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## **TWO VAN ECK GLOBAL FUNDS RECEIVE LIPPER PERFORMANCE ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATES**

*Van Eck Worldwide Hard Assets Fund tops natural resources category for five-year period;  
Van Eck Worldwide Real Estate Fund tops one- and five-year periods in real estate category*

NEW YORK, (April 3, 2008) – Two Van Eck Global funds – Van Eck Worldwide Hard Assets Fund and Van Eck Worldwide Real Estate Fund – were recognized by Lipper, the world’s leading fund research and analysis organization, with their prestigious Performance Achievement Certificates (PACs).

Lipper PACs are awarded to those funds that deliver consistently strong risk-adjusted performance, relative to peers in their asset classes. Of Van Eck’s winning funds, the Worldwide Hard Assets Fund topped the natural resources category, and 16 other eligible funds, over a five-year period, while the Worldwide Real Estate Fund placed first out of 61 funds in the Lipper real estate category over a one-year period and first out of 38 funds over a five-year period.<sup>1</sup> Both funds are available solely as options under various insurance contracts issued by life insurance and annuity companies.

Managed by a nine-person investment team lead by CIO Derek van Eck, the Worldwide Hard Assets Fund invests most of its assets in precious metals, natural resources or other commodities-related equities. This Fund currently has about 64% of its assets invested in the energy sector and about 28% in gold and industrial metals.

Managed by Samuel L. Halpert, the Worldwide Real Estate Fund invests the majority of its securities in domestic or foreign companies that invest principally in real estate. The Fund has allocated a significant portion of its assets outside of the U.S., including emerging markets.

“We are honored to be recognized by Lipper as a performance leader in two extremely competitive asset classes,” said Derek van Eck, Principal and CIO of Van Eck Global and lead investment manager of the Van Eck Worldwide Hard Assets Fund. “Our capability and long-standing history in these niche markets is compelling, and we remain committed to commodities investing over the long term.”

Lipper, a Reuters company, awards its Performance Achievement Certificates to funds with returns that topped their Lipper category over one or more time periods: one-, five-, 10- or 15-years (depending on the universe). Certificates are awarded for all Lipper classifications and for the overall fund universe. Open-end funds, closed-end funds and variable insurance products are considered for awards.

<sup>1</sup> Lipper rankings for the VP natural resources and VP real estate universes, respectively;

All data as of December 31, 2007

Fund	One-Year	Five-Year	Ten-Year
Van Eck Worldwide Hard Assets Fund	Ranked 5 <sup>th</sup> out of 26 funds	Ranked 1 <sup>st</sup> out of 17 funds	Ranked 4 <sup>th</sup> out of 6 funds
Van Eck Worldwide Real Estate Fund	Ranked 1 <sup>st</sup> out of 61 funds	Ranked 1 <sup>st</sup> out of 38 funds	Ranked 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 funds

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Lipper's rankings are based upon annualized total returns, including sales charges.

### About Van Eck Global

Van Eck Global was founded in 1955. The company managed over \$11.4 billion in assets for individuals, insurers and institutional investors, as of February 29, 2008. Van Eck has a 50+ year tradition of offering global investment choices in hard assets, emerging markets, precious metals including gold, and other specialized asset classes. Van Eck Global investment products are designed for investors seeking innovative choices for portfolio diversification.

**These Funds are not available directly to the general public. For more complete information on variable life/annuity products, including all charges and expenses, please obtain a prospectus from your licensed insurance agent/registered representative. An investor should consider the investment objective, risks, and charges and expenses of the investment company carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information about the investment company. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.**

### Van Eck Worldwide Hard Assets Fund

You can lose money by investing in the Fund. Any investment in the Fund should be part of an overall investment program, not a complete program. The Fund is subject to risks associated with concentrating its investments in hard assets and the hard assets sector, including real estate, precious metals and natural resources, and can be significantly affected by events relating to these industries, including international political and economic developments, inflation, and other factors. The Fund's portfolio securities may experience substantial price fluctuations as a result of these factors, and may move independently of the

trends of industrialized companies. The Fund's investments in foreign securities involve risks related to adverse political and economic developments unique to a country or a region, currency fluctuations or controls, and the possibility of arbitrary action by foreign governments, including the takeover of property without adequate compensation or imposition of prohibitive taxation. The Fund is subject to risks associated with investments in debt securities, derivatives, commodity-linked instruments, illiquid securities, asset-backed securities and CMOs. The Fund is also subject to inflation risk, short-sales risk, market risk, non-diversification risk and leverage risk. Please see the prospectus for information on these and other risk considerations.

**Van Eck Worldwide Real Estate Fund**

You can lose money by investing in the Fund. Any investment in the Fund should be part of an overall investment program, not a complete program. The Fund's investments are subject to the risks associated with investments in the real estate market and REITs. These risks could contribute to a decline in the value of the Fund's investments and, consequently, the share price of the Fund. To the extent the Fund's investments are concentrated in particular geographical regions, the Fund may be subject to certain of these risks to a greater degree. REITs have expenses, including advisory and administration fees that are paid by REIT shareholders. As a result, you will absorb duplicate levels of fees when the Fund invests in REITs. If certain investment vehicles fail, the Fund may end up holding actual real estate in settlement of investment claims, and this property may be hard to sell. The Fund is subject to risks associated with investments in emerging market securities, debt securities, derivatives, commodity-linked instruments, illiquid securities, asset-backed securities and CMOs. The Fund is also subject to inflation risk, short-sales risk, market risk, non-diversification risk and leverage risk. Please see the prospectus for information on these and other risk considerations.

**Van Eck Securities Corporation, Distributor, 99 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016**

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