



S&P DOW JONES INDICES AND MSCI ANNOUNCE UPDATES TO GLOBAL INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION STANDARD (GICS®) METHODOLOGY

New York, June 1, 2015 - S&P Dow Jones Indices, a leading provider of financial market indices, and MSCI Inc., a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, are announcing updates to the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) methodology. Guidelines for the reclassification of companies undergoing REIT conversions, classification of data center REITs, and the definition of the Specialized REITs sub-industry are being updated.

Reclassification of companies undergoing REIT conversions:

Generally, the primary reclassification requirement for a company converting to a REIT structure is now a declaration in an official document stating that the company now operates as a REIT. For U.S. companies, this includes an official filing with the SEC. However, determinations continue to be made on a case by case basis. No companies are currently impacted by this change.

Classification of data center REITs:

Data center REITs have routinely been classified as 40402040- Office REITs. However, after an internal review and discussions with market participants, it has been determined that 40402070- Specialized REITs is a more appropriate classification. A list of impacted companies is published in today's announcement for GICS changes, and the changes are effective after the close of business on June 30, 2015.

Definition of 40402070- Specialized REITs sub-industry:

The current definition of 40402070- Specialized REITs includes storage properties as an example of a type of specialized REIT. In order to avoid the implication that other types of specialized REITs are excluded, the definition is being updated to the following:

Companies or trusts engaged in the acquisition, development, ownership, leasing, management and operation of properties not classified elsewhere. Includes REITs that do not generate a majority of their revenues and income from real estate rental and leasing operations.

There are no impacted companies due to this definition update.

All of these updates to the GICS methodology are effective immediately.

Further details on the GICS structure are available on S&P Dow Jones Indices' website at www.msci.com.

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Index Announcement

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