

Press Release

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State Street Global Advisors' SPDR® Marks 15 Years Since Launching Australia's First ETFs

SYDNEY, 24 August, 2016 — State Street Global Advisors (SSGA), the asset management business of State Street Corporation (NYSE: STT), this week celebrates the fifteenth anniversary of launching Australia's first exchange traded funds (ETFs) on the Australian Securities Exchange ("ASX").

On 27 August 2001, State Street Global Advisors launched Australia's first ETFs — the SPDR® S&P®/ASX 200 Fund (STW) and the SPDR® S&P®/ASX 50 Fund (SFY), two flagship equity funds used by retail and institutional investors alike in accessing the country's large cap shares. James MacNevin, chief operating officer of SSGA in Asia Pacific led the local launch, and today credits the rapid adoption of ETFs in Australia to their ease of use, instant diversification benefits and cost efficiency. Additionally, he stresses the importance of a continued focus on education to retail investors on understanding investment risks and the inherent benefits ETFs provide.

"When we launched the first ETFs in Australia there was little awareness of these funds' benefits. Based on our global experience, we realised the need to provide Australian financial advisers with better information to help them explain the benefits of ETFs to investors. Today, the ETF investor base has grown from institutional investors and financial advisers to individual investors. Retail investors are now realising that ETFs are an easy-to-use, transparent investment tool that gives them diversified exposure to some of the largest companies in the world through a single trade," said MacNevin.

The ASX also recognises the importance of investor awareness as underpinning continued market growth.

"ASX is proud to have partnered with State Street Global Advisors in establishing the ETF market in Australia. Since the 2001 launch, the market has now grown to more than AU\$23 billion; due in large part to the strong education initiatives of SSGA and other ASX exchange traded product issuers, which have increased the awareness of retail investors. With 14 exchange traded product issuers and 139 products available, investors and advisers alike have greater access to new market segments and asset classes than ever before. They also have a better understanding of how to use ETFs and other exchange traded products in their portfolios" said Max Cunningham, General Manager Listings and Issuer Services at the Australian Securities Exchange.

SSGA expects future growth to be driven by continued product innovation, diversification and increased awareness among investors.

"Overall, investors' portfolios have evolved and advanced since the introduction of the first ETF and investors continue to seek greater insight into how ETFs can be applied to achieve their specific investment goals in challenging markets. Given SSGA's heritage as the founder of ETFs, both globally and in Australia, we are well positioned to help investors maximise performance," said MacNevin.

State Street Global Advisors is one of the world's largest ETF providers, has 16 SPDR ETFs in Australia including Australia's largest ETF the SPDR® S&P®/ASX 200 Fund¹. SSGA's ETF assets under management in Australia totaled AU\$4.83 billion as at 31 July 2016.

¹ ASX Monthly Funds Report, as at 31 July 2016

About State Street Global Advisors

For nearly four decades, State Street Global Advisors has been committed to helping our clients, and those who rely on them, achieve financial security.

We partner with many of the world's largest, most sophisticated investors and financial intermediaries to help them reach their goals through a rigorous, research-driven investment process spanning both indexing and active disciplines. With trillions* in assets, our scale and global reach offer clients unrivaled access to markets, geographies and asset classes, and allow us to deliver thoughtful insights and innovative solutions.

State Street Global Advisors is the investment management arm of State Street Corporation.

*Assets under management were US\$2.30 trillion as of 30 June 2016. AUM reflects approx. US\$40.33B (as of 30 June 2016) with respect to which State Street Global Markets, LLC (SSGM) serves as marketing agent; SSGM and State Street Global Advisors are affiliated. Please note that AUM totals are unaudited.

Important disclosure

Investors should read and consider the relevant Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) for an ETF carefully before making an investment decision. A copy of SPDR ETF PDSs are available at www.spdrs.com.au. This material is general information only, should not be considered a solicitation to buy or sell a security and does not take into account your individual objectives, financial situation or needs.

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