



News Release

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Newton appoints EM and Asian equities managers and grows in-house research team

5 October 2020, LONDON – Newton Investment Management (“Newton”), part of BNY Mellon Investment Management, today announces the appointment of Paul Birchenough and Ian Smith to its emerging-market and Asian equities franchise on 19 October. Paul and Ian join Newton from AXA Investment Managers where they co-managed the AXA Framlington global emerging markets funds. Prior to this, they worked at global emerging markets equity specialist hedge fund, Nevsky Capital.

Curt Custard, chief investment officer at Newton Investment Management, said “Emerging-market and Asian equities are a core part of Newton’s capabilities. Paul and Ian are highly experienced investment professionals that share our focus on fundamental stock selection and, importantly, our strong conviction for investing with a long-term, thematic approach and full ESG integration. They are joining Newton as we continue to grow our proposition in the asset class and we look forward to welcoming them.”

Michael Beveridge, head of UK intermediary distribution at BNY Mellon Investment Management, commented: “Emerging-market and Asian equities contribute to investors’ portfolios through superior growth prospects and overall equity outperformance, when compared to more developed markets. We believe that successful investing in the asset class is best achieved through a highly active and concentrated approach focused on rigorous stock-specific analysis. Paul and Ian have extensive expertise in these areas and will be a significant addition to Newton’s investment team.”

Paul and Ian will, alongside Sophia Whitbread, co-lead Newton’s £1.5 billion emerging-market and Asian equities strategies, including the BNY Mellon Global Emerging Markets Fund. They will be supported by investment analyst, Sahil Mali, and the wider equity opportunities team.

Rob Marshall-Lee, lead portfolio manager of emerging-market and Asian equities at Newton, will be leaving the firm at the end of November. **Curt added,** “We are grateful for Rob’s contribution to the firm over the last 21 years and we wish him all the best in the future.”

In addition to Newton’s recent portfolio management hires, Newton has also recruited three analysts to join its central research team, which continues to be the engine of its idea generation across all of its investment strategies. Connor Middleton joins as global financials analyst from JP Morgan, Fei Zhou Chen joins as a global analyst from PriceWaterhouseCoopers and Jonny Urwin joins from UBS as global insurance analyst.

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Note to editors:

BIOGRAPHIES

Paul Birchenough

Prior to joining Newton, Paul was co-lead portfolio manager of Axa Framlington's global emerging markets capabilities. Before that, he was a Latin America investment analyst at Nevsky Capital, where he met Ian Smith. Paul began his career at KPMG in the audit, transaction services and corporate finance teams covering the technology, media, and telecom (TMT) sector. Paul is a chartered accountant and attended the University of Nottingham where he studied mathematics.

Ian Smith

Ian was co-lead portfolio manager of Axa Framlington's global emerging markets capabilities. Prior to this, he was a financials analyst at Matrix Group and Nevsky Capital. Ian began his career doing corporate finance and M&A at a number of leading accountancy firms and investment banks. Ian is a chartered accountant and has a degree in Economics and Politics from Durham University.

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