

# SEWARD & KISSEL LLP

Seward & Kissel advises Emerging Global Advisors  
on its acquisition by Columbia Threadneedle Investments

Seward & Kissel's Business Transactions Group  
*Focusing on Middle-Market Deals*

In September 2016, **Columbia Threadneedle Investments** completed its previously announced acquisition of **Emerging Global Advisors**. **Seward & Kissel** was pleased to represent Emerging Global Advisors in this investment management M&A transaction.

Emerging Global Advisors (“EGA”) is a New York-based registered investment adviser and a leading provider of smart beta products focused on emerging markets. With \$892 million in assets under management, EGA is investment adviser to the EGShares suite of exchanged-traded funds. Columbia Threadneedle Investments is the global asset management group of Ameriprise Financial Inc. (NYSE: AMP) and manages \$464 billion of assets.

Seward & Kissel LLP ([www.sewkis.com](http://www.sewkis.com)) is a leading New York law firm, originally established in 1890, offering legal advice emphasizing business, financial and commercial law and related litigation. The firm's Business Transactions Group handles middle-market M&A, private equity, venture capital and joint venture transactions involving a wide variety of industries. The firm is ranked as Highly Regarded for Corporate/M&A by Chambers USA and is recommended by The Legal 500 in the middle-market M&A category, stating that Seward & Kissel “advises on market-leading transactions within the industries where the firm has an international reputation, namely investment management and shipping” and “also handles complex middle-market deals in the media industry and international sell-side M&A.”

The press release describing the transaction is reproduced below for your information.



**COLUMBIA  
THREADNEEDLE**  
INVESTMENTS

**has acquired**

**EG/A**  
**Emerging Global Advisors®**  
New York, New York

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Seward & Kissel  
acted as counsel to Emerging Global Advisors

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**SEWARD & KISSEL LLP**

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## **Columbia Threadneedle Investments to Acquire Emerging Global Advisors**

### **Acquisition will accelerate the company's Smart Beta efforts**

Boston, September 1, 2016 - Columbia Threadneedle Investments today announced an agreement for Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC to acquire Emerging Global Advisors, LLC (EGA), a New York-based registered investment adviser and a leading provider of smart beta portfolios focused on emerging markets. The acquisition will significantly expand the smart beta capabilities of Columbia Threadneedle Investments. Terms of the EGA acquisition were not disclosed. The transaction is expected to close later this year.

With \$892 million<sup>1</sup> in assets, EGA has an established presence in the smart beta marketplace. It is the investment adviser to the EGShares suite of nine emerging markets equity exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that track custom-designed indices:

- Beyond BRICs (BBRC)
- EM Core ex-China (XCEM)
- EM Quality Dividend (HILO)
- EM Strategic Opportunities (EMSO)
- Emerging Markets Consumer (ECON)
- Emerging Markets Core (EMCR)
- India Consumer (INCO)
- India Infrastructure (INXX)
- India Small Cap (SCIN)

“The experience and knowledge of the EGA team and strong emerging markets ETF products will complement our existing actively managed product lineup,” said Ted Truscott, chief executive officer of Columbia Threadneedle Investments. “The EGA acquisition will allow us to reach even more investors and accelerates our efforts as we build our smart beta capabilities.”

Since launching its first ETF in 2009, EGA has had a dedicated focus on providing rules-based, smart beta strategies designed to provide investors with diversification and growth opportunities in emerging markets.

“The team is excited about joining Columbia Threadneedle Investments and building on our complementary strengths to deliver smart beta strategies across asset classes to investors,” said Marten Hoekstra, Chief Executive Officer of EGA. “Now our clients gain access to Columbia Threadneedle’s rich investment expertise, while continuing to benefit from EGA’s experience converting investment insights into rules-based, smart beta strategies.”

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<sup>1</sup> As of April 30, 2016

“Columbia Threadneedle Investment’s expansive footprint across global markets provides an opportunity to accelerate the growth of our smart beta platform,” said Robert Holderith, President and Founder of EGA.

As part of our efforts to enter the smart beta marketplace, in the first quarter of 2016 Columbia Threadneedle Investments filed with the SEC a preliminary registration statement relating to multiple equity smart beta ETFs, including Columbia Sustainable Global Equity Income ETF, Columbia Sustainable International Equity Income ETF and Columbia Sustainable U.S. Equity Income ETF (referred to as the *Columbia Beta Advantage*<sup>SM</sup> ETFs).

The *Columbia Beta Advantage* ETFs are a natural extension of our equity income capabilities and are intended to track custom-designed multi-factor indices that will be calculated and maintained by MSCI. Each ETF’s name includes “Sustainable,” which refers to selection of index constituents based on their environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices.

### **About Columbia Threadneedle Investments:**

Columbia Threadneedle Investments is a leading global asset management group that provides a broad range of investment strategies and solutions for individual, institutional and corporate clients around the world.

With more than 2,000 people, including over 450 investment professionals based in North America, Europe and Asia, we manage \$464 billion<sup>2</sup> of assets across developed and emerging market equities, fixed income, asset allocation solutions and alternatives.

Columbia Threadneedle Investments is the global asset management group of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. (NYSE: AMP).

For more information, please visit [columbiathreadneedle.com/us](http://columbiathreadneedle.com/us). Follow us on Twitter @CTInvest\_US.

### **About Emerging Global Advisors:**

Emerging Global Advisors (EGA) is a leading provider of smart beta portfolios in emerging markets and employs a disciplined, rules-based investment process rooted in research and portfolio strategy. EGA’s investment strategies, including the EGShares suite of ETFs, are designed to help investors generate alpha within their emerging and frontier market allocations. EGA provides core equity, thematic and equity income emerging and frontier market exposures.

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### About Seward & Kissel LLP

Seward & Kissel LLP, founded in 1890, is a leading U.S. law firm with an international reputation for excellence. We have offices in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Our practice primarily focuses on corporate, litigation and restructuring/bankruptcy work for clients seeking legal expertise in the financial services, corporate finance and capital markets

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<sup>2</sup> As of March 31, 2016

areas. The Firm is particularly well known for middle-market, cross-border M&A transactions and for its representation of major commercial banks, investment banking firms, investment advisers and related investment funds (including mutual funds, private equity funds and hedge funds), hedge fund administrators, broker-dealers and institutional investors and transportation companies (particularly in the shipping industry),.

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