

# UPDATES

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Honoring the Best-In-Class in the Asset Management Industry

**(Hong Kong - February 3, 2016)** Honoring the best of the best in the asset management industry, the winners of the 12th BENCHMARK Fund of the Year Award were unveiled on Wednesday January 27, 2016, during the gala dinner at the Conrad Hotel Hong Kong.

42 companies from across Hong Kong participated in the awards, and 31 decorated industry professionals from 29 illustrious institutions served on the panel of jurors. BENCHMARK also revealed the recipients of the prestigious Provider of the Year Awards for Mutual Funds, MPF, and ETF as follows:

Provider of the Year (Mutual Fund)	<b>BlackRock</b>
Provider of the Year (MPF)	<b>MPF Manulife (International) Limited</b>
Provider of the Year (ETF)	<b>iShares</b>

In deciding who will receive the Provider of the Year Awards, a special committee of 13 independent jurors were given a number of shortlisted companies that won the most awards across the competition. The committee then puts these companies through a four prong test, analyzing the quantitative performance of their funds, their house and managers' strengths in various categories, public perception through assessment of Brand Popularity in customer sentiment and coverage, and finally their risk management capabilities through ESG analytics of a randomly selected portfolio.

"What sets these awards apart from the rest is the process that not only looks at the outstanding quantitative performance of a house within the industry, but also how it integrates the voice of the public. We undertake the ultimate due diligence of reviewing these houses, relying on data and also by involving the best-of-the-best gatekeepers and fund selectors from major banks in Hong Kong and Singapore. Our process is methodical, transparent, and meticulous," said Publisher and CEO, Elsa Pau.

BENCHMARK would like to thank all of the companies and fund managers who participated in this year's BENCHMARK Fund of the Year Awards, as well as the fantastic group of jurors for all of their hard work. BENCHMARK would also like to thank research partner MSCI for providing the state-of-the-art ESG Portfolio Analytics, and social media research partner K-Matrix for their highly systematic Brand Popularity Index report. Last but not least, a special thanks to our supporting partners from the CAIA Association and the CFA Institute for their continued and future support.

[Please click here](#) for further details on the Awards and a list of this year's winners.



The Honorable Panel of Judges toasting the awards ceremony



Congratulations to BlackRock and iShares



Congratulations to Manulife (International) Limited

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#### About the Awards

Organized by the publishers of BENCHMARK Magazine, the competition remains one of the first in Hong Kong to award providers and noteworthy individuals in the market who bring innovation, best practices, and excellent governance to the forefront of the finance industry. The Awards recognize both private and public organizations from the financial services sector. Company Website: [www.WealthAsia.net](http://www.WealthAsia.net) | [www.FundAwards.asia](http://www.FundAwards.asia)

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#### About the Organizer

WealthAsia Media (WAM) is the publisher of its flagship magazine BENCHMARK, and also the organizer of a series of best practice awards in the financial services sector, including the BENCHMARK Wealth Management Awards, BENCHMARK Advisor of the Year Awards, and BENCHMARK Fund of the Year Awards. WAM is a profit-for-purpose organization whose mission is to drive best practices in the finance community by emphasizing social responsibility and advocating for the protection of investors. Besides running its core financial services forums, WAM is also the organizer of the annual Women Extraordinaire Forum, a program that aims to empower women in Asia to fully unleash their potential. Publication Website: [www.BENCHMARK.Today](http://www.BENCHMARK.Today)

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