

March 4, 2011

Press Release

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd.

Nikko AM Chosen as "Best Asia Pacific ETF Management Firm" in ETF Express Awards 2011 for Two Consecutive Years



etfexpress

AWARD WINNER 2011

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Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM)(Timothy F. McCarthy, Chairman and CEO) has been chosen as the best Asia Pacific ETF management firm in the ETF Express Awards 2011 for two consecutive years.

The ETF Express Awards 2011 is presented by a British publisher of fund-related news, the Global Fund Media Ltd. (GFM). Reader votes of the ETF Express, which is a GFM's website specialized in exchange trade funds (ETFs), determine the recipients of the awards. Awards are not just only based on product performance, but a number of distinguishing factors including innovation, consistency, depth of professional knowledge and transparency. Award winners were announced in London on March 2 (GMT).

Nikko AM considers it an honor to be nominated as the best ETF management firm in Asia Pacific Region for two years in a row from among many other asset management companies. This achievement is a result of the tremendous support for Nikko AM's ETFs from its investors and market players.

Nikko AM has developed and offered various ETFs to date, and the company is planning to list three new ETFs on the exchange in March, 2011. "Listed Index Fund Nikkei China Related 50" is the 20th ETF for Nikko AM to be listed and marks the 100th ETF to be listed on the TSE.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Listing</u>
Listed Index Fund World Equity (MSCI ACWI) ex Japan	1554	March 8, 2011
Listed Index Fund Australian REIT (S&P/ASX200 A-REIT)	1555	March 9, 2011
Listed Index Fund Nikkei China Related 50	1556	March 10, 2011

Using this award to spur even greater achievements, Nikko AM will strive to contribute for further development of the ETF market by developing products that meet investor needs and further enhancing its services.

For further information, please visit the following websites.

GFM's official website: <http://www.globalfundmedia.com>

ETF Express website: <http://www.etfexpress.com>

Note: This material is an English translation of a Japanese announcement made on March 4, 2011. Although Nikko AM intended to faithfully translate the Japanese document into English, the accuracy and correctness of this translation are not guaranteed and thus you are encouraged to refer to the original Japanese document.

Please note that you cannot purchase any products mentioned in this press release if you are not a Japanese resident or if you hold nationality of a country where there are legal restrictions on their ownership. The information referred to in this press release is for Japanese residents only. The information provided is designed for use by Japanese residents only and should not be relied on by residents of any other jurisdiction.

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

■ Comprehensive Risk Information on Mutual Funds

- Investment trusts invest in assets whose prices fluctuate (foreign currency-denominated assets contain exchange rate risk as well), so the NAV will fluctuate accordingly. It is possible that the NAV will fall below the principal amount of your investment.
- Different investment trusts invest in different asset classes, markets, and countries, and contain different investment restrictions, so the details of their risks differ accordingly.

■ Overview of fees, etc.

Investors must bear the following expenses:

<Fees charged at the time of subscription and redemption>

- Subscription Fees: The distributors may charge subscribers a fee determined by each distributor. Please contact your distributor for details.
Consumption tax is levied on the subscription fee.
- Redemption Fees: The distributors may charge beneficiaries a fee determined by each distributor, together with consumption tax thereon, upon redemption or repurchase of beneficiary interests.
* Please contact the distributor for details.

- Amount Retained in Trust Assets: Up to 0.3%

<Fees charged at the time of trading at the Exchange>

- Trading Commission: As independently stipulated by the broker. Please contact your broker for details.

<Fees and expenses charged indirectly through the trust assets (i.e. paid by the Fund)>

- Trust Fees Up to 0.9975% (0.95% before tax)
When lending securities, an additional amount calculated by multiplying securities lending fees by a rate of 0.525 (0.5 before tax) or less.
- Other Expenses Brokerage commission with respect to securities held in the portfolio, audit fees, interest on advances, costs of listing beneficiary interests, license fees, etc.

* The rate or maximum amounts applicable to other fees and expenses cannot be disclosed in advance because the actual amount will vary depending on the state of the assets managed.

* The total amount of fees above will vary depending on the length of investment period and other factors. Therefore, we cannot give a specific total.

* For more detail, please refer to the investment trust explanatory document (prospectus distributed in advance of purchase).

<Disclaimer>

- Fees, etc. listed are the highest rates among those charged to the ETFs managed by Nikko Asset Management (as of March 4, 2011).
- The risk information and fees, etc. disclosed above are those typical for a general investment trust. Actual fees will vary for each specific investment trust. For more details, please refer to the investment trust explanatory document (prospectus distributed in advance of subscription).

■ Other matters to consider

- These marketing materials were prepared for the purpose of providing information on the ETFs managed by Nikko Asset Management and promoting investors' understanding of this Fund.
- Unlike bank deposits or insurance policies, investment trusts are not protected by the Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Insurance Policyholders Protection Corporation.
- Any profit or loss derived from management of investment trusts belongs to all the beneficiaries. Please read the related contract prior to investing in the Funds.

About Nikko Asset Management

Registration Number: Director of the Kanto Local Finance Bureau (Financial instruments firms) No. 368
Member Associations: The Investment Trusts Association
Japan Securities Investment Advisers Association

Nikko Asset Management (Nikko AM) is a leading Japan-based asset management group. Since its establishment 50 years ago, Nikko AM has been offering a full lineup of retail funds to individual investors and high value-added advisory services to institutional investors.

Its products are distributed through a network of around 200 distributor institutions including banks, securities companies, and Japan Post Bank. The firm offers investors access to both Nikko AM funds that invest mainly in Japanese equities, fixed income, and REITs and, through its independently developed “World Series Fund Platform”, opportunities to strategically utilize a global range of top-performing, independent asset managers over a diverse range of asset classes.

In 1999, Nikko AM became the first Japanese firm to establish a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) fund, and in 2001 broke new ground for a Japanese asset management firm by acquiring ISO 14001 certification (world-class environmental management standard). In these and other ways, Nikko AM actively involves itself in socially responsible activities.

Furthermore, since autumn 2010, Nikko AM has positioned itself as a “Fund Manufacturer” and is currently engaged in activities to inform its customers in an easy-to-understand way about the roles of asset management companies and how retail funds can be utilized.

Nikko AM has moved to enhance its expertise in the asset management business by clarifying the responsibilities of fund managers, reinforcing collaboration between research and management sections, and refining risk management capability. In recognition of these accomplishments, Nikko AM has been awarded several prestigious fund awards, such as the Lipper Japan Award, Asian Investor’s Award, and R&I Fund Award.

The Nikko AM Group¹ has assets totaling 10.3 trillion yen under management as of December 31, 2010², and has overseas offices in London, New York, and Singapore.

Note 1: “Nikko AM Group” stands for Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. and its group companies.

Note 2: Consolidated assets (including advised assets) of Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. and its overseas subsidiaries.