

## Global Share Alliance Welcomes AST, CST and Wells Fargo

March 16, 2012 – North American registrars are welcomed by Global Share Alliance's founding members: Equiniti Limited ("Equiniti"), Link Market Services Limited and Tricor Investor Services Limited.

Joining the Alliance are American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC ("AST"), Canadian Stock Transfer Company Inc. ("CST"), and Wells Fargo Shareowner Services ("Wells Fargo").

The Global Share Alliance was established to support international businesses that require share registration and employee share plan services across multiple jurisdictions. Members of the Alliance will provide support to listed clients in the planning and execution of global corporate actions as well as the supply of common management information and reporting services.

With the addition of these North American providers, the Alliance now represents over 40 million shareholders in Australia, Brunei, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Commenting on the announcement, John Parker, Chairman of the Global Share Alliance and Managing Director of Equiniti Shareholder Solutions, said: "We are delighted that AST, CST, and Wells Fargo have entered into the Global Share Alliance, which now extends to all major capital markets in the world, and further enhances our global offering."

### **About American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC ("AST") and Canadian Stock Transfer Inc. ("CST")**

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC (AST) and its partner Canadian Stock Transfer Inc. (CST) form the North American division of the Link Group. Based in New York and Toronto, AST and CST are leading providers of registry services and technology to financial market participants throughout North America and in more than 22 countries. The division provides comprehensive stock transfer and employee plan services to more than 8,000 public issues and approximately 5.5 million shareholders, ranging in size from initial public offerings to Fortune 100 companies.

Founded in 1971, the organization has expanded beyond its core registry and equity plan solutions through strategic investments over the past two years. AST and CST provide comprehensive and fully integrated services including corporate proxy solicitation and advisory solutions, information agent, mutual fund proxy solicitation and advisory solutions, shareholder identification, asset recovery, and investment management offerings including online retail brokerage. For more information on AST and CST, please visit [www.amstock.com](http://www.amstock.com) and [www.canstockta.com](http://www.canstockta.com).

### **About Equiniti Limited ("Equiniti")**

Equiniti Limited is the UK's leading provider of share registration, retail investor services and employee benefits, acting for around 50% of the FTSE 100 companies and 40% of the FTSE 250. Equiniti is responsible for 17 million shareholder accounts and over 1 million employees.

It is part of the Equiniti Group which, with over 1,700 clients and combined revenues of over GBP300 million per annum, is a leading specialist provider of pensions administration, employee benefits, payments expertise, share registration services, employee share plan administration and business process outsourcing solutions. For more information on Equiniti, please visit [www.equiniti.com](http://www.equiniti.com).

### **About Link Market Services Limited ("Link")**

Link Market Services Limited is Australia's leading premium provider of registry and financial services, managing over 10 million account records, over 1,000 ASX securities and over AUD500 billion in investments. Link provides services to over 80% of the S&P/ASX 100 and is part of the Link Group network of companies.

Link's suite of services are comprehensive, incorporating core registry and capital market services, as well as various specialist functions including the provision of employee plan solutions, company secretarial services, shareholder analytics and communication solutions.

The Link Group of companies services its clients seamlessly from its offices in Australia, North America, the United Kingdom, France, South Africa, New Zealand, Hong Kong, India and Papua New Guinea.

For more information on Link, please visit [www.linkmarketservices.com.au](http://www.linkmarketservices.com.au).

**About Tricor Group ("Tricor")**

Tricor Group ("Tricor"), a member of The Bank of East Asia Group, is a global provider of integrated Business, Corporate and Investor Services.

Tricor operates from 27 cities in 15 countries/territories, with offices in Hong Kong (Head Office), Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Brunei, Dubai UAE, India, Indonesia, Japan, Labuan, Macau, Mainland China, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

Professional specialists provide a comprehensive range of services including: Accounting; China Entry & Consulting; Company Formation, Corporate Governance & Company Secretarial; Executive Search & Human Resources Consulting; Initial Public Offerings & Share Registration; Fund, Payroll, Treasury & Trust Administration; and Management Consulting.

For more information on Tricor, please visit [www.tricorglobal.com](http://www.tricorglobal.com).

**About Wells Fargo Shareowner Services ("Wells Fargo")**

Wells Fargo Shareowner Services is the stock transfer agent for over 850 corporations, representing more than 8.2 million shareholders nationwide. Wells Fargo provides a full array of stock transfer and recordkeeping services including dividend disbursement and dividend reinvestment plans, direct stock purchase and employee stock purchase plans, proxy tabulation, and shareholder meeting services.

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a nationwide, diversified, community-based financial services company with US\$1.3 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 9,000 stores, 12,000 ATMs, the Internet ([wellsfargo.com](http://wellsfargo.com)), and other distribution channels across North America and internationally. With more than 270,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in America. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 23 on *Fortune's* 2011 rankings of America's largest corporations. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy all our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially.

For more information on Wells Fargo, please visit [www.wellsfargo.com/shareownerservices](http://www.wellsfargo.com/shareownerservices) .