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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOHN HANCOCK ADVISERS, LLC ANNOUNCES NAME CHANGE OF MFC GLOBAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT (U.S.), LLC

BOSTON, MA (January 3, 2011) – John Hancock Advisers, LLC, an investment adviser to John Hancock Closed-End Funds, announced today that MFC Global Investment Management (U.S.), LLC changed its name to John Hancock Asset Management a division of Manulife Asset Management (US) LLC ("John Hancock Asset Management").

John Hancock Asset Management serves as a sub-adviser to the following eight John Hancock Closed-End Funds: John Hancock Bank and Thrift Opportunity Fund (NYSE: BTO), John Hancock Premium Dividend Fund, previously known as John Hancock Patriot Premium Dividend Fund II (NYSE: PDT), John Hancock Preferred Income Fund (NYSE: HPI), John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III (NYSE: HPS), John Hancock Tax-Advantaged Dividend Income Fund (NYSE: HTD), John Hancock Investors Trust (NYSE: JHI), and John Hancock Income Securities Trust (NYSE: JHS) (collectively, the "Funds"). The change to John Hancock Asset Management is a name change only. There is no change to the legal or ownership structure of the sub-adviser and the name change will have no impact on the management of the Funds.

About John Hancock Funds

The Boston-based mutual fund business unit of John Hancock Financial, John Hancock Funds, manages more than \$60.8 billion in open-end funds, closed-end funds, private accounts, retirement plans and related party assets for individual and institutional investors at September 30, 2010.

About John Hancock Financial and Manulife Financial Corporation

John Hancock Financial is a unit of Manulife Financial Corporation, a leading Canadian-based financial services group serving millions of customers in 22 countries and territories worldwide. Operating as Manulife Financial in Canada and in most of Asia, and primarily as John Hancock in the United States, Manulife Financial Corporation 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\$474 billion (US\$460 billion) at September 30, 2010.

Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at www.manulife.com.

The John Hancock unit, through its insurance companies, comprises one of the largest life insurers in the United States. John Hancock offers a broad range of financial products and services, including <u>life insurance</u>, fixed and variable <u>annuities</u>, <u>fixed products</u>, <u>mutual funds</u>, <u>401(k) plans</u>, <u>long-term care insurance</u>, <u>college savings</u>, and other forms of business insurance. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at <u>www.johnhancock.com</u>.