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Global ETF Assets Break Through \$1 Trillion Milestone

Latest data from the "ETF Landscape Year End 2009" preview report published today by BlackRock's Global ETF Research and Implementation Strategy team reveals that global assets invested in ETFs at the end of 2009 were over US\$1 trillion (US\$1,032 Bn).

London, 13 January 2010 - BlackRock, Inc. (NYSE: BLK) today announced that Global Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)¹ assets hit an all time high of \$1 trillion (US\$1,032 Bn) at the end of December 2009 - 45.2% above US\$710.9 Bn at the end of 2008, according to the latest figures from BlackRock published today in its ETF Landscape Year End 2009 preview report. The global ETF industry had 1,939 ETFs with 3,775 listings, and assets of US\$1,032 Bn from 109 providers on 40 exchanges around the world at the end of December 2009. Year-To-Date (YTD) assets have risen by 45.2%, which is more than the 27.0% rise in the MSCI World Index in US dollar terms.

The challenging market conditions of 2008 caused a significant shift in investors' risk appetite in their evaluation of counterparty risk and their desire for liquidity. During 2009 many investors found that ETFs met their desire for greater transparency in relation to the issues of cost, transparency of holdings, transparency of price, liquidity, product structure, risk and return as they relate to investment alternatives.

ETFs are index-based² open-ended funds that can be bought and sold as quickly and easily as ordinary shares on a stock exchange - they have become popular and widely used investment vehicles to achieve many investment strategies:

- to gain diversified exposure to a market
- for core/satellite investing
- for buy and hold investing
- for active traders who wish to take advantage of market movements
- for investors wishing to hedge the market
- as an alternative to futures and other institutional investment tools.

¹ ETFs are open-end index funds that provide daily portfolio transparency, are listed and traded on exchanges like stocks on a secondary basis as well as utilising a unique creation and redemption process for primary transactions. ETPs are products that have similarities to ETFs in the way they trade and settle but they do not use a mutual fund structure. The use of other structures including grantor trusts, partnerships, notes and commodity pools by ETPs can create different tax and regulatory implications for investors when compared to ETFs which are funds.

² Most are index-based, but some are active

All financial investments involve an element of risk. Therefore, the value of an investment in ETFs and the income from it will vary and the initial investment amount cannot be guaranteed.

"In a world where investment products come and go with the blink of an eye, ETFs might be considered one of the most innovative financial products in the last two decades. They have fundamentally changed how both institutional and retail investors construct their investment portfolios.

ETF providers have continued to expand their product ranges in more specialised areas to cater for the growing number of professional and retail investors using ETFs as advanced portfolio construction tools. The increasing availability of these highly-specialised ETFs across the full spectrum of equities, fixed income and alternative investments now ensures that investors can use ETFs to instantly reallocate capital to take advantage of new investment opportunities.

Over the past decade the compound annual growth rate for ETF assets globally was 56.3%, it was 58.1% in the United States, 53.1% in Canada and 90.5% in Europe, and there are no signs that investor interest in ETFs is fading. Investors are finding that ETFs are products that work well in every market environment," said Deborah Fuhr, Global Head of ETF Research & Implementation Strategy at BlackRock.

Capital flows this year within ETFs also demonstrate how these innovative investment products have become important bellwethers to gauge shifts in investor sentiment between asset classes. During the year, fixed income, equity and commodity-based ETFs enjoyed heavy inflows as some investors adjusted their risk profiles. In the beginning of the year given rising levels of risk aversion, ETFs tracking equity markets perceived as higher risk suffered much of the capital outflow, notably Asian and global (excluding US) equities.

After the markets turned in March, and kept rising through year-end, investments moved back into areas that had been shunned for the preceding year and a half. The changes in investor sentiment are shown in the net new asset data into ETFs tracking corporate bond, inflation, aggregate indices, international and emerging market indices and commodities.

