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## **JANUS OPENS OFFICE IN MILAN**

**Milan** – Janus, one of the largest investment management firms in the United States, today announced the opening of an office in Milan in a move to expand its business in Italy.

The office will be managed by **Alex Ricchebuono, Janus International’s regional director for southern Europe**. An Italian national, Ricchebuono joined Janus in 2000 from American Express, where he was a senior relationship manager for third-party distribution. Previously, he worked in a similar role with Paribas in Paris, New York and Milan.

“Our new office will enable us to bring a wider range of services to our Italian clients and help us focus on the institutional part of the market - a growing and important area of our business,” said **Ricchebuono**.

The 14 mutual funds approved for public distribution in Italy are part of Janus World Funds Plc, a series of Ireland-based funds introduced in 1998 by the international division of Janus. Modeled after some of Janus’ strongest-performing US-based funds they offer a variety of investment disciplines including US Growth, US Value, Global Growth, US Combination, Income and Currency Reserve Funds.

“Based on our success since coming to Italy two years ago we decided to open an office in Milan reflecting the huge potential we anticipate for our business,” said **Richard Garland, chief executive officer of Janus International** “Further it demonstrates our commitment to Italy – an important market in Janus’ international expansion plans.”

In addition to Milan, Janus International has offices outside the U.S. in London, Hong Kong and Tokyo. In addition, Janus World Funds are available in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Taiwan.

Founded in 1969 in Denver, Colorado, Janus has grown to become one of the largest and most successful investment management companies in the United States. With expertise in equity, fixed-income and money-market investments, Janus manages approximately US\$173 billion in assets (as of 31 March 2002) for four million mutual fund investors worldwide.

Janus' unique investment philosophy encourages its portfolio managers to search for the most dynamic, well-run companies – regardless of their size, industry or location. That bottom-up, research-intensive approach has produced strong long-term performance for Janus investors.

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Janus International was started in 1998 to bring the Janus investment approach to non-US investors. Later that year, Janus International introduced the first of our Janus World Funds Plc., a range of 14 funds modeled after some of Janus' strongest-performing US-based funds. Registered in Dublin, Ireland, the Janus World Funds offer a variety of investment disciplines, including US Growth, US Value, Global Growth, US Combination, Income and Currency Reserve Funds.

Janus International comprises a number of different operating companies including Janus International Limited (regulated by the Financial Services Authority).

Janus World Funds Plc (the "Fund") is a UCITS established under the laws of Ireland. An investment in the Fund may not be suitable for all investors and is not available to US persons. Investors should contact their financial adviser to determine if the Fund is available in their jurisdiction. Investment involves risks, and the prospectus should be read for further details. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. This document is not a solicitation for the sale of shares.