

[NEWS RELEASE]

April 1, 2024 SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.

Message from President Yoshioka to New Employees for Fiscal Year 2024

Congratulations to everyone on joining SMBC Nikko Securities. On behalf of all the employees, I would like to welcome you.

I understand that there may be a mixture of excitement and anxiety as you embark on this new journey. In fact, I myself have just taken on the role of President today, and like all of you, I attend this ceremony with a fresh perspective. Today, as a senior member of the workforce and your colleague in shaping the bright future of the company, I would like to share some thoughts with you.

As a senior member of the workforce, what I would like to emphasize first is the importance of embracing change as energy. The world evolves through change. It is crucial in the business world to view change not as a source of anxiety but as a source of energy, and to approach it with curiosity and enthusiasm.

Recently, the Nikkei Stock Average surpassed 40,000 yen, signaling the end of deflation and an increase in profitability for Japanese companies. The stage is set for us to thrive in this environment.

Against this backdrop, I would like to share three expectations I have for all of you who have joined us as colleagues.

Firstly, I expect you to become professionals in the field of finance, with a strong expertise in securities. Our work requires a high level of professionalism. I urge you to reach that level as soon as possible and strive to exceed it.

Secondly, always be conscious of fair play. It is a given that we must study and abide by laws and rules, but it is equally important to earn the trust of our customers and society over time. I expect you to be known for your fair play and integrity in all aspects of your work.

Thirdly, aim high and take bold challenges. Don't limit yourself and approach your work with passion and curiosity. I believe that taking on challenges is the driving force behind personal growth. Please engrave this mindset firmly in your hearts.

Lastly, our company's mission is to Connect the development of sound capital markets to the realization of satisfying and fulfilling lives and society. We now have an environment where we can better fulfill this mission. Let's sharpen our professional skills, spread our wings, and work together towards the realization of a prosperous society.

(New hires for this fiscal year: 273 people)

