



WILLIAM BLAIR SICAV

Press release

William Blair launches Emerging Leaders Growth Fund

London, 17 May 2011

William Blair announces the launch of its newest SICAV offering, the Emerging Leaders Growth Fund.

Managed by Todd McClone and Jeff Urbina, the Emerging Leaders Growth Fund will seek to invest in equities issued by high-quality large and medium capitalised emerging market companies that are characterised by above-average growth potential and profitability.

Investee companies will typically have a market capitalisation of at least USD 3 billion and will be organised under the laws of or have securities that are principally traded in emerging market countries. The fund will ensure diversification by allocating investments across at least six different emerging market countries, with no more than 50% of fund's equity holding invested in securities of issuers in a single country at any given time.

The Emerging Leaders Growth Fund, which will principally be measured against the MSCI Emerging Markets Large Cap Index, is the fifth SICAV fund to be launched by William Blair Investment Management. The company currently manages more than USD 1.2 billion of assets in SICAV funds across Global Growth, U.S. Small-Mid Cap, U.S. All Cap, and Emerging Market Growth strategies.

Commenting on the launch of the Emerging Leaders Growth Fund, Michelle Seitz, CFA, head of William Blair Investment Management, said, "The launch of this Luxembourg-domiciled Emerging Leaders Growth Fund is both a response to investor demand and a reflection of our commitment to continue to develop our presence in Europe. We believe that considerable opportunities remain within the emerging markets space and, as such, are very optimistic that the fund will mirror the success of our earlier SICAV offerings."

For more information, please contact:

Tony Zimmer
TZimmer@williamblair.com

Matt Rogers
JPES Partners
T: +44 (0)20 7002 7825
matt.rogers@jpespartners.com

About William Blair SICAV

William Blair SICAV consists of a family of five SICAVs for non-U.S. citizens or residents. William Blair & Company, L.L.C. is the investment manager to these Luxembourg-domiciled SICAVs. More information about the William Blair SICAVs is available at sicav.williamblairfunds.com.

Disclosure:

Investing in emerging market companies involves special risks, including higher volatility and lower liquidity.

International investing involves special risk considerations, including currency fluctuations, lower liquidity, economic and political risk. Investing in emerging markets can increase these risks.

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