



Press Release

S&P named 2006 Index Provider of the Year by Structured Products Magazine

London, November 8, 2006 – Standard & Poor's, the world's leading index provider, was last night named 2006 Index Provider of the Year by Structured Products magazine, the leading monthly publication providing news and intelligence on derivatives-based instruments. The award was presented to Standard & Poor's at a London industry awards dinner held in conjunction with the annual European Structured Products magazine conference.

Commenting on the award, Mr. Eudald Canadell, Managing Director in Europe at Standard & Poor's Index Services, said: "We are delighted. Standard & Poor's Indices has had a very prolific year. That Structured Products magazine has taken the opportunity to recognise our innovation and market leadership is really valuable not only for us but also for those market professionals who put their faith in our services."

"The Structured Products Award is recognition of Standard & Poor's sterling work in the field of structured products" announced Paul Lyon, Editor of Structured Products magazine, who went on to identify the reasons why S&P won this award in further detail.

"S&P has not neglected its core business of benchmark indices. Far from it. In July, for example, it joined with Citigroup to release the Global Stars Index. Its new Brazil, Russia, India and China (S&P BRIC 40) index, meanwhile, has also proved a popular underlying for structured products in Europe, particularly in Italy. And in November of this year, S&P plans to release its first Shariah-compliant index series. The list goes on."

"Indeed, S&P constantly develops its exhaustive index range to accommodate the needs of structured products issuers. The custom index range has brought a new dimension to the European structured products market. Its brand appeal, flexibility and index universe is unrivalled in Europe."

"The S&P 500 may be one of the most widely used benchmark indexes for creating structured products. But the index provider has not won this award for its flag ship offering, rather Structured Products is recognising Standard and Poor's for its custom index range and beyond."

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 \$1.26 trillion invested and \$4.45 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

www.standardandpoors.com

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>.

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

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