

PRESS RELEASE

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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko AM Wins Three Categories in Asia Asset Management's 2025 Best of the Best Awards

Performance award for Japan Large Cap Equity (10 years)

Japan Country Awards for Best Institutional Asset Manager, ETF Manager of the Year

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) was selected on 4 February for three categories in Asia Asset Management's 2025 Best of the Best Awards. These include a performance award for Japan Large Cap Equity (10 years) and Japan country awards for Best Institutional Asset Manager and ETF Manager of the Year. This marks the twelfth consecutive year Nikko AM has been awarded by Asia Asset Management, The Journal of Investments and Pensions, regarded as one of the most influential publications about the asset management industry in Asia.

Nikko AM's performance award was for Japan Large Cap Equity (10 years), on behalf of the Japan Cash-Rich Company Equity Strategy^{1,2,3} for the third consecutive year. Asia Asset Management decides performance awards based on monthly gross returns compared to relevant benchmark, for the period ending 30 September 2024.

Japan Cash-Rich Equity Strategy Portfolio Manager Yu Sato commented, "It is an honour that Asia Asset Management has once again recognised our Japan equity performance. We believe our portfolio of cash-rich companies exhibits slightly lower volatility than the market, despite its focus on small and mid-cap stocks. Importantly, the strategy tends to outperform in declining markets while keeping up with rising markets, except for periods of extreme upward volatility."

In the Japan country awards, which cover the year ending 30 November 2024, Nikko AM was selected as Best Institutional Asset Manager. This award is based on institutional market share, client retention and acquiring new business, while launching new initiatives. During the award period, the firm increased its Japan institutional assets under management by 3.5% and earned a number of new mandates. New initiatives for institutional investors included offering strategic partner Tikehau Capital's European Direct Lending, Private Equity Decarbonization and Private Debt Secondaries strategies, and hosting a long-term training for a regional bank.

Nikko AM was also chosen as ETF Manager of the Year in Japan for the eighth time, following wins in the 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2023 and 2024 awards. At the end of the award period, the firm had increased its share to 19.8% of all ETFs trading on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE). The firm listed a new ETF on the TSE on the theme of investment opportunities driving Japan's semiconductor industry.

¹ The fund is not registered for sale in Singapore.

² The fund is not authorised by the Securities and Futures Commission and is not available to retail investors in Hong Kong.

³ Nikko AM's benchmark for the strategy is the TOPIX (including dividends.)

Nikko AM President Stefanie Drews remarked, "We are extremely proud to be recognised again by Asia Asset Management. We could not have achieved these results for our clients without the dedication of our middle and back-office colleagues as well, and these awards underscore our efforts as one global team."

Past performance of the managers or funds is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

– ENDS –

Important Information on Investment Advisory Agreements and Discretionary Investment Agreements

The investments effected under discretionary investment agreements and advice rendered under investment advisory agreements covers primarily equities, bonds and/or other securities whose price fluctuates (subject also to exchange-rate fluctuation risk if denominated in foreign currencies). Accordingly, the estimated value of client assets under management fluctuates and may fall below the principal investment.

The main risks pertaining to investment advisory agreements and discretionary investment agreements are 1) price fluctuation risk, 2) liquidity risk, 3) credit risk, 4) exchange-rate fluctuation risk, 5) country risk, 6) derivative risk, 7) risk unique to alternative strategies.

Information on Fees and Charges Payable by Clients

- **Investment Advisory and Other Service Fees:** In consideration of the investment advisory agreement or discretionary investment agreement, the maximum investment advisory fee chargeable will be set by multiplying the outstanding balance of invested assets (an initial investment amount of at least 500 million yen is required) by 3.3% (3.0% net of tax) per annum, depending on the contract period. Certain agreements may include conditions charging a performance fee in addition to the fixed service fee.
- **Other Expenses:** Other expenses that may be incurred include brokerage commissions on securities included in portfolios.

If investment trusts are included under a discretionary investment agreement, the following expenses may be incurred: trust fees charged to administer the investment trust, an exit charge, service fees upon subscription and redemption, brokerage commissions on transactions in portfolio securities, securities custody fees, administrative expenses, audit expenses, fund establishment related expenses, interest on loan borrowings, stock borrowing expenses, etc.

Important Information to Note

- As the performance fee and Other Expenses will change depending on the investment strategies and/or investment status, the rates or maximum amounts applicable thereto cannot be indicated in advance.
- The risks, fees and charges described above vary according to the details of specific agreements and other factors. Before entering into an agreement, please read the delivered prospectus carefully.

About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$246.1 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 30 nationalities, including approximately 200 investment professionals**. The firm has a presence through subsidiaries or affiliates in a total of 12 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.

Effective 1 September 2025, we are changing our name



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 30 September 2024.

** Including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 30 September 2024.

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