Global ETF assets by type of exposure, as at end December 2009

| Region of Exposure | Dec-09 | | | | YTD Change | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|----------------|---------------|---------|------------|----------------|---------------|--------|---------|
| | # ETFs | Total Listings | AUM (US\$ BN) | % TOTAL | # ETFs | Total Listings | AUM (US\$ BN) | % AUM | % TOTAL |
| Equity | 1,545 | 3,047 | \$841.2 | 81.5% | 202 | 796 | \$244.3 | 40.9% | -2.5% |
| North America - Equity | 495 | 721 | \$423.3 | 41.0% | 23 | 95 | \$80.5 | 23.5% | -7.2% |
| Emerging Markets - Equity | 300 | 622 | \$162.8 | 15.8% | 71 | 178 | \$91.9 | 129.6% | 5.8% |
| Europe - Equity | 425 | 1,069 | \$114.7 | 11.1% | 75 | 375 | \$39.1 | 51.8% | 0.5% |
| Global (ex-US) - Equity | 64 | 72 | \$55.6 | 5.4% | 4 | 9 | \$11.2 | 25.1% | -0.9% |
| Asia Pacific - Equity | 148 | 277 | \$62.6 | 6.1% | 13 | 66 | \$10.4 | 19.8% | -1.3% |
| Global - Equity | 113 | 286 | \$22.1 | 2.1% | 16 | 73 | \$11.2 | 103.2% | 0.6% |
| Fixed Income | 279 | 520 | \$167.0 | 16.2% | 118 | 227 | \$63.2 | 60.9% | 1.6% |
| Fixed Income - All (ex-Cash) | 261 | 479 | \$159.1 | 15.4% | 113 | 211 | \$67.6 | 74.0% | 2.6% |
| Fixed Income - Cash (Money Market) | 18 | 41 | \$7.9 | 0.8% | 5 | 16 | -\$4.4 | -35.7% | -1.0% |
| Commodities | 62 | 129 | \$22.2 | 2.1% | 14 | 51 | \$12.6 | 131.7% | 0.8% |
| Currency | 14 | 14 | \$1.2 | 0.1% | 1 | 1 | \$0.8 | 199.2% | 0.1% |
| Mixed | 37 | 38 | \$0.7 | 0.1% | 11 | 12 | \$0.4 | 137.5% | 0.0% |
| Alternative | 2 | 2 | \$0.1 | 0.0% | 2 | 2 | \$0.1 | 100.0% | 0.0% |
| Total | 1,939 | 3,750 | \$1,032.3 | 100.0% | 348 | 1,089 | \$321.4 | 45.2% | |

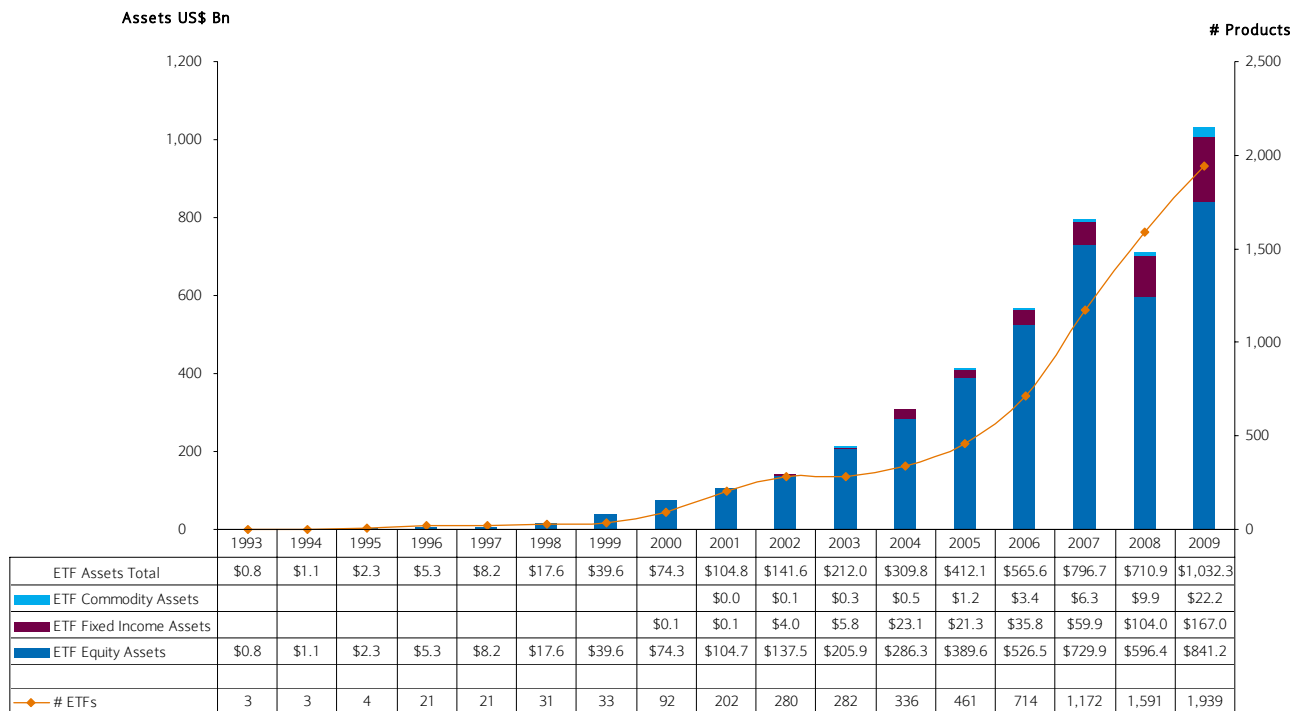
Source: Global ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

