

Press Release – For Release 10th April

- **Record equity turnover - €47.9 billion in Q1 2007 up 44% over the same period in 2006**
- **Average daily equity turnover rose to €749 million, with daily transactions up 34% to 4,780.**
- **Three new companies admitted to trading in the first quarter.**
- **ISEQ® hits life high during first quarter 2007 and continues to outperform most global stock markets year on year**
- **Total debt entities listed up 51% over Q1 2006**
- **New fund listings up 51% compared to first quarter 2006**

10th April 2007: The Irish Stock Exchange has reported extremely strong growth in equity trading volumes in the first quarter of 2007. With almost €48 billion traded on the ISE it has been a record quarter with the highest turnover in the Exchange's history. The value of shares traded on the Exchange, at €47.93 billion, increased by 44% in Q1 from €33.39 billion during the same period in 2006. The average daily equity turnover on the Exchange in the first quarter of this year rose to €749 million from a €522 million average during 2006.

The average number of transactions per day in the quarter was 4,780 compared to 3,561 in 2006, a 34% increase. Of the number of deals done in the first quarter of 2007, 66% were executed on the ISE's Xetra electronic trading platform. These figures emphasise the underlying liquidity of the market and reflect the continuing strength of interest in Irish equities by institutional and retail investors alike.

The Irish equity market has performed well against global markets and the more than 16% increase in the ISEQ Overall Index between Q1 2006 and Q1 2007 outperformed global indices such as the FTSE 100, Eurostoxx 50, cDAX, NASDAQ and the Dow Jones Industrial Average. The ISEQ Overall, Financial, Small Cap, General and ISEQ 20 indices all reached their life highs during Q1 2007. In line with recent declines world-wide in equity markets, the ISEQ Overall, Financial and ISEQ 20 indices have fallen back to just below their closing 2006 values, but retain very strong year on year performance.

Smurfit Kappa Plc had a successful entry to the market and commenced dealings on the ISE on the 14th March 2007, raising €4.1 billion. Companies traded on the ISE raised a total of €5.4 billion in the first quarter. The total number of equities listed on the Exchange now stands at 78, up on the Q1, 2006 total of 72.

Three companies joined the Irish Enterprise Exchange ('IEX') in the quarter: Total Produce Plc, Fyffes Plc and Zamano Plc.

Almost two years since its launch in 2005, the ISEQ® 20 ETF plc has continued to perform well. Assets under management now exceed €73 million having increased by more than 44% in the first quarter of 2007.

The ISEQ® 20 ETF trades primarily on the ISE-Xetra order-book with record daily trading volumes reached towards quarter end, with more than €15m traded on a number of occasions. The exchange is actively looking at other product opportunities in this asset class.

The first quarter of 2007 has seen another strong period for the listing of debt securities on the ISE. There were 3,143 Programme and Non-Programmes listed at quarter end, representing a 51% increase in total debt entities listed compared to the end of Q1, 2006. Q1 2007 has also seen a growth in the diversity of transactions and their countries of origin. Product types have included many asset backed deals but there has also been an increase in the volume of high yield debt, straight debt and derivative transactions. Also listed was sovereign debt from the Ukraine and the Republic of Turkey.

The ISE's Investment Funds listing business had a strong start to 2007 with a total of 102 new funds and 144 new sub-funds listing in the first quarter (including umbrella funds), representing a 51% increase in new listings over the same period last year.

