

For immediate release

May 12, 2008

Manulife Asset Management (Thailand) Company Limited reduces back-end fees for local equity funds

Manulife Asset Management (Thailand) Company Limited, MAMT, the fund manager of Manulife Strength-Core Equity Fund (**MS-CORE EQ**) and Manulife Strength- Equity Fund (**MS-EQ VALUE**) announces that it is to reduce the back-end fee on these funds from 1.00% to 0.25% for holding periods of less than 2 years.

Mr. Alan Kam, Chief Executive Officer, MAMT said “To make these funds even more competitive for our customers, MAMT is reducing the back-end fees from 1.00% to 0.25% of NAV, effective immediately. It is worth remembering that these are equity funds and so are designed to be held for the long term. Customers who hold these funds for 2 years or more will pay no back end fees. ”

Manulife Strength-Core Equity Fund (**MS-CORE EQ**) is an open-ended fund and invests mainly in the SET50 index using an **active management approach**. The fund’s managers identify undervalued stocks in the SET50 index with superior earning growth potential. At least 80% of portfolio assets are invested in companies in the SET50 index and the invested stocks that are not in the index (no more than 15% of portfolio) must meet the portfolio’s screening criteria & closely mirror the risk/return profile of the index. Manulife Strength Equity Fund (**MS-EQ VALUE**) is an open-ended equity fund invested in Thai stocks listed on the SET and which the fund managers believe have good fundamentals. In particular, they seek out stocks that are low beta and offer a high dividend yield.

“In addition, MAMT is once again running its special offer, Manulife Funds Plus II.” Existing unit-holders who invest in another of Manulife’s funds during May 2-July 31, 2008 will receive a special gift; either a Princess Juicer valued at THB1, 600 for an investment amount of THB 500,000-1,999,999 or a G2000 Foldable Bag valued THB 2,190 for an investment amount of THB 2,000,000 and above. The fund invested in must be one that the unit holder has never invested in before and the minimum fund holding period to be eligible for the offer is 60 days.” Mr. Alan Kam said.

Investors who are interested in MAMT funds can contact MAMT directly at Tel. (66) 0-2354-1001, (66) 0-2246-7650 (press ‘2’ for asset management) or at selling agents including Standard Chartered Bank (Thai) PCL., Deutsche Bank AG, Bangkok and Phatra Securities PCL, KGI (Thailand) Securities PCL, Merchant Partner Securities Co., Ltd., Phillip Securities (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and Capital Nomura Securities (Thailand) PCL.

About Manulife Financial

Manulife Financial is a leading Canadian-based financial services group serving millions of customers in 19 countries and territories worldwide. Operating as Manulife Financial in Canada

and Asia, and primarily through John Hancock in the United States, the Company offers clients a diverse range of financial protection products and wealth management services through its extensive network of employees, agents and distribution partners. Funds under management by Manulife Financial and its subsidiaries were Cdn\$400 billion (US\$389 billion) as at March 31, 2008.

Manulife Financial is one of two publicly traded life insurance companies in the world whose rated life insurance subsidiaries hold Standard & Poor's Rating Services' highest "AAA" rating.

Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '0945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at www.manulife.com.

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