Top 5 ETF providers around the world ranked by AUM, as at end December 2009

| PROVIDER | Dec-09 | | | YTD CHANGE | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------|---------|------------|--------|---------------|--------|--------------|
| | # ETFs | AUM (US\$ BN) | % TOTAL | # ETFs | % ETFs | AUM (US\$ BN) | % AUM | MARKET SHARE |
| iShares | 413 | \$488.9 | 47.4% | 51 | 14.1% | \$160.4 | 48.8% | 1.2% |
| State Street Global Advisors | 107 | \$161.0 | 15.6% | 9 | 9.2% | \$15.0 | 10.3% | -4.9% |
| Vanguard | 47 | \$92.0 | 8.9% | 9 | 23.7% | \$46.9 | 103.8% | 2.6% |
| Lyxor Asset Management | 125 | \$46.4 | 4.5% | -8 | -6.0% | \$11.5 | 33.0% | -0.4% |
| db x-trackers | 121 | \$37.4 | 3.6% | 23 | 23.5% | \$13.3 | 55.3% | 0.2% |

Source: Global ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

Global ETF asset growth, as at end December 2009



Source: Global ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

Europe

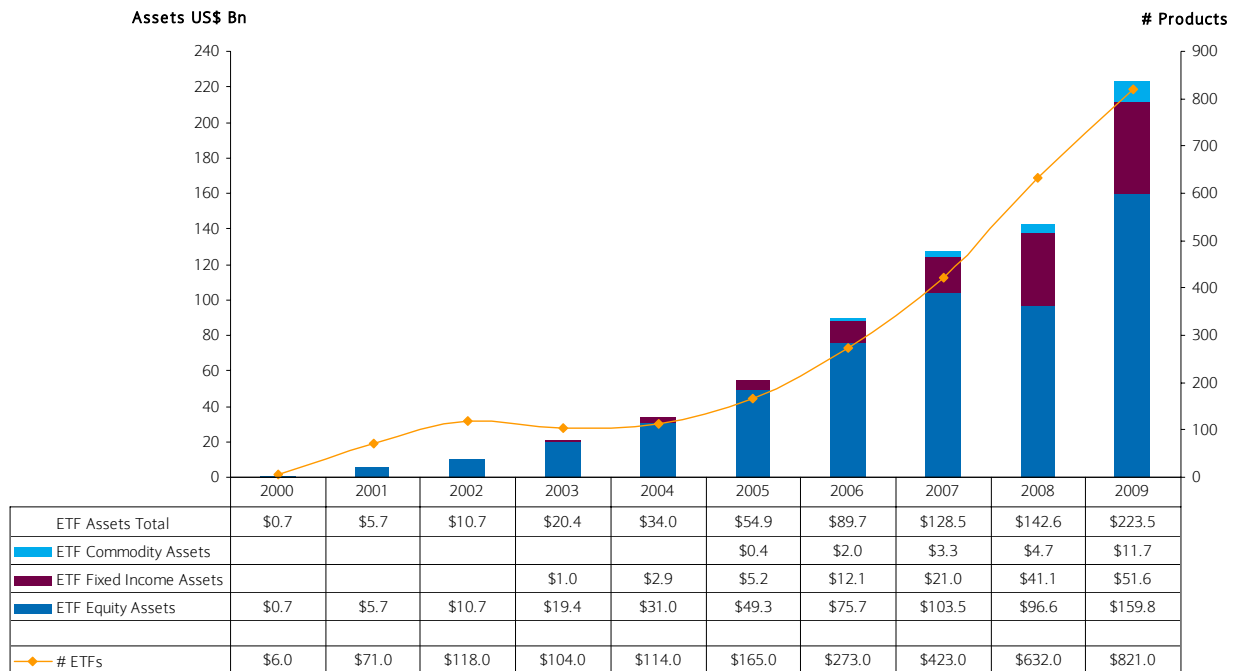
European listed ETF assets hit an all time high of US\$223.5 Bn at the end of December - a 56.8% increase from US\$142.58 Bn at the end of 2008. The European ETF industry had 821 ETFs with 2,359 listings and assets of US\$223 Bn, from 32 providers on 18 exchanges at the end of December 2009. YTD assets have risen by 56.8% which is more than the 30.6% rise in the MSCI Europe Index in US dollar terms.

