

Changes to the Dow Jones STOXXSM Blue Chip, Broad, Large & Sector Indexes

Blue Chip Component TotalFina (FR) Takes Over Blue Chip Component Elf Aquitaine (FR)

➤ Addition to Dow Jones STOXX 50SM Index: TotalFina (FR)

➤ Deletion from Dow Jones STOXX 50SM Index: Elf Aquitaine (FR)

➤ Additions to Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM Index: BNP(FR) & Pinault Printemps-Redoute (FR)

➤ Deletions from Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM Index: Elf Aquitaine (FR) & Paribas (FR)

Blue Chip Component Carrefour (FR) Increases Weightings in the Dow Jones STOXXSM Indexes

Zurich, October 27, 1999: STOXX Limited, the operating company of the Dow Jones STOXXSM indexes, announces the following changes to all the relevant Dow Jones STOXXSM indexes due to the following recently announced corporate actions:

Corporate Actions

• The French energy – blue chip component – company TotalFina (FR0000120271) will take over the French energy – blue chip component – company Elf Aquitaine (FR0000120420) to form the new French energy – blue chip component – company TotalFina (FR0000120271).

Elf Aquitaine– with 276,856,901 shares and a market capitalisation of 46 BEUR – will be deleted from the Dow Jones STOXX 50SM and the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip indexes, and all other relevant indexes effective November 1, 1999*.

TotalFina's number of shares will increase from 349,408,436 shares to 721,143,550 shares – i.e., an increase of more than 10% - necessitating changes to the weightings in the Dow Jones STOXX 50SM and the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip indexes, and all other relevant indexes effective November 1, 1999*.

TotalFina's market capitalisation will increase from 44 BEUR to an estimated 90 BEUR effective November 1, 1999*.

• The French retail – blue chip component – company Carrefour (FR0000120172) took over the French non-cyclical goods and services company Promodes (FR0000121105).

Carrefour's number of shares will increase from 233,069,544 shares to 342,497,484 shares – i.e., an increase of more than 10% - necessitating changes to the weightings in the Dow Jones STOXX 50SM and the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip indexes, and all other relevant indexes effective November 1, 1999*.

Changes Specific to the Dow Jones STOXX 50SM Indexes

• As the successor company, TotalFina – with 721,143,550 shares and an estimated market capitalisation of 90 BEUR – will replace Elf Aquitaine in the Dow Jones STOXX 50SM blue chip index effective November 1, 1999*.

Changes Specific to the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM Indexes

- As the largest non-component (rank 28) in the October 1999 Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip selection list, the French bank BNP (FR0000131104) with 374,748,215 shares and a market capitalisation of 29 BEUR will replace Elf Aquitaine in the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip index effective November 1, 1999*.
- Because the new Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip component BNP has a majority stake in the French blue chip component bank Paribas (FR0004011534), Paribas with 161,739,829 shares and a market capitalisation of 17 BEUR will be deleted from the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip index effective November 1, 1999*.
- The German pharmaceutical company Hoechst (DE0005758007) the second largest non-component (rank 36) in the October 1999 Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip selection list will merge with the French pharmaceutical Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip component company Rhone-Poulenc (FR0000130460) to form a new French pharmaceutical company Aventis (FR) effective December 1999.

Because of this forthcoming merger, the STOXX Limited Supervisor Board has decided that Hoechst will no longer be considered as a replacement for any components deleted from the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip index.

Therefore, the third largest non-component (rank 42) in the October 1999 Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip selection list, the French retail company Pinault Printemps-Redoute (FR0000121485) – with 117,437,590 shares and a market capitalisation of 20 BEUR – will replace Paribas in the Dow Jones EURO STOXX 50SM blue chip index effective November 1, 1999*.

NOTE: The implementation of this change is in line with the "Guide to the Dow Jones STOXXSM Indexes" (Version 4.0, October 1999, Section 5.3, 5.4 & 5.8, "Ongoing Review: Mergers & Takeovers"). It states: If an index component is involved in a merger or takeover, and if this component is delisted, then it is deleted from the Dow Jones STOXXSM indexes immediately. If this company is a blue chip index component, then it will be replaced by the largest non-component on the relevant blue chip selection lists immediately. If, due to a merger or takeover, a blue chip company holds more than 50% of another company in the same blue chip index, then the smaller of the two companies - by market capitalisation - will be deleted and replaced by the largest non-component from the relevant selection lists immediately. If a blue chip component is taken over by/merges with another company and if the succeeding company fulfils the selection criteria for the relevant broad index, then this non-blue chip company will replace the former blue chip company in the relevant blue chip indexes and also in the other relevant broad, size and sector indexes immediately. In all other cases, if a replacement of a blue chip company is necessary, it would be replaced by the largest non-component from the relevant selection lists immediately. In exceptional cases, the STOXX Limited Supervisory Board may decide otherwise. If, due to an extraordinary corporate action, the number of shares outstanding for an index component changes by more than 10%, then the current number of shares is adjusted immediately. Also, changes in the number of shares outstanding due to stock dividends, splits, rights issues and other corporate actions will be adjusted immediately. All additions and deletions to the blue chip indexes, deletions to the broad, size and sector indexes, changes in the sector classification and weighting changes of more than 10% - due to delistings, bankruptcy, spin-offs, mergers and takeovers - are effective immediately; i.e., on the same day the corporate action is effective following a notification period of at least 2 trading days.

The latest monthly blue chip selection lists for the Dow Jones STOXX $50^{\rm SM}$, Dow Jones EURO STOXX $50^{\rm SM}$ and Dow Jones STOXX Nordic $30^{\rm SM}$ blue chip indexes are downloadable from the STOXX Limited website (www.stoxx.com). The "Guide to the Dow Jones STOXXSM Indexes" (Version 4.0, October 1999) is available from STOXX Limited (e-mail: stoxx@stoxx.com) and downloadable from the STOXX Limited website (www.stoxx.com). The STOXX Limited Customer Service is available on weekdays from 09:00 to 18:00 CET on Tel: +41 - 1 - 229 23 80 and e-mail: stoxx@stoxx.com.

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