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## FINANCE/NEW ISSUES; China Said to Seek Bond Credit Rating

REUTERS

LEAD: China has hired the Morgan Stanley Group to help it obtain a credit rating for possible bond issues in the United States, Chinese sources said today. They gave no timetable but called this the "first step in a long process."

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Bankers in Hong Kong say Morgan Stanley was hired in March to help China gain a rating from Standard & Poor's and Moody's. China's finance ministry has denied seeking a rating.

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