

PRESS RELEASE

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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko Asset Management Recognised as Best Asia Pacific Equity ETF Manager

Nikko Asset Management (Nikko AM) today announces that it has been voted the Best Asia Pacific Equity ETF Manager for the seventh time in eight years in a survey conducted by ETF Express, the digital news publisher serving institutional investors and investment advisers.

Nikko AM's ETF assets under management (AUM) grew to over JPY 6.4 trillion by December 2017, representing nearly 60% year-over-year growth from JPY 4.0 trillion at the end of 2016. In 2017 Nikko AM was the second largest ETF provider in the Asia-Pacific region, while ranking among the top ten globally (as of the end of December 2017).

In March 2017, Nikko Asset Management Asia launched the world's first Asia ex Japan REIT ETF*, the NikkoAM-StraitsTrading Asia ex Japan REIT ETF, on the Singapore Exchange (SGX). It provides access to a portfolio of REITs in Asia across developed and emerging countries, such as Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, and Indonesia. In June 2017, the Firm launched a similar Listed Index Fund Asian REIT on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE), expanding access to Japan-based investors.

"We are honoured by this recognition, which is a reflection that increasingly investors are looking for efficient exposure to Japanese equity, and other yield producing asset classes. Our focus on performance-driven solutions has enabled this growth. Last year saw significant expansion for our ETF business outside of Japan, and we look forward to continuing to grow our investor base globally in 2018," said Koei Imai, Head of the ETF Centre at Nikko Asset Management.

ETF Express surveys the best ETF managers in their respective asset classes, 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 before the winners are named.

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

*According to Nikko Asset Management's research.

About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$211.6 billion (23.83 trillion 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 since 1959, the firm represents nearly 200** investment professionals and over 30 nationalities across 9 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 solution-driven approach, which has led to many innovative funds launched 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 31 December 2017.

** As of 31 December 2017, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

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