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Media Release

Nikko AM adds INFINZ Bond Manager of the Year to trophy cabinet

Nikko Asset Management New Zealand has won another major industry accolade, this time the Institute of Finance Professionals' top bonds manager award.

At the INFINZ Awards at Auckland's Cordis Hotel on 17 May 2018, Nikko AM NZ was named "Fitch Ratings Fund Manager of the Year – Bonds" in front of hundreds of their peers.

Judging for the award is based on a quantitative analysis of risk-adjusted fund performance, and a qualitative assessment of factors including the team's decision-making processes, fees and compliance.

Fergus McDonald, Head of Bonds and Currency, Nikko AM NZ, accepted the award on behalf of his team. He says the win proved the long-term robustness of their investment-making decisions.

"Our primary focus is delivering real value for clients, and we do this in a rigorous risk management environment and a research-driven culture, which help us generate sustainable returns for our clients," says McDonald.

The INFINZ bonds award comes less than three months after Nikko AM NZ was named Morningstar 2018 NZ Fund Manager of the Year, recognising consistency of performance across multiple categories.

The Auckland-based firm was also a 2018 INFINZ finalist for Chapman Tripp "Fund Manager of the Year – Equites" which it won in May 2017.

George Carter, Managing Director, Nikko AM NZ says it's an exciting time for the firm, which has just launched its KiwiSaver Scheme for retail investors and intends to offer a robo-advice platform later this year.

"In a competitive field with four finalists, our Fixed Income team was recognised for not only a very strong year of performance but also consistently strong performance over time," says Carter.

"These accolades recognise Nikko Asset Management's focus on delivering real value for our clients, and we will continue to offer New Zealanders great investment solutions and innovative investment opportunities," he concludes.

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About Nikko AM NZ

Nikko AM NZ currently manages over \$5 billion of assets (as at 31 March 2018) across a range of asset classes. Nikko AM NZ is part of one of the largest asset management companies in Asia, Nikko Asset Management (Nikko AM). Nikko AM manages USD 211.5 billion* and employs more than 195 investment professionals. This unique advantage makes Nikko AM NZ the only dedicated investment manager in New Zealand to be a part of a specialist global investment manager. *Data as at 31 December 2017. A copy of the Product Disclosure Statement is available at www.nikkoam.com

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