

PRESS RELEASE

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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT NEW ZEALAND

Nikko Asset Management NZ wins FundSource Fixed Interest Manager of the Year

Nikko Asset Management New Zealand has been recognised for outstanding investment performance at the 2016 FundSource Awards, winning Fixed Interest Manager of the Year at the event held in Auckland last week.

Nikko Asset Management New Zealand has been awarded the FundSource New Zealand Fixed Income Sector Award at the last three consecutive award events. The 2016 Award went to the Nikko AM Income Fund, which aims to provide investors with regular income while also protecting the value of investor's funds.

"It's an honour to be recognised for excellence in the Fixed Interest Category. We are proud of the Income Fund's track record of achieving strong investment return from the fixed income sector for our investors," said Fergus McDonald, Head of Fixed Income at Nikko Asset Management New Zealand.

"The Fund has been available since 2007 and has delivered returns that are significantly higher than those generated by term deposits and other similar investment alternatives," McDonald continued.

Glen van Echten, Head of FundSource, said several factors secured Nikko Asset Management's award win:

"While the majority of the fund is invested in investment grade corporate bonds, it also offers an option overlay, making it unique to the New Zealand market place.

"It's dedicated allocation to the option overlay means the fund has the ability to produce lowly correlated returns. In a lower-for-longer interest rate environment this assists in managing risks associated with potential interest rate hikes, and the impacts they will likely have on the New Zealand fixed income market.

"The Nikko AM Fixed Income team have worked together for a long time, meaning this process has been consistently applied, and been in place for several years," van Echten concluded.

Nikko Asset Management New Zealand was also recognized for its performance in two other categories; listing as a finalist in the New Zealand Equity Sector for the Nikko AM Core Equity Fund and in the Alternative Sector for the Nikko AM Multi Strategy.

FundSource is a New Zealand managed funds research house that has supplied independent research and data to financial advisers and fund managers since 1987. FundSource uses quantitative data and qualitative research to judge the awards.

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About Nikko Asset Management:

With US\$165 billion (16.93 billion yen) under management, Nikko Asset Management is one of Asia's largest asset managers, providing high-conviction, active fund management across a range of Equity, Fixed Income, Multi-Asset and Alternative strategies. In addition, its complementary range of passive strategies covers more than 20 indices and includes some of Asia's largest exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia for nearly 60 years, the firm consists of more than 200 investment professionals and over 30 nationalities across nine countries. More than 300 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the company's products.

The investment teams benefit from a unique global perspective complemented by the firm's historic Asian DNA, striving to deliver consistent excellence in performance. The firm also prides itself on its progressive solutions-driven approach, which has led to innovative funds for its clients.

For more information about Nikko Asset Management and to access its investment insights, please visit the firm's [homepage](#).

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of June 30, 2016.

** As of June 30, 2016, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

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