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## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **FREEMAN & CO ADVISES GUGGENHEIM PARTNERS ON SALE OF CLAYMORE INVESTMENTS TO BLACKROCK**

*Claymore Investments is #2 in Canadian ETFs with \$7.0 billion in Assets under Management*

**NEW YORK, January 11, 2012** – Freeman & Co. congratulates its client Guggenheim Partners, LLC on its recent sale of Claymore Investments, Inc. to BlackRock, Inc. (NYSE: BLK). Freeman & Co. acted as a financial advisor to Guggenheim Partners and Claymore Investments on this transaction. This is the second ETF transaction advised by Freeman & Co., following the sale of Rydex Investments to Guggenheim Partners.

BlackRock, an ETF market leader, will strengthen its position globally through the acquisition of Claymore, which at the time of the transaction had over \$7.0 billion in assets under management and 16% percent market share. This transaction represents an important development in the high-growth Canadian ETF industry.

“The fast growing ETF market continues to have a substantial and disruptive impact on the asset management industry broadly. Having sold Rydex to Guggenheim, we are pleased to have represented them in selling Claymore’s ETF business,” said Eric Weber, Managing Director & COO at Freeman & Co.

The Claymore family of ETFs complements BlackRock’s existing offerings, and Claymore Investments will now be included in the global iShares family. The transaction is subject to customary approvals and conditions and is expected to close by the end of the first quarter of 2012.

#### **About Claymore Investments, Inc.**

Claymore Investments, Inc. is a Canadian leader in bringing intelligent, low cost exchange-traded funds in Canada through its family of 34 ETFs and 2 closed-end funds across broad asset classes including core equity, global sectors, fixed income and commodities with \$6.9 billion in assets under management as of December 31, 2011. Claymore Investments, Inc. is a subsidiary of Guggenheim Funds Services Group, Inc., a financial services and asset management company based in the Chicago, Illinois area and an indirect subsidiary of Guggenheim Partners, LLC, a global, diversified financial services firm with more than \$125 billion in assets under supervision.

#### **About Freeman & Co. LLC**

Founded in 1991, Freeman & Co. LLC is an M&A advisory and strategic consulting firm focused exclusively on the financial services industry with offices in New York and London. The company's advisory services include mergers and acquisitions advice, capital raising, underwriting, fairness opinions, restructuring advice and private company valuations. Strategic consulting assignments are customized to client needs and have covered a wide array of projects. Additionally, Freeman & Co. developed a proprietary algorithm and methodology for benchmarking the competitive position of capital markets businesses, which has become the industry standard used by major investment banks. For more information, visit [www.freeman-co.com](http://www.freeman-co.com).

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