Top 5 ETF providers in Europe ranked by AUM, as at end December 2009

| PROVIDER | Dec-09 | | | YTD FLOWS (US\$ BN) | YTD Change | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------------|---------|---------------------|------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------------|
| | # ETFs | AUM (US\$ BN) | % Total | | # ETFs | % ETFs | AUM (US\$ BN) | % AUM | % Market Share |
| iShares | 168 | \$85.7 | 38.4% | \$14.4 | 23 | 15.9% | \$29.9 | 53.4% | -0.83% |
| Lyxor Asset Management | 123 | \$45.6 | 20.4% | \$3.4 | -8 | -6.1% | \$11.2 | 32.5% | -3.74% |
| db x-trackers | 116 | \$37.2 | 16.6% | \$9.1 | 23 | 24.7% | \$13.2 | 55.3% | -0.16% |
| Credit Suisse Asset Management | 24 | \$8.3 | 3.7% | \$1.5 | 16 | 200.0% | \$2.4 | 39.9% | -0.45% |
| ETFlab Investment | 31 | \$7.1 | 3.2% | \$3.5 | 21 | 210.0% | \$4.6 | 180.9% | 1.40% |

Source: Global ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

European ETF asset growth, as at end December 2009



Source: Global ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

US

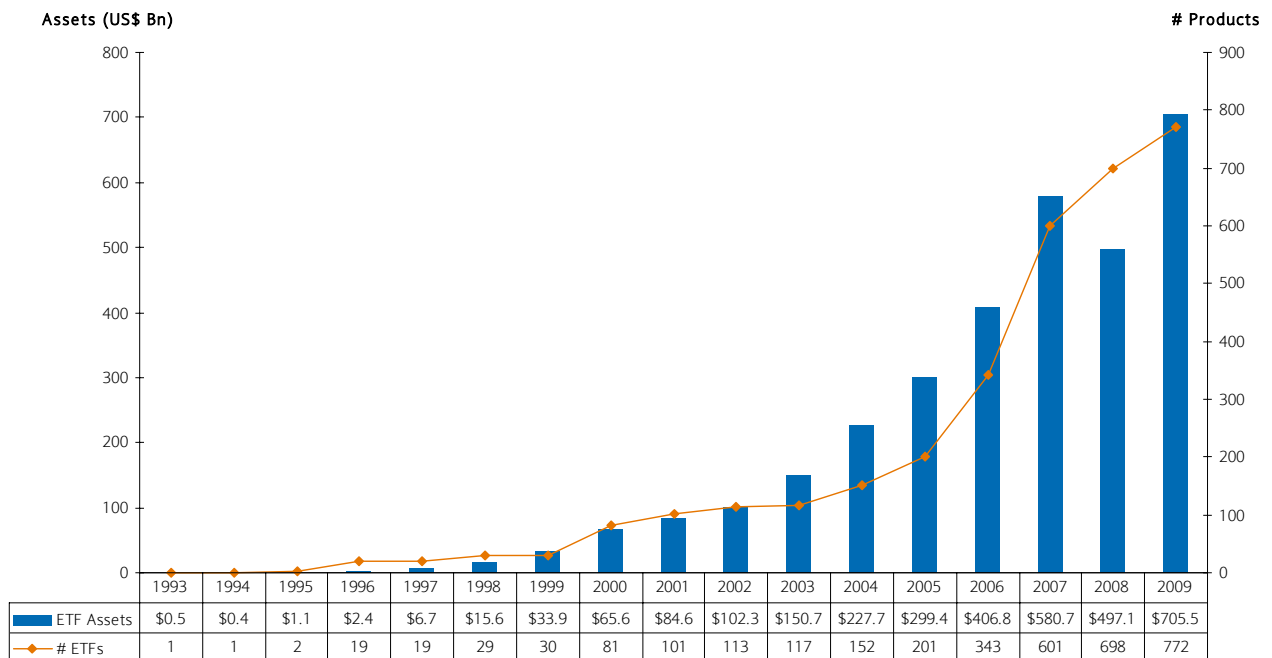
Assets for the ETF industry in the United States hit an all time high of US\$705.5 Bn at the end of 2009 - a 41.9% increase from US\$497.1 Bn at the end of 2008. The US ETF industry had 772 ETFs, with assets of US\$705.5 Bn, from 28 providers on two exchanges at the end of December 2009. YTD assets have risen by 41.9% which is more than the 24.2% rise in the MSCI US Index in US dollar terms.

