



THREADNEEDLE ADDS ASIAN EQUITY INCOME FUND TO ITS DIVIDEND FUND RANGE

LONDON, 4 FEBRUARY 2013: Threadneedle launches the Threadneedle (Lux) Asian Equity Income Fund, a Luxembourg SICAV, to complement its existing range of dividend funds and respond to investors' strong demand for income in a low-interest rate environment.

The fund is a conversion of the existing Threadneedle (Lux) Asia Fund and now seeks to provide income as well as capital appreciation by investing in selected high quality companies from Asia that deliver attractive dividends and sustainable growth. The fund will seek to achieve a yield in excess of the index. It is managed by George Gosden, Asian Equity Fund Manager at Threadneedle.

This fund complements Threadneedle's existing range of equity income products and will take a similar approach to the Threadneedle Global Equity Income Fund in seeking out quality income stocks. Launched in 2007, the Threadneedle Global Equity Income Fund has a strong track record, outperforming the peer group* over 1, 3 and 5 years (as at 31 Dec 2012).

Mr Gosden will draw on the ideas from 11 fund managers and analysts in Threadneedle's Asia and Emerging Markets Equity team, as well as the Global Equity team.

George Gosden, Fund Manager, said: "With this fund, I am looking for quality income stocks in Asia's relatively high-growth environment. These are companies which are both growing their businesses, as well as delivering a sustainable and increasing yield.

"Dividend growth is expected to continue to accelerate in the Asian region over the coming year supported by robust corporate earnings growth and income generating opportunities can be found across the broad spectrum of countries and sectors in the region. Within ASEAN countries many companies are boosting dividends as they benefit from strong domestic consumption growth whilst elsewhere more cyclical companies are poised to benefit from any recovery in global growth. In addition the



adoption of more progressive capital management and governance policies further underpin the outlook for dividends in the region.”

Werner Kolitsch, Country Head of Threadneedle in Germany, said: “The Threadneedle (Lux) Asian Equity Income Fund will complement our range of market-leading equity income funds, which already covers the UK, US, European and Global markets.

When compared with other asset classes, dividend yields from equities offer the potential for superior income opportunities, which is why we are seeing strong investor demand for income funds. By repositioning the Asian portfolio, clients will be able to access a good income at the same time as having exposure to the long term growth of Asian markets.”

Threadneedle manages over €4.0 billion in equity income strategies globally.

*Peer Group Median (Net) is Morningstar – Offshore and International Funds – Global Large-Cap Value Equity, in US\$

The Threadneedle Global Equity Income fund recorded a net cumulative performance of 14.9% (Peer Group Median: 13.0%) over 1 year, 29.8% over 3 years (Peer Group: 13.2%) and 0.6% over 5 years (Peer Group: -14.8%), in US\$

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Notes to editors

About the Threadneedle (Lux) Asian Equity Income Fund

Benchmark: MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan

Outperformance target: 3% pa (does not form part of the Prospectus objectives and policy)

Typical Number of holdings: 50-60 stocks

Structure: Luxembourg SICAV

Annual management charge: 1.5% (retail share class, net of fees)



About George Gosden

George Gosden joined Threadneedle in 2010 as a senior fund manager in the Asia and Emerging Markets Equity team. He manages the Threadneedle (Lux) Asian Equity Income Fund as well as a number of institutional portfolios. He also has specific research responsibility for the technology sector and the markets of Taiwan and Korea.

Prior to joining Threadneedle, George was a director at Insight Investment, where he managed retail and institutional funds for the Asia and international equity teams. He previously managed Asia equities at Clerical Medical and Equitable Life. George has MA in economic development and international trade and a BA in economics from the University of Nottingham.

About Threadneedle Investments

Threadneedle is a leading international investment manager with a strong track record of outperformance across asset classes. We actively manage €96.9 billion (as at 31 Dec 2012) of assets, investing on behalf of individuals, pension funds, insurers and corporations. We are the 4th largest UK retail fund manager¹ and the 10th largest UK fund manager¹ by AUM. In Europe we rank in the top 40². Established in 1994 in London, Threadneedle has a presence in 16 countries.

Threadneedle's distinctive investment approach is based on creative thinking, sharing of ideas and rigorous debate. Our c.150 investment professionals invest across developed and emerging market equities, fixed income, commodities and UK property. As at 31 Dec 2012, 74% of Threadneedle funds outperformed over 1 year, 74% over 3 years and 80% over 5 years³. In 2012, Threadneedle won over 100 prestigious fund management industry awards globally⁴.

Threadneedle is owned by Ameriprise Financial (NYSE: AMP), a leading US diversified financial services company with over US\$681 billion in owned, managed and administered assets. As its international investment platform, Threadneedle provides Ameriprise and its retail and institutional clients with world class investment solutions.

¹ UK IMA ranking, Dec 2012, see www.investmentfunds.org.uk

² Europe ranking, Morningstar Nov 2012

³ All funds managed by Threadneedle, including segregated accounts/portfolios. The data does not include funds sub-advised by third parties or guest funds on a Threadneedle platform. All figures are as at 31 Dec 2012, in GBP unless stated otherwise. Total value of funds outperforming their relevant benchmark expressed as a percentage of total assets under management. This information aims to demonstrate the overall performance capabilities of Threadneedle's asset management team. It is not intended to indicate the performance of individual funds or products. Please refer to product specific documentation in relation to individual funds. The value of investments and any income is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up.

⁴ For details see: www.threadneedle.com/awards

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

The value of investments and any income is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up and may be affected by exchange rate fluctuations. This means that an investor may not get back the amount invested.

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