

## **Ashmore Investment Management goes live with Calastone**

London, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012, 8am - Calastone, the independent cross-border transaction network for the mutual fund industry, is pleased to announce that Ashmore Investment Management ("Ashmore") has signed up to the network's order routing service for its range of funds domiciled in Luxembourg.

Calastone is the only venue where the global fund industry can meet to send and receive fund order messages, irrespective of their size, geographic location, preferred messaging protocol or technology. Whatever the preferred communication method of each participant, Calastone's transaction network standardises all messages into the ISO 20022 format, enabling the industry to become fully automated throughout the trading lifecycle.

Joining the network is simple and does not require additional costly technology. Single point of entry to the market via Calastone is seamless and industry developments, such as the movement away from ISO 15022 messaging to the ISO 20022 standard, are easily accommodated by the network, regardless of incumbent infrastructures.

Ashmore employs a liquidity-focused and value-driven strategy targeting total return for investors. With a principal goal of achieving superior investment results for its clients, Ashmore has chosen Calastone's network to make further efficiencies and continue to lower cost and risk.

Christoph Hofmann, head of global distribution, at Ashmore Investment Management, said, "We are delighted to connect to Calastone's transaction network and support initiatives which enhance automation within the funds industry. This drives down costs of processing orders, reduces risk and errors, as well as benefitting all counterparties in the life cycle of a trade."

Peter Hermans, Director of European Business Development at Calastone, said, "We are pleased to welcome Ashmore to our electronic order routing service. A single connection to Calastone enables clients to send orders in the mutual fund industry in any format over any communication network, making cross-border trading much more efficient and transparent. Our real-time order routing is highly automated and provides visible order flow control for higher productivity at reduced risk and lower cost."

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**Notes to Editors:**

About Calastone

**Calastone is the independent cross-border transaction network for the mutual fund industry.**

Calastone was established in March 2007 by three joint-founders, Campbell Brierley (Chief Information Officer), Kevin Lee and Ian Taylor (Chief Executive Officer). From industry experience they recognised that, unlike the institutional market, communications in the mutual fund industry between the fund providers, distributors and their transfer agents was nothing short of archaic. Messaging is still conducted by phone, fax, email, and excel spreadsheet; and the industry has been lacking a transaction network capable of handling and interpreting instructions.

Calastone presents, for the first time, the opportunity for the whole mutual fund market to become fully electronic. The magic of the Calastone Transaction Network (CTN) is that participants are able to send/receive instructions in any way they prefer whatever their messaging protocol. Also, for the first time, participants can track their trades and manage exceptions on a real-time electronic basis throughout the transaction lifecycle. Real-time tracking through Calastone's execution management system helps firms reduce not only their costs but also operating risks.

For further information please visit [www.calastone.com](http://www.calastone.com)

About Ashmore Group plc

Ashmore is one of the world's leading investment managers dedicated to Emerging Markets. The business was founded in 1992 as part of the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group. In 1999, Ashmore became independent and today manages \$63.7 billion (30 June 2012) in pooled funds, segregated accounts and structured products. Ashmore focuses on a number of Emerging Markets investment themes including external debt, local currency, corporate debt, blended debt, equity, alternatives (special situations, infrastructure and real estate), overlay / liquidity, and multi-strategy products.

Ashmore Group plc (ASHM:LN) is listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a member of the FTSE 100 Index.

The company is majority-owned by its employees. Ashmore is headquartered in London, England and has offices in Australia, Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Japan, Russia, Singapore, Turkey, and the United States.

Website: [www.ashmoregroup.com](http://www.ashmoregroup.com)