Issued for the Irish Stock Exchange by MRPA Consultants

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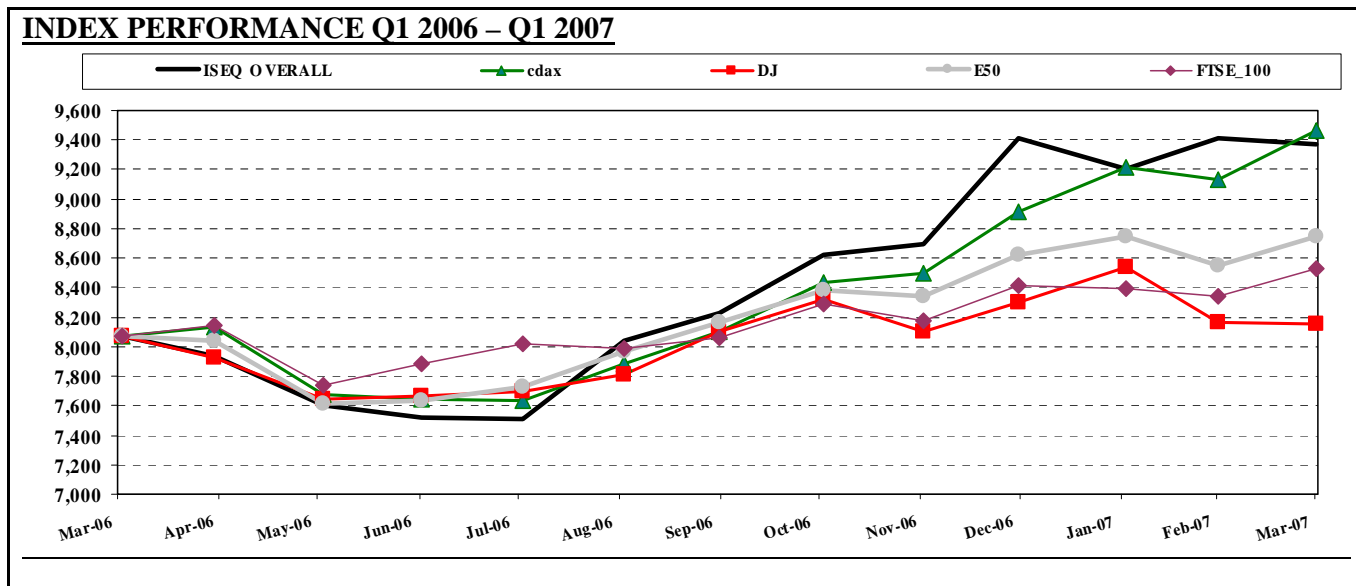
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Editors' Note: Tables detailing the key data for the first quarter and a graph comparing the performance of the ISEQ against other stock market indices are on the attachment to this press release.



Statistics –First Quarter 2007	Equities			Government Bonds		
	Q1 2007	Q1 2006	2006	Q1 2007	Q1 2006	2006
Turnover Total €m	47,928	33,385	129,246	7,181	9,789	37,457
Turnover Daily Average €m	749	522	511	112	153	148
Transactions Total	305,944	256,384	900,900			
Transactions Daily Average	4,780	4,006	3,561			
Market Capitalisation €m	123,985	104,742	119,335	31,999	32,941	32,413
Market Capitalisation (Change % in quarter)	4%			-1%		
Money Raised €m	5,396	658	3,702	0	0	0
Number of Instruments	78	72	77	11	13	11



ISEQ	Overall	Financial	General	Small Cap	ITEQ	ISEQ 20
30-March 2007	9,375	16,398	6,650	4,400	519	1,467
31-December-2006	9,408	16,864	6,545	4,202	467	1,486
Change % Q1 2006	-0.4%	-3%	2%	5%	11%	-1.3%

INVESTMENT FUNDS	Funds	Sub-Funds	Fund-Classes
Number of Investment Funds 30-Mar-2007	1,935	2,489	9,299
Newly Listed Investment Funds (incl. umbrella funds)	Q1 2007	102	990

SPECIALIST DEBT SECURITIES *	Programmes	Non-Programmes	Tranches
Number of Specialist Debt Securities 30-Mar-2007	509	2,634	19,104
Newly Listed Specialist Debt Securities	Q1 2007	30	3,062

*The figure for Programmes and non Programmes represent the number of individual issuers during a period. Any such issuer may have issued a number of securities during the relevant period which are counted within the figure for tranches.