

NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko Asset Management Names New EMEA Leadership Rob Bluzmanis appointed EMEA Regional Head and CEO of Nikko AM Europe Ltd, effective 1 April

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) is delighted to announce the appointment of Rob Bluzmanis as Regional Head of EMEA and Chief Executive of Nikko AM Europe Ltd, effective 1 April 2022 (subject to Financial Conduct Authority approval). John Howland-Jackson continues as Chairman of Nikko AM Europe in a non-executive capacity, whilst also stepping into a new global strategy role as Senior Advisor International. In their new capacity, both individuals will report directly to Stefanie Drews in Tokyo, who has recently been <u>appointed as President</u> of Nikko AM.

Rob will be based in London with regional responsibility for all aspects of the business and its continuing growth strategy across Europe, Middle East and Africa. He brings with him over 20 years of industry experience, having previously held senior management roles at Nikko AM Australia, Blackrock and Colonial First State. Rob holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Economics) from Australia's Macquarie University, and a Graduate Diploma of Applied Finance from the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (FINSIA). He also holds the CIMA[®] designation.

Chairman John Howland-Jackson will be assuming a new role focused principally on helping to develop and implement Nikko AM's global growth strategy, as well as continuing to champion ESG and stewardship initiatives across the global business.

Welcoming these developments, Stefanie Drews, President of Nikko AM, said: "With his significant industry experience and deep knowledge of Nikko AM's offering and positioning, Rob is ideally suited to take up this new challenge as we further expand our capabilities across EMEA. We are also pleased that John will continue to support both the EMEA region and our organisational growth efforts in his new capacity."

Rob first joined Nikko AM in 2015 and most recently served as Managing Director and Head of Distribution in Australia, whilst also managing consultant relationships in the region. He now returns to Nikko AM following his transfer to Yarra Capital Management as part of a majority stake <u>acquisition</u> in Nikko AM Australia by Yarra in April 2021.

Commenting on his new appointment, Rob Bluzmanis said: "I look forward immensely to returning to work with the team at Nikko AM as we consolidate our efforts and continue to deliver high-quality investment opportunities for clients across the EMEA region."

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About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$282.5 billion* 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 leading exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries employ personnel representing around 25 nationalities, including approximately 200 investment professionals**. The firm has a presence through subsidiaries or affiliates in a total of 11 countries and regions. More than 400 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the firm'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 <u>homepage</u>.

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 30 September 2021.

** Including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 30 September 2021.

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