



Press Release

Standard & Poor's Voted Most Influential Credit Rating Agency In FinanceAsia Fixed Income Research Poll

HONG KONG November 4, 2009 – Standard & Poor's, the world's foremost provider of financial market intelligence, has claimed the top spot, for the 9th consecutive year, as “the rating agency that most influences investment decisions” in the *FinanceAsia* Fixed Income Research Poll. The results were tabulated from the votes of over 600 investors and market participants across the Asia-Pacific region.

Standard & Poor's gained the highest percentage of votes overall and in the individual categories of corporates, sovereigns, banks and structured finance ratings. Since 2001, Standard & Poor's has consistently topped the poll, which is widely regarded as the premier published ranking within the Asian fixed income industry.

“Standard & Poor's is honored to receive this recognition and we appreciate the support of investors in the Asia-Pacific region,” said Yu-Tsung Chang, Executive Managing Director of Standard & Poor's Ratings Services in Asia-Pacific. “Over the past 12 months, Standard & Poor's has met with scores of market participants and, as a result, we have undertaken a significant series of actions focused on quality, independence, transparency and accountability. We look forward to continuing to serve investors, issuers and other market participants as the leading rating agency in the Asia-Pacific region.”

Since the mid-1970s, Standard & Poor's has built a strong presence in all key markets in the Asia-Pacific region. In recent years, Standard & Poor's significantly strengthened its coverage and reach through domestic alliances and regional projects. In 2005, Standard & Poor's acquired majority ownership in two of the region's leading domestic rating agencies, Taiwan Ratings Corp. in Taiwan and CRISIL in India. In August 2008, Standard & Poor's announced a technical services agreement with Shanghai Brilliance, one of the leading rating agencies in the People's Republic of China. In 2009, Standard & Poor's launched the ASEAN regional rating scale to facilitate increased regional and global market participation in Southeast Asia.

“We are honored that Standard & Poor's commitment to serve investors with insightful research and transparent and independent credit ratings is recognized by this prestigious poll,” said Tom Schiller, Executive Managing Director and Head of Standard & Poor's Asia-Pacific. “Standard & Poor's remains deeply committed to serving the needs of the Asia-Pacific financial markets and we hope to continue to support the economic and financial development of this important region.”

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About Standard & Poor's

Standard & Poor's, a subsidiary of The McGraw-Hill Companies (NYSE:MHP), is the world's foremost provider of independent credit ratings, indices, risk evaluation, investment research and data. With offices 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 nearly 150 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>.