

February 26, 2015

Press Release

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd.

Nikko Asset Management Wins Best Asia Pacific Equity ETF Manager Award

Global ETF investors voted Nikko Asset Management as the Best Asia Pacific Equity ETF Manager for the fifth time in six years in a survey conducted by ETF Express, an industry-leading financial publisher, Nikko Asset Management announced today.

“As we position Nikko Asset Management to be Asia’s premier global asset manager, this recognition from sophisticated investors around the world validates our credentials as a true global player in ETFs,” said Hideyuki Omokawa, Global Head of Products at Nikko Asset Management Co Ltd.

The Tokyo-based asset manager has been the most consistent winner in any category, with more than 1,600 subscribers of ETF Express taking part in the survey.

“Nikko Asset Management, as a long-established and sizeable ETF manager, is in a great position to bring investors relevant and differentiated solutions,” said Geoffrey Post, Head of International Product Development at Nikko Asset Management Europe Ltd. “The design and management of our ETFs emphasise the firm’s experience, focus on providing highly efficient exposure, and draw on our deep local expertise. In 2015 we will continue to expand our ETF offering, recognising the growing appetite for both ETFs and Asian exposures, to reach a broader range of global investors.”

ETF Express surveys the best ETF managers in their respective asset class, recognising managers based on product innovation, performance, consistency, expert knowledge and transparency. Results are centred on a “peer review system” that sees investors, managers, advisers and distributors and other industry participants nominate winners for each category. Firms are then subject to a final review by the ETF Express editorial team at which the winners are then named. Details on the award can be viewed at:

<http://www.etfexpress.com/>

**This award is based on past performance and does not guarantee future investment performance.*

-ENDS-



About Nikko Asset Management

Nikko Asset Management is positioning itself to be Asia's premier global asset manager. The firm offers world-class asset management solutions for global investors, and has approximately \$160 billion in assets under management*. With more than 280 investment professionals**, the firm leverages its extensive global resources representing over 30 nationalities across 12 countries. Headquartered in Asia for over 55 years, Nikko Asset Management's vantage point, extending east to west, distinguishes its investment approach.

For more information, please visit <http://en.nikkoam.com/>

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko AM and its subsidiaries as of September 30, 2014. AUM figures are converted into US dollars using the month-end exchange rate.

** Represents the 26 locations of Nikko Asset Management and its overseas subsidiaries and affiliates (including minority joint ventures) across 12 countries.