

## JOINT RELEASE

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### FTSE and Value Partners launch custom Taiwanese and Korean Value Indices

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**Hong Kong, 8 December 2010** – FTSE Group (“FTSE”), the leading global index provider, and Value Partners Index Services Limited (“Value Partners”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Value Partners Group, today launched two custom indices that will offer new unique investment opportunities for the Taiwanese and Korean markets - the FTSE Value-Stocks Taiwan Index and FTSE Value-Stocks Korea Index.

The new indices are based on Value Partners’ unique value methodology and are calculated and maintained using FTSE expert custom index solutions. The indices capture the performance of quality, liquid-value stocks selected from the investable universe of companies listed on Taiwan and Korea’s exchanges. The FTSE Value-Stocks Taiwan Index and FTSE Value-Stocks Korea Index will be calculated alongside the FTSE Value-Stocks China Index, which was launched in July 2009. The FTSE Value-Stocks China Index is the basis of the Value China ETF (3046 HK), which was listed in December 2009. The year-to-date performance of the FTSE Value-Stocks China Index, as at 7 December 2010, was 14.8%, compared to FTSE China 25 Index’s year-to-date performance of 5.3%.

Mr. William Chow, Value Partners’ Managing Director of the Value Partners’ ETF business, said, “As pioneering value investors in the Asia-Pacific region, we’ve created the Value Index family of products for investors seeking a basket of value stocks that have been identified using our unique methodology.”

Referring to the latest performance data that showed the FTSE Value-Stocks China Index’s track record, Mr. Chow elaborated by saying that, “The constituents in our new Indices have been chosen using the same methodology we use for the FTSE Value-Stocks China Index, one that uses a unique value screening process that incorporates valuation, quality, and contrarian criteria.”

Ms. Jessie Pak, Director, Asia of FTSE Group, said “We are delighted to extend our cooperation with Value Partners to develop an expanded range of indices. These indices combine FTSE’s custom expertise with the investment knowledge of Value Partners to provide investors with a unique way of accessing opportunities in Taiwan and South Korea.”

Mr. Chow also said that, “The constituent stocks in our Taiwan and Korea Value Indices go through a rigorous screening process, so that we can avoid value traps and concentrate on quality stocks. Moreover, as part of our contrarian approach, we make it a point to exclude stocks that most analysts favor with buy calls. Our unique methodology is the engine behind our ongoing commitment to offer investors innovative products.”

Mr. Chow concluded by saying that he anticipates seeing broader appreciation by the investment community of the Value Index products, and expects the release of similar indices in the future.

For more information on the FTSE Value-Stocks Index Series including the ground rules, please visit [www.ftse.com/valuestocks](http://www.ftse.com/valuestocks).

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**Notes to Editors:**

**Key characteristics of the new Taiwan and Korea Value Indices**

|                                | <b>FTSE Value-Stocks Taiwan Index</b>   | <b>FTSE Value-Stocks Korea Index</b>   |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Universe</b>                | Stocks listed on the TWSE <sup>1</sup> and GTSM <sup>2</sup> and constituents of the FTSE Global All Cap Taiwan Index.                  | Stocks listed in KRX <sup>3</sup> and constituents of the FTSE Global All Cap South Korea Index. |
| <b>Screening Factors:</b>      | Dividend yield<br>ROE<br>Price-to-earnings ratio<br>Operating profit margin<br>Net gearing<br>Contrarian measures/consensus “buy” calls |  |
| <b>Biannual rebalance date</b> | Every third Friday of May and September   | Every third Friday of April and September  |
| <b>Number of constituents</b>  | 50  | 35   |
| <b>Weighting method</b>        | Market capitalization   |  |
| <b>Individual capping</b>      | 10%   |  |
| <b>Index base date</b>         | 30 September 2003   |  |

<sup>1</sup>TWSE: Taiwan Stock Exchange

<sup>2</sup>GTSM: GreTai Securities Market

<sup>3</sup>KRX: Korea Exchange

#### **About FTSE Group**

FTSE Group (“FTSE”) is a world-leader in the creation and management of indices. With offices in London, Boston, Beijing, Dubai, Frankfurt, Milan, Mumbai, Hong Kong, Madrid, New York, Paris, San Francisco, Sydney, Shanghai and Tokyo, FTSE works with investors in 77 countries globally. It calculates and manages a comprehensive range of equity, fixed income, real estate and investment strategy indices, on both a standard and custom basis. The company has collaborative arrangements with a number of stock exchanges, trade bodies and asset class specialists around the world.

FTSE indices are used extensively by investors world-wide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation, portfolio hedging and for creating a wide range of index tracking funds.

FTSE is an independent company jointly owned by The Financial Times and London Stock Exchange Group.

#### **About Value Partners Index Services Limited**

Value Partners Index Services Limited (“VPISL”) is a member of Value Partners Group Limited. VPISL utilizes the extensive investment experiences of Value Partners Group in the Asia Pacific region, in particular Greater China markets, designing quantitative investment strategies for the creation of investable indexes, related index tracking financial products, investment research and performance analysis. Website: [www.valuepartners-index.com.hk](http://www.valuepartners-index.com.hk)

#### **About Value Partners Group Limited**

Value Partners Group Limited is a value-specialist in the Asia-Pacific region with a Greater China focus. Founded in February 1993, Value Partners was recently ranked Asia’s largest hedge fund manager (*Institutional Investor*, July 2010), and has built a strong reputation in the international asset management industry. Value Partners is the only listed asset management company in Hong Kong. Website: [www.valuepartnersgroup.com.hk](http://www.valuepartnersgroup.com.hk)

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