

## PRESS RELEASE

MARCH 13, 2017

NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

# Nikko Asset Management Recognised as Best Asia Pacific Equity ETF Manager

Nikko Asset Management 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. The firm has been the most consistent ETF Express winner in any category, with more than 1,600 ETF Express subscribers taking part in the survey annually.

Nikko Asset Management's ETF business grew assets under management (AUM) to over JPY 4 trillion by December 2016, representing 29% year-over-year growth from JPY 3.1 trillion at the end of 2015. The firm's ETF business is ranked number two in Asia for AUM, and it is also one of the few investment managers that can provide a full range of ETF products across all major asset classes in Japan - Japanese equities, foreign equities, Japanese REITs and foreign REITs. Of the 11 new ETFs listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in 2016, three were from Nikko Asset Management, more than any other investment manager.

In March 2017 the company launched Japan's first equity long-short strategy ETF, the Listed Index Fund MSCI Japan Equity High Dividend Low Volatility (Beta Hedged)\*. The ETF invests in an equity portfolio made up of high dividend yield Japanese equities that minimise volatility while also taking short positions on futures (beta hedging) in order to minimise price sensitivity (beta) to volatility in the overall market.

"The increase in geopolitical risk in 2016 continues to influence markets globally. As a result, many institutional and retail investors are looking to minimise exposure to volatility. We have broadened – and will continue to expand – our ETF line-up to meet their needs," 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.

For more about Nikko AM's ETFs, please visit its ETF Centre.

*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\$170.9 billion (19.93 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 for nearly 60 years, the firm represents more than 200 investment professionals and over 30 nationalities across 11 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 our investment insights, please visit our [homepage](#).

\* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2016.

\*\* As of December 31, 2016, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd.

Registration Number: Director of the Kanto Local Finance Bureau (Financial instruments firms) No. 368

Member Associations: The Investment Trusts Association, Japan/Japan Investment Advisers Association/ Japan Securities Dealers Association