
Nikko Asset Management and ARK Investment Management launch disruptive innovation UCITS fund

Nikko Asset Management (“Nikko AM”) and US-based ARK Investment Management LLC (“ARK”) have today announced the launch of a Luxembourg-domiciled UCITS, the Nikko AM ARK Disruptive Innovation Fund (the “Fund”), a global equity fund solely focused on disruptive innovation. The Fund enables investors to access ARK’s disruptive innovation strategy; investing in the leaders, enablers and beneficiaries of innovations centered on robotics, automation, energy storage, genomic sequencing and next generation internet technologies.

ARK defines disruptive innovation as the introduction of a technologically enabled new product or service that permanently changes an industry landscape by creating simplicity and accessibility while driving down costs.

Catherine Wood, Founder and Chief Executive Officer/Chief Investment Officer of ARK said, “The Fund enables investors to access early-stage and emerging companies through listed global equity markets. We believe this offers long-term growth without the high costs and illiquidity typically associated with similar investments accessed through venture capital funds.”

The Fund’s investment team utilises an open research approach that is designed to identify innovation and its convergence across sectors, economies and geographies.

ARK is an affiliate of Nikko AM via an equity stake, which Nikko AM acquired in August 2017 to enhance its disruptive innovation focused investment solutions. Nikko AM Europe Chief Executive Officer John Howland-Jackson explained that the ongoing partnership is highly valuable, ensuring that Nikko AM continues to create progressive solutions for clients.

“We are excited to partner with ARK in launching this new UCITS fund for our European clients,” said John Howland-Jackson. “By working closely with ARK and leveraging their unique investment model, we give clients exposure to the growth that accompanies disruptive innovation, which is continuing to transform our world at an accelerated rate.”

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About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$220.1 billion (23.41 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 March 2018.

** As of 31 March 2018, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

About ARK Investment Management LLC

Headquartered in New York City, ARK Investment Management LLC is a federally registered investment adviser and privately held investment firm with approximately \$5.9 billion assets under management as of June 30, 2018. Specializing in thematic investing in disruptive innovation, the firm is rooted in over 40 years of experience in identifying and investing in disruptive innovations that should change the way the world works and deliver outsized growth as industries transform. Through its open research process, ARK identifies companies that it believes are leading and benefiting from cross-sector innovations centered around robotics/automation, energy storage, genomic sequencing, and next generation internet technologies, including deep learning, mobile connected devices, and blockchain technology. ARK's investment strategies include: Industrial Innovation, Next Generation Internet, Genomic Revolution, Fintech Innovations, 3D Printing, Israel Innovative Technology, and the overall ARK Disruptive Innovation Strategy.

In July 2016, Resolute Investment Managers, Inc., the parent company of American Beacon Advisors, Inc., announced that it had taken an investment of a minority interest in ARK. In August 2017, Nikko Asset Management ("Nikko AM") acquired a minority stake in ARK to enhance its disruptive innovation focused investment solutions. These partnerships are providing ARK with distribution across the United States and the Asia Pacific regions.

For more information regarding ARK's research and advisor services, please visit <http://www.ark-invest.com>.

ARK can be followed on Twitter at @ARKInvest. Catherine D. Wood can be followed on Twitter at @CathieDWood. ARK's Director of Research, Brett Winton, can be followed on Twitter at @wintonARK. ARK's analysts can be followed on Twitter at @TashaARK, @skorusARK, @jwangARK, @yassineARK, @bhavanaARK, and @msamyARK.

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