

February 2, 2015

Press Release

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd.

Nikko Asset Management Adds Executives to Bolster Global Institutional Coverage

Nikko Asset Management has hired four seasoned executives in New York, Tokyo and the United Kingdom to bolster the company's institutional sales and marketing functions, the company announced today.

Fred DeSerio, based in New York, has been named Head of Sales in the United States. He will be responsible for developing business in the institutional investment market in North America. He joined the Tokyo-based asset manager's U.S. arm on January 30 from Invesco where he was a managing director. He previously worked for firms including Segal Advisors, American International Group and Smith Barney.

"We are very pleased to have Fred join Nikko Asset Management, and believe he will be very effective in cultivating institutional clients in North America," said Takuya Koyama, Executive Vice President and Global Head of Sales. "He has had a distinguished career and his experience will help us accelerate our global expansion in the institutional market."

In the company's Institutional Marketing and Proposition division, which acts as a link between product and institutional sales, Nikko Asset Management hired three professionals with strong international backgrounds.

Peter Knight joined the company on January 1 as Head of Global Product Specialists. Knight, based in Tokyo, will help drive the global sales effort by helping the firm articulate its product messaging from an investment perspective. He most recently worked as a business development manager in Japanese equities at BNY Mellon, having previously worked for Citigroup Asset Management Japan.

Daisuke Kono, based in Tokyo, has been named Head of International Institutional Materials on February 1. Kono is creating a centre of excellence in Tokyo specializing in creating materials for sophisticated international clients and prospects. He was previously a director of Invesco Asset Management's product management section.

Cameron Kuwahara joined the company on February 2 as Head of Solutions Marketing based in Edinburgh, Scotland, where Nikko Asset Management has a global equity team. He will be working in Edinburgh and the company's full-service European headquarters in London, as well as its New York office. He was previously a senior sales director for Citigroup Global Markets in Singapore. He also worked for Bank of America/Merrill Lynch Securities and Deutsche Securities Tokyo.

"We are extremely pleased that Peter, Daisuke and Cameron are joining Nikko Asset Management, all of whom have extremely high-quality backgrounds and are bilingual," said Stefanie Drews, Global Head of Institutional Marketing and Proposition. "These hires show our commitment to elevating our position in the institutional marketplace, both within Japan and globally."

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About Nikko Asset Management

Nikko Asset Management is positioning itself to be Asia's premier global asset manager. The firm offers world-class asset management solutions for global investors, and has approximately \$170 billion in assets under management*. With more than 280 investment professionals**, the firm leverages its extensive global resources representing over 30 nationalities across 12 countries. Headquartered in Asia for over 55 years, Nikko Asset Management's vantage point, extending east to west, distinguishes its investment approach.

For more information, please visit <http://en.nikkoam.com/>

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko AM and its subsidiaries as of September 30, 2014. AUM figures are converted into US dollars using the month-end exchange rate.

** Represents the 26 locations of Nikko Asset Management and its overseas subsidiaries and affiliates (including minority joint ventures) across 12 countries.