



LONDON, 28th of January 2008

**THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH INSURERS AND FINANCIAL EXPRESS LAUNCH A NEW  
FUND CLASSIFICATION DATABASE**

The Association of British Insurers has launched a new fund classification database of ABI life and pension funds, in conjunction with Financial Express.

This definitive database of sectors reflects the decisions of the ABI's Investment Classification Committee (ICC). The ICC ensures that life and pensions funds operating a similar investment strategy are grouped together so that consumers and financial advisers can compare them on a like-for-like basis.

The data will be made available to the industry and members of the public through a new section on the ABI's website. This will allow searches by sector and fund provider. There will be an additional download facility for ABI member companies.

The database has been built and will be maintained by Financial Express. A centralised database of this nature enables clarity and consistency of sector memberships across the industry and with the wider public. It will provide financial professionals with a basis on which to produce comparative statistics and other data.

The Managing Director of Financial Express, Michael Holland, says: "Consistency of sector memberships and the consequent sector averages has been a long-held desire of the industry. It will provide clarity for advisers and consumers alike and we believe it is a great step forward."

**ENDS**

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

### Financial Express

Financial Express is the main provider of fund data and website solutions to the UK financial sector. The company collects daily fund prices for more than 70,000 European and global investments, and is relied upon as the sole or main source of data by providers (e.g. Skandia, Standard Life, Hendersons) wrap platforms, fund supermarkets, personal finance websites and financial advisers. Financial Express data is also distributed to the main vendors, including Bloomberg, Reuters, Morningstar and Telekurs.

#### Financial Express:

- collects fund prices, dividends and histories, on more than 60,000 UK and offshore funds
- validates, databases and disseminates fund and equity data
- provides tools to display and analyse this data in order to educate and inform investors and advisers

#### Financial Express collects the following data:

- UK fund data, including prices dividends, corporate actions (capital events), histories
- factsheet information for all UK retail funds
- UK equity data
- factsheet information for all LSE equities
- equity news (RNS feeds, Company Announcements [UK-Wire], AFX news)
- European equity data
- US equity data

Financial Express provides data and/or tools to UK product providers, wrap platforms, and fund supermarkets, plus a large number of data vendors and third party websites.

#### Financial Express provides the following applications and tools:

- Price Display – all financial instruments, with hyperlinks
- Interactive Charting – total returns, comparative performance
- Portfolio Tool – multi portfolio user, multi currency, with portfolio analysis
- Fund Factsheet Display and Fund Selection Tool – with filters
- Equity Factsheet Display and Share Selection Tool – based upon fundamentals data and historic performance
- Largest Gainers & Losers / Performance Tables – across all equities and funds
- Scatter charts – risk versus performance interactive JAVA charts
- Wealth management services