

March 8th, 2011
NKSJ Holdings, Inc.

**NKSJ Holdings Awarded “Gold Class Status” in SAM’s
Corporate Sustainability Assessment - A First for Japan’s Insurance Sector**

NKSJ Holdings, Inc. (hereinafter “NKSJ Holdings”) has been awarded SAM Gold Class status in SAM’s Corporate Sustainability Assessment^{*1}, conducted by Swiss asset management advisor Sustainable Asset Management Group (hereinafter “SAM”). This is a first for Japan’s insurance sector. The assessment measures the sustainability performance of a wide range of companies based on economic, environmental, and social criteria. A subsidiary of NKSJ Holdings, Sompo Japan Insurance Inc. (hereinafter “Sompo Japan”), has been awarded SAM Silver Class status in 2008 and Bronze Class status in 2009 and 2010, and this marks the fourth consecutive year that the NKSJ Group has received an award.

Furthermore, NKSJ Holdings is featured in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Indexes (hereinafter “DJSI”)^{*2}, a group of socially responsible investment (SRI) indexes jointly developed by SAM and U.S.-based company Dow Jones.

Going forward, the NKSJ Group will continue to fulfill its corporate social responsibilities.

(*1) About the results of SAM’s Corporate Sustainability Assessment

- (1) SAM’s Corporate Sustainability Assessment, conducted annually since 1999, is a survey that assesses companies from the perspective of sustainability performance. The activities of target companies are assessed based on economic, environmental, and social criteria.
- (2) Target companies are those listed in the year’s DJSI socially responsible investment (SRI) indexes^{*2}. Only the top-scoring 15% of companies assessed are featured in the following year’s Sustainability Yearbook, issued by SAM. The 2011 survey targeted 2,500 of the world’s leading companies (from 58 sectors).
- (3) Each year the best companies from each sector are awarded SAM Sector Leader status. The other categories of recognition are SAM Gold Class, SAM Silver Class, SAM Bronze Class, and SAM Sector Mover. The following is a list of the award-winning companies from the insurance sector:

◆ **SAM Sector Leader**

Swiss Re

◆ **SAM Gold Class**

Swiss Re, Allianz SE, NKSJ Holdings

◆ **SAM Silver Class**

ING Groep N.V., Insurance Australia Group Ltd., Mapfre S.A., Muenchener Rueckversicherung-Gesellschaft AG, RSA Insurance Group plc, Standard Life plc, Storebrand ASA, Tokio Marine Holdings Inc.

◆ **SAM Bronze Class**

Aegon N.V., Aviva plc, AXA S.A., Legal & General Group plc, Zurich Financial Services AG

◆ **SAM Sector Mover**

Mapfre S.A.

* For additional information, see <http://www.sam-group.com/html/yearbook/>

(*2) About the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI)

- (1) The Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes, developed by SAM in 1999 in collaboration with U.S.-based Dow Jones, are socially responsible investment (SRI) indexes of corporate stocks worldwide.
- (2) Based on sources such as independent surveys, publicly available information, and the Dow Jones Global Indexes (DJGI; performance indexes evaluated by institutional investors considering international investments), SAM selects companies engaging in progressive economic, environmental, and social activities for the DJSI brand.
- (3) DJSI is used as a benchmark for the establishment of SRI funds by investment trust companies. As of February 2011, SAM already held licensing contracts with 70 asset management institutions, with total operating assets amounting to US\$8 billion (approximately ¥651 billion).
- (4) NKSJ Holdings has been listed on the DJSI World for the 11th consecutive year, including the listing of its subsidiary Sampo Japan.

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