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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Franklin Templeton Institutional Announces Expansion Of Its U.S. Consultant Relations Team

Dennis Rothe Appointed Head of US Consultant Relations

New York, October 9, 2007 – Franklin Templeton Institutional has announced an expansion of its U.S. Consultant Relations team, including the appointment of Dennis Rothe, senior vice president, as head of U.S. Consultant Relations. Mr. Rothe, who will continue to have specific East Coast coverage for the company's leading consultant relationships, reports to William Babtie, recently appointed managing director and head of Franklin Templeton Institutional's Global Consultant Relations group.

"We have seen a very significant increase in our consultant-related business worldwide since the formation of the Global Consultant Relations group two years ago. The current expansion of the U.S. Consultant Relations team aims to build on this progress in the all important U.S. market," said Mr. Babtie.

In addition to Rothe, the expanded U.S. team includes several experienced professionals, providing enhanced regional coverage and capitalizing on the increased recognition of Franklin Templeton's institutional capabilities among investment consultants:



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- Keith Schweitzer, CPA, formerly senior vice president in Franklin Templeton's Defined Contribution – Investment Only business; Mr. Schweitzer will be leading Franklin Templeton Institutional's consultant efforts on the West Coast as a senior vice president.
- Cara Williams, CFA, vice president, will be joining Mr. Schweitzer to cover West Coast consultants. Her prior experience includes seven years as a vice president servicing fixed income clients at BlackRock in San Francisco. Williams and Schweitzer are based in San Mateo, California.
- Allison C. Shaw, CFA, vice president, has taken on a new role covering Midwest consultants, increasing Franklin Templeton Institutional's depth of U.S. consultant coverage.
- Paul Ames has joined the group from New York Life Investment Management where he was responsible for consultant coverage in the U.S. As vice president, Mr. Ames will be responsible for covering consultants based in the Southeast.
- Jennifer Barry, a new associate, has joined the Global Consultants Relations Group from her previous role as an associate in Franklin Templeton's Futures training program. Barry, Ames and Shaw are based in New York.

Franklin Templeton Institutional brings the specialized expertise and distinct capabilities of six autonomous investment management platforms — Franklin Global Advisers, Templeton, Franklin Templeton Fixed Income, Franklin Templeton Real Estate Advisers, Darby, and Mutual Series — to the global marketplace through a single source, serving clients in Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, the Middle East and North America. For more information, please visit www.ftinstitutional.com.

Franklin Resources, Inc. (NYSE:BEN) is a global investment management organization operating as Franklin Templeton Investments. Franklin Templeton Investments provides investment management services through its subsidiaries. The San Mateo, California-based company has 60 years of investment experience and more than \$645.9 billion for the month ended September 30, 2007.

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