detailed Index data and analysis is incorporated into S&P Loan Commentary and Data's research tools.

The leveraged loan market consists of loans made to speculative-grade borrowers. The vast majority of loans are senior secured floating-rate paper that the issuer can prepay with little or no restrictions or fees. In this universe, loans are either first-lien or second-lien. As their monikers imply, first-lien loans have a senior claim on collateral, while second-lien loans have a junior claim. In general, loans range in size from \$50 million at the low end to upward of \$10 billion on the high end.

To learn more about the S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan 100 Index or Standard & Poor's growing family of fixed income indices, please visit www.fixedincomeindices.standardandpoors.com.

About Standard & Poor's Index Services

Standard & Poor's Index Services, the world's leading index provider, maintains a wide variety of investable and benchmark indices to meet an array of investor needs. Its family of indices includes

the S&P 500, an index with \$1.5 trillion invested and \$4.85 trillion benchmarked, and the S&P Global 1200, a composite index comprised of seven regional and country headline indices. For more information, please visit www.standardandpoors.com/indices.

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 8,500 employees, including wholly owned affiliates, located in 23 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>.

Standard & Poor's does not sponsor, endorse, sell or promote any S&P index-based investment product.

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