

INVESTMENT WEEK

Smith & Williamson partners with BennBridge for boutique launch

BambuBlack boutique for Smith & Williamson Asian Funds



Smith & Williamson's David Cobb

Smith & Williamson (S&W) and Bennbridge have formed a strategic partnership that will see the latter become the investment manager for S&W's Oriental Growth and Far Eastern Income & Growth funds.

Under the agreement, Bennbridge will launch a new boutique, BambuBlack Asset Management, the third such launch for Bennbridge.

Both firms will work with the current lead manager, Jane Andrews, who will continue to manage the mandates and will take an equity stake in the boutique.

Andrews, who will look to hire analysts to strengthen her team, will continue to provide Smith & Williamson colleagues with research on Asian companies and markets.

The two Asian funds will retain the same names until further notice and Smith & Williamson will continue to act as authorised fund manager and administrator from the Glasgow office.

Source: Investment Week
Date: 30/04/2019
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Smith & Williamson's co-chief executive and head of investment management David Cobb, commented: "This exciting deal will open up vital new channels for both Smith & Williamson and BennBridge.

"We look forward to working closely with Jane and BennBridge in developing this new offering over the coming years, particularly in regard to Bennelong's distribution infrastructure in Asia Pacific and the provision of authorised corporate director and administration services to potential new fund vehicles."

BennBridge, a multi-boutique asset manager with £5.8bn of assets under management, is owned by an Australian parent company, Bennelong Funds Management Group.

Tellworth Investments unveils UK small-cap fund for Marriage and Warren

Craig Bingham, CEO at Bennelong, said: "We are delighted to welcome Jane into BennBridge - her experience in Asian Markets has spanned over two decades and she has enjoyed a successful track record over this period."

Andrews added: "I would like to thank my colleagues at Smith & Williamson for their support over the years and look forward to continuing our relationship in this new and exciting joint venture with BennBridge."



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