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## Criteria CaixaCorp joins the IBEX-35 index

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It will be one the largest companies in terms of market cap on this selective Spanish benchmark index. Joining the IBEX-35 will increase the stock's visibility and liquidity.

### **Barcelona, 29 January 2008 .**

During an extraordinary meeting, the IBEX Technical Advisory Committee has decided to include Criteria Caixa Corp in the IBEX-35 to replace Aguas de Barcelona and Altadis following the conclusion of the respective takeover bids for these companies. This decision comes barely three months after Criteria, the company which groups together most of the portfolio of investees, listed and unlisted alike, of the la Caixa group, was listed on the stock exchange.

Criteria has a *free-float* of 22% and an average market cap of 16.9 billion euros, making it one of the top ten stocks on the index in this regard.

Despite its recent debut, the company's average trading volume has totalled 7.3 million shares since it was listed, in other words, an average daily volume of 37 million euros.

As a member of Spain's major benchmark index the stock will enjoy greater liquidity and increase its visibility amongst the major equity portfolio managers.

The initial public offering of Criteria concluded on 10 October raising some 3.9 billion euros and incorporating over 360,000 shareholders. In the IPO the retail tranche was allocated 55% of the shares, institutional investors 40% and la Caixa employees the remaining 5%.

Criteria manages a portfolio of more than 23 billion euros of listed and unlisted holdings in leading companies in the infrastructure and services, banking and financial sectors.

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