



Press Release

S&P Calculates China Play 50 Index for Polaris SITC

Hong Kong, October 16, 2006 – Standard & Poor's, the leading provider of indices, independent investment research, and ratings, announced today that it has been chosen by Polaris International Securities Investment Trust ("Polaris SITC") in Taiwan to calculate a custom index designed to measure the performance of Taiwan-listed companies that derive significant business revenue from Mainland China.

The S&P Custom/Polaris China Play 50 Index includes a selection of companies listed in Taiwan that have substantial exposure to China. Each index constituent is assigned a China Play Ratio (CPR), which is established as the ratio of Profits attributable to China activities over the Net Income of the company before taxes. The index selection pool is defined as those companies with a significant CPR ratio.

"The launch of S&P Custom/Polaris China Play 50 Index is designed to meet investors' growing interest in the economic ties between Taiwan and China's mainland," says Tim Eisenhauer, Senior Director at Standard & Poor's Index Services. "Companies like Polaris are increasingly turning to Standard & Poor's Custom Index Group for the independence, experience and market coverage needed to construct and calculate new types of custom indices tailored to investor demand."

Chairman Wayne Wen-Cheng Pai of Polaris Financial Group states that, "This is an important step forward in bringing Taiwan-listed companies that have active participation in the Chinese economy within the global investor's reach. S&P Custom/Polaris China Play 50 Index allows investors to more easily benefit from the increasingly close economic relationships between Taiwan and China's mainland."

The Standard & Poor's Custom Index Group is an acknowledged global leader in the calculation of Custom Indices, providing unparalleled services in the design, construction, management and distribution of Custom Indices. Drawing on this expertise and a global database of over 17,000 individual stocks, the S&P Custom Index Group provides an independent, flexible and accurate service enabling clients to purposefully design a Custom Index to meet their specific requirements.

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, 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>.

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