



# Press Release

## **SG Nikkei Average Alternative Linked Fund 'Future 55' Launched**

*Conditional capital protection fund will be sold through Chiba Kogyo Bank, managed by SG Yamaichi*

**Tokyo, 12 May 2003.** SG Yamaichi Asset Management today introduced Future 55, a conditional capital protection fund linked to the performance of Nikkei 225 and supplemented by an alternative investment strategy.

The fund was developed jointly by SG, the Corporate and Investment Banking arm of Société Générale and The Chiba Kogyo Bank. It will be exclusively offered by Chiba Kogyo Bank from May 12 through to June 11, 2003, and will be managed by SG Yamaichi Asset Management. Future 55 is sold in 10,000 unit blocks for ¥10,000 per unit. There is a minimum investment of ¥1 million.

Future 55 has been designed to emphasize both protection and return. The fund's capital remains 100% protected as long as the Nikkei 225 does not decline to 55% of the initial level set on the fund's June 12 establishment date. Meanwhile, to ensure above-market return, an annual coupon of 1% in yen is paid on the June 12 settlement date each year regardless of the Nikkei Index's level. The maturity date of the fund is June 12, 2008.

Investors also stand to benefit from potential upside performance of alternative investment strategies linked to the fund. Future 55 is partially linked to the performance of the LDF Feeder fund, managed by Lyxor Asset Management - a wholly owned subsidiary of SG.

If the Nikkei 225 reaches 110% of its initial value, the fund is automatically redeemed prior to the maturity date at 100% of its original value plus any positive performance of the alternative strategies. Should the Nikkei 225 fall more than 55% from the initial level, redemption is linked to the Index with the additional value of the performance of the alternative investment strategy.

"Future 55 synthesizes the vast capabilities and structuring expertise from our group companies - SG, SG Yamaichi Asset Management and Lyxor Asset Management - and has been developed with Chiba Kogyo Bank for its exclusive distribution. It offers investors a highly innovative structure that minimizes risk

in the current volatile markets,” said Gordes Frobenius, Managing Director of Structured Products, at SG in Japan. “We expect that Future 55’s timely design will be met with positive market response.”

Future 55 was developed and arranged by SG jointly with Chiba Kogyo Bank and will be managed by SG Yamaichi Asset Management.

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## **Notes to the Editor**

### **Société Générale Group**

The Société Générale Group is one of the largest banks in the eurozone. The Group employs more than 80,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking: Société Générale serves 14,5 million retail customers worldwide.
- Asset Management & Private Banking: Société Générale ranks third in the eurozone in terms of assets under management (EUR 270 billion in 2002).
- Corporate & Investment Banking: SG is the third largest bank in the eurozone based on net banking income.

Société Générale is included in the four major socially responsible investment indexes. [www.socgen.com](http://www.socgen.com)

### **SG**

SG is the corporate and investment banking arm of the Société Générale Group. Present in over 50 countries and with expertise in capital markets, advisory and origination services, structured finance and commercial banking, SG builds innovative, integrated financial solutions for its corporate, institutional and public sector clients. [www.sg-ib.com](http://www.sg-ib.com)

### **In Japan**

Société Générale Group has nearly 600 employees in Japan working in three key businesses: Corporate & Investment Banking, Asset Management and Private Banking. SG is widely recognized for market-leading capabilities in export and project finance, a strong equity derivatives platform and innovative structured and alternative products offering.

The Group has also a strong asset management presence in Japan, with assets under management of approximately JPY 1.58 trillion (March 31, 2003).

In June 2002, SG Private Banking was launched in Japan providing to Japanese High Net Worth Individual unhindered on-shore private banking services.

### **SG Yamaichi Asset Management**

SG Yamaichi Asset Management was founded as Yamaichi Asset Capital Management in 1971. Since becoming part of the SG Asset Management (SGAM) Group in 1998, the company has augmented its asset management expertise and research and development capabilities with SGAM's global asset management expertise. SG Yamaichi Asset Management serves pension funds and other institutional investors around the world.

SG Asset Management has been awarded an aa+ rating by the agency Fitch-AMR, the leading asset manager-rating agency. The Fitch-AMR rating is a guarantee of professionalism, security and quality of specialized asset management companies.

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