Top 5 ETF providers in the US ranked by AUM, as at end December 2009

| PROVIDER | Dec-09 | | | YTD FLOWS (US\$ Bn) | YTD Change | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------|---------|---------------------|------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------------|
| | # ETFs | AUM (US\$ Bn) | % Total | | # ETFs | % ETFs | AUM (US\$ Bn) | % AUM | % Market Share |
| iShares | 186 | \$364.4 | 51.7% | \$39.4 | 11 | 6.3% | \$111.6 | 44.1% | 0.8% |
| State Street Global Advisors | 88 | \$149.8 | 21.2% | -\$8.9 | 9 | 11.4% | \$11.9 | 8.6% | -6.5% |
| Vanguard | 46 | \$92.0 | 13.0% | \$28.1 | 8 | 21.1% | \$46.8 | 103.7% | 4.0% |
| Powershares | 106 | \$33.6 | 4.8% | \$2.6 | -18 | -14.5% | \$11.8 | 54.2% | 0.4% |
| ProShares | 78 | \$23.2 | 3.3% | \$7.0 | 14 | 21.9% | \$2.9 | 14.2% | -0.8% |

Source: ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

US ETF asset growth, as at end December 2009



Source: ETF Research and Implementation Strategy Team, BlackRock, Bloomberg

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Notes for editors:

Combining both ETFs and Exchange Traded Products (ETPs), there were 2,558 products with 4,687 listings, assets of US\$1,186.5 Bn from 132 providers on 43 exchanges around the world at year end 2009.

ETF Landscape - Industry Review is BlackRock's comprehensive monthly market commentary, which covers Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and Exchange Traded Products (ETPs) across the globe. ETFs are open-end index funds that provide daily portfolio transparency, are listed and traded on exchanges like stocks on a secondary basis as well as utilising a unique creation and redemption process for primary transactions. ETPs are products that have similarities to ETFs in the way they trade and settle but they do not use a mutual fund structure. The use of other structures including grantor trusts, partnerships, notes and commodity pools by ETPs can create different tax and regulatory implications for investors when compared to ETFs which are funds. This document includes rankings of ETF and ETP providers, ETFs, index providers and exchanges globally, in the United States, Europe, Japan, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa, as well as by country. This commentary should not be regarded as a research report.

In the United States the term ETFs is increasingly being used to cover a broad set of products with dissimilar characteristics from those described above including products such as closed-end funds, HOLDRS and notes. These product structures do not fall within the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) definition of an ETF, which is posted on the Internet: "Exchange-traded funds, or ETFs, are investment companies that are legally classified as open-end companies or Unit Investment Trusts (UITs), but that differ from traditional open-end companies and UITs in several respects": These differences can be found at: www.sec.gov/answers/etf.htm.

About BlackRock: BlackRock is a leader in investment management, risk management and advisory services for institutional and retail clients worldwide. With approximately \$3.2 trillion under management as of 30 September, 2009 (pro forma), BlackRock offers products that span the risk spectrum to meet clients' needs, including active, enhanced and index strategies across markets and asset classes. Products are offered in a variety of structures including separate accounts, mutual funds, iShares[®] (exchange traded funds), and other pooled investment vehicles. BlackRock also offers risk management, advisory and enterprise investment system services to a broad base of institutional investors through BlackRock Solutions[®]. Headquartered in New York City, the firm has over 8,500 employees in 24 countries. For additional information, please visit BlackRock's website at www.blackrock.com.

About iShares: iShares is the global product leader in exchange traded funds with over 410 funds globally across equities, fixed income and commodities, which trade on 19 exchanges worldwide³. The iShares funds are bought and sold like common stocks on securities exchanges. The iShares funds are attractive to many individual and institutional investors and financial intermediaries because of their relative low cost, tax efficiency and trading flexibility. Investors can purchase and sell shares through any brokerage firm, financial advisor, or online broker, and hold the funds in any type of brokerage account. The iShares customer base consists of the institutional segment of pension plans and fund managers, as well as the retail segment of financial advisors and high net worth individuals.

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³Source: Data from Bloomberg and BlackRock ETF Landscape Industry Preview Year End 2009