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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADVISER FUND INDEX REBALANCING: WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT

On 1st May, the spring re-balancing took place of the **Adviser Fund Index (AFI)**, the UK's only series of fund indices determined by a panel of leading investment advisers.

Since inception on 1st November 2004, each index – AFI Aggressive, AFI Balanced and AFI Cautious – has outperformed its equivalent IMA managed sector average and APCIMS index. The AFI Aggressive has even outperformed the FTSE All Share.

Whilst performance remains strong, this season the AFI has experienced its highest turnover yet in the underlying constituent funds, with increased churn rates in two out of three indices, compared to the last rebalancing:

Table 1: Adviser Fund Index Portfolio Changes

	Current Number of Funds	Number of Funds Dropped	Latest Churn Rate	Previous Churn Rate
AFI Aggressive	124	21	35%	32%
AFI Balanced	116	21	29%	29%
AFI Cautious	107	17	28%	25%

Source: Financial Express. A score of 100% would indicate a total portfolio change.

Who's IN?

Table 2: Top 5 Funds Chosen by the AFI Panel

AFI Aggressive	AFI Balanced	AFI Cautious
Schroder UK Alpha Plus	Artemis European Growth	Invesco Perpetual Income
Artemis European Growth	Artemis Income	Old Mutual Corporate Bond
Rensburg UK Select Growth Trust	Schroder UK Alpha Plus	AEGON Global Bond
M&G Global Basics	INVESCO Perpetual Income	Artemis Income
First State Asia Pacific Leaders	Rensburg UK Select Growth	M&G Property Portfolio

Source: Financial Express. Calculated by the number of occurrences of a fund and the weightings given to each fund by the AFI Panellists.





A total of 58 fund providers are now represented in the Adviser Fund Index. The new arrivals on 1st May, compared to last season, are as follows:

Table 3: Providers New to the AFI this Season

AFI Aggressive	AFI Balanced	AFI Cautious
SVM	Rathbone	F&C
Marlborough	Psigma	Psigma
Psigma	Sarasin	Investec
Baring	Premier	Barmac
Insight	F&C	CF Ruffer
CF Ruffer	SVM	Société General
Morant Wright	CF Odey	
Close		
Premier		

Source: Financial Express.

Who's OUT?

Several big name funds have also been ejected by the AFI Panel. The table below shows the highest ranked funds from last season (1st November 2006 rebalancing) which have now been removed from the AFI Panellists' portfolios.

Table 4: Top 5 Highest Ranked Funds Ejected by the AFI Panel

AFI Aggressive	AFI Balanced	AFI Cautious
Old Mutual UK Select Small Companies	Insight Diversified Target Return	CF Miton Cautious Income
CF Miton Strategic Portfolio	Jupiter Global Managed	Newton Phoenix
Standard Life Growth & Income	JPM Europe Dynamic Ex UK	Jupiter Distribution
Merrill Lynch UK Dynamic	Schroder Income	Fidelity Extra Income
Old Mutual Japanese Select	Jupiter Distribution	JPM Europe Dynamic Ex UK

Source: Financial Express.





Several groups have also been ejected from one or more of the AFI indices.

Table 5: Providers Ejected from the AFI this Season

AFI Aggressive	AFI Balanced	AFI Cautious
Cazenove	Insight	BGI
CF Miton	HSBC	CF Miton
Britannic	BGI	Allianz
BGI		
J O Hambro		
AEGON		
HSBC		

Source: Financial Express.

New AFI Panellists

The AFI Panel of investment advisers grew in both size and stature with the addition of heavy-weights Beckett Financial Services and Rowan Plc, making 19 panellists in all.

Paul Wynne, Financial Express head of marketing and communications says:

“The latest Adviser Fund Index rebalancing indicates that advisers are conducting significant alterations to their fund recommendations for clients, including important changes to asset class and regional allocations. The out-performance of the Adviser Fund Index, against other market measures, clearly proves that the AFI Panellists’ skills and strategies offer investors added value.”

The Adviser Fund Index (AFI) is aggregated from the recommended portfolios of a panel of leading UK investment adviser firms. Based entirely on the funds actually recommended to clients, the AFI Aggressive, AFI Balanced, and AFI Cautious portfolios carry real-life credibility, and provide insight in terms of the benefits of holding top quality funds. A full explanation of the AFI methodology is available at www.trustnet.com/general/afi.asp.

ENDS





For AFI performance data, charts and further information about the survey, please contact:

Paul Wynne
Head of Marketing & Communication
Financial Express
Direct: +44 (0)20 7534 3355
Mobile: +44 (0)7887 765 458
Email: paul.wynne@financialexpress.net

Beverley Harvey
Parkside Financial PR
+44 (0)20 8659 1132
+44 (0)7970 741 105
Email: beverley@parkside-financialpr.co.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Financial Express

Financial Express is the largest distributor of fund data in the UK, and is the main or sole supplier of data to many of the leading data vendors, including Bloomberg, Reuters, Thomson Financial and Telekurs. Financial Express also provides data and web based fund analysis products to the UK's leading fund supermarkets, life and wrap platforms, product providers, financial advisers and networks, software houses, financial portals and private investors.

Adviser Fund Index Panel

The AFI Panel, which collectively manages more than £40 billion of client money on behalf of 1,500,000 investors, consists of the following adviser companies:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Allenbridge Group plc | Dennehy Weller & Co |
| AWD Chase de Vere | Gerrard Financial Services |
| Bates Investment Services | Killik & Co |
| Beckett Financial Services | Origen Investment Services |
| Bentley Jennison Financial | Rowan Plc |
| Bestinvest | THINC Group |
| Charles Stanley | Torquil Clark |
| Chartwell Investment Management | Whitechurch Securities Limited |
| Chelsea Financial Services | Williams de Broe |
| City Asset Management | |