Press Release

Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. announces product re-opening for Key Products.

London, September 2006

Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. ("NAM") recently announced the re-opening of its Japan and Pacific Basin including Japan segregated equity products managed by its international client investment team to new business.

Whilst in-house research undertaken in 2004 indicated that NAM could manage much more in this strategy based on its current resources, systems and people, it was decided in April 2005 to close the Japan Active Core strategy and to run the existing assets for a period of time in order to ensure that no unexpected management issues arose, following an influx of new accounts.

Since no management issues arose over the period leading up to the middle part of 2006, the decision to re-open was taken.

Based on this decision, and the possible increase in new business, the portfolio management team in Tokyo dealing with international clients has been increased with the Japanese Equity team being supported by an extra two portfolio managers. This brings the existing team up to 13 individuals dedicated to Japanese equities.

Mr. Mark Roxburgh, Executive Officer Marketing & Client Service, said "We are aware of the need to ensure adequate resources are available in order to manage and support our client accounts. Additional resource is considered on a business case basis; as business levels grow, we review resource levels and make a decision. Another example of this is the additional resources we have committed to our Client Service team in London, which, over the past 2 years, has grown from 3 people to a team of 8 people."

Other products such as Japan Small-Cap, Pacific Basin ex-Japan, Asia ex-Japan and Japan Enhanced Indexing and Global Emerging Market Equity products remained open to investors during the period concerned.

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Notes to editors:

- 1.
- Nomura Asset Management. Co. Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nomura Holdings, Inc. The Nomura Asset Management Group manages \$188 billion of assets globally (as at 30 June 2006) and employs over 700 staff worldwide including circa 200 portfolio managers and analysts. 2.
- З. Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.