

iM Global Partner and Eurizon enter into a partnership

Eurizon strengthens its Investment Department in the Japanese equity investments area

- The investment management of the OYSTER Japan Opportunities fund, the equity flagship fund of the OYSTER range, has been delegated to Eurizon.
- The fund's historical manager Joël Le Saux and the analyst Yoko Otsuka join Eurizon's equities teams.

Paris, Milan, September 2nd, 2020, iM Global Partner and Eurizon enter into a partnership as the management of the Japanese equity fund of the OYSTER range has been delegated to Eurizon Capital SGR as of September 1st, 2020.

The OYSTER Japan equities fund, managed since 2013 by Joël Le Saux and Yoko Otsuka at SYZ AM, is one of the flagship funds of the range acquired in May 2020 by iM Global Partner. Currently, the fund has more than ¥ 40 billion (€ 324 million) of assets under management. During the strategic review of the range carried out over the last few months by iM Global Partner's management teams, it appeared essential that the fund should continue to benefit from the expertise of its two talented professionals as well as from a more powerful structural and operational environment adapted to the development strategy of iM Global Partner.

Eurizon, well known as a center of excellence in the bond markets, is further strengthening and diversifying its expertise in international equity management, developing original and distinctive strategies as well. On this purpose Joël Le Saux and Yoko Otsuka join Eurizon's equities teams to include their skills and great experience in the Italian asset manager.

A duo of experts of Japanese equities

Joël Le Saux joined SYZ Asset Management in February 2013 to manage the OYSTER Japan Opportunities fund. He has been covering the Japanese equity market since 1996 and began his career in Tokyo as a buy-side analyst on Japanese equities. He worked at Lazard Gestion in Paris in 2005 as a fund manager before joining the Crédit Suisse Asset Management teams in Singapore in 2008. Joël Le Saux holds a Master's degree in Management and Finance from the University of Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne and a Master's degree in Japanese corporate strategy and culture from the University of Rennes.

Yoko Otsuka, CFA, joined SYZ Asset Management in April 2014. She began her career in 2005 as a Credit Analyst at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ before joining Oddo Asset Management in 2012 as a Product Specialist. Yoko Otsuka holds a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Tokyo and a Master's degree in Corporate and Financial Law from the University of Hong Kong.

The partnership

Saverio Perissinotto, CEO at Eurizon said *“We would like to welcome Joël Le Saux and Yoko Ostuka to Eurizon. The extensive experience and deep knowledge of the Japanese market that these experts bring will be a boost in further consolidating Eurizon’s equity investment capabilities.*

We are extremely pleased to have added these highly qualified professionals to our group” added company chief executive officer, Saverio Perissinotto.

“Their arrival further expands the range of world-wide expertise within the Eurizon management team and will also allow us to diversify and expand our product range to the benefit of all our customers.”

Philippe Couvrecelle, iM Global Partner CEO declares: *“When we acquired the OYSTER range, the quality of the management of the Japanese equity team made a strong impression on us. This partnership with Eurizon, a leading player in asset management, allows us to give new momentum to the international development of this investment strategy. “*

About iM Global Partner

iM Global Partner is a global investment and development platform dedicated to active asset management with main offices in Paris, London, Luxembourg and Philadelphia. iM Global Partner selects and partners with exceptionally talented independent asset management companies through long term direct capital ownership with the objective to create value for clients, Partners and shareholders.

iM Global Partner is building a comprehensive range of investment solutions mixing iM Global Partner range of products, which includes the OYSTER range, a UCITS Luxembourg fund, Mutual Funds and ETFs dedicated to the US, and best in class strategies managed by our Partners. iM Global Partner currently has strategic minority investments in six Partners across asset classes and geographies.

Thanks to a strong and experienced business development arm based in 11 locations across Europe and the US, iM Global Partner facilitates access to its Partners, accelerating their business growth at the same time.

iM Global Partner represents assets under management of almost €15 billion as of August 2020, in proportion to its participations in each Partner.

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About Eurizon

Eurizon is a prominent international player in the asset management industry offering a wide range of products. Eurizon Capital SGR is part of the Asset Management Division of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group.

It has a presence in Europe through its subsidiaries: Eurizon Capital S.A., a Luxembourg-based asset management company focused on developing foreign markets; Epsilon SGR, a boutique specialised in structured products; the Eastern European HUB (Eurizon Asset Management Slovakia, CIB IFM and PBZ Invest); Eurizon Capital Real Asset (51%), which focuses on alternative asset classes; and Eurizon SLJ

Capital LTD (65%), an asset management company based in Great Britain focused on macroeconomic research and currency strategies.

Eurizon has a presence in Asia through Eurizon Capital (HK) Limited and its 49% stake in the Chinese company Penghua Fund Management.

Eurizon markets its Luxembourg funds in 25 countries and operates in France, Germany, Spain and Switzerland. Eurizon is active in the fintech sector with its minority share in Oval Money, a start-up active in the digital payment services and savings sectors.

Eurizon represents assets under management of € 328 billion as of June 2020.

www.eurizoncapital.com

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