

Risk Management Advisory Firm of the Year

Global Risk Management Advisors

Samuel K. Won is the Founder and Managing Director of Global Risk Management Advisors, Inc. ("GRMA"), the leading risk management advisory and implementation firm that provides asset managers and institutional investors with complete, independent and institutional-quality investment risk management solutions and programs on a managed services basis.



The company differentiates itself through the breadth and depth of its services, which no other risk management company offers in totality. However, there are also important differences between GRMA and firms that offer a small proportion of its services.

Firstly, the quality, experience and pedigree of its principals are unrivalled. With an average of 25 years' front-line experience at top global financial and asset management institutions, GRMA's principals are well-recognized thought leaders in risk management.

Secondly, GRMA goes beyond just measuring risk: it helps its clients better manage their risks by implementing solutions and providing on-going managed services for their strategy, infrastructure, processes/controls and governance around risk management.

Mr Won says: *"We are honored to receive this award because, although we are the leading provider of investment risk management, we are aware that there are other firms that offer partial solutions for what we do. Therefore, we appreciate being recognized by our clients and other service providers as being the best risk management advisory firm for a second year in a row."*

"Our objective is always to provide our clients with a sound, scalable and sustainable risk management program that is also the most cost-effective solution for a client's investment risk management needs."

The most pronounced trend that GRMA noticed in 2013 was that asset managers faced substantially more demands for risk management from both regulators and investors. Therefore, they consider helping clients with the many challenges associated with risk-related reporting and transparency that regulators and investors now require (e.g. Form PF, CPO/PQR, OPERA, etc.) as one of the year's greatest achievements.

A second achievement for 2013 has been working with institutional investors such as pensions, endowments, foundations and family offices that, as a group, are just starting to perform formal risk management.

As well as demanding teamwork at the highest level, addressing these new audiences has required changes for GRMA. Mr Won explains: *"We have come to realize that some funds and institutional investors want to take an incremental approach to risk management. Therefore, even though we believe that a holistic approach makes the most sense, we have modified our programs to accommodate funds or institutions that want to take a more gradual approach to risk management."*

And what of 2014 and beyond? Mr Won says: *"We believe that hedge funds will continue to be under pressure from both investors and regulators to demonstrate that they are institutional-quality with regards to their infrastructure, processes, controls and governance. To that end, we aim to help our clients have and maintain an institutional-quality risk management program."*



Fact File

GLOBAL RISK MANAGEMENT ADVISORS

Investment Risk Management

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Press Release

For immediate release:

2014 International Hedge Fund Awards – Winners Announced

United Kingdom – 6 February 2014 – The publishers of Acquisition International Magazine have announced the winners of their 2014 International Hedge Fund Awards.

These global awards recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals and companies within the hedge funds industry, encompassing everything from funds, managers and advisors to IT provision and niche areas. AI's Hedge Fund Awards identify and honour success, innovation and ethics across international communities.

AI prides itself on the validity of its awards and its winners. The awards are given solely on merit and are awarded to commend those most deserving for outstanding work over the last 12 months. Our awards recognise leaders in their respective fields and, crucially, are nominated by their clients and their peers.

"A bull market, the rise of interest in alternatives and the increasing regulatory challenge has created an interesting year for the industry but it's clear from the evidence received by our judging panel that the industry's professionals have risen to the challenge," commented Charlotte Abbott, Chief Co-Ordinator of the 2014 International Hedge Fund Awards. *"They have produced some outstanding work, showcasing some extraordinary talent, and we're delighted the industry has been so determined to recognise its stars."*

This year's awards recognised over 560 winners in more than 60 countries. To learn more about our award winners and to gain insight into the working practices of the best of the best, please visit the AI website (www.acquisition-intl.com) where you can access the winners' supplement.

Methodology

Our winners are determined by three factors, the first of which is the number of votes received. The voting forms were distributed to the 53,000+ subscribers of Acquisition International Magazine along with 40,000 hedge fund professionals. The second factor is our substantial in-house research. This is a vital stage because we accept both self and third-party nominations. Thirdly, we ask the nominees to supply supporting documents which they feel may cement their nominations – all items we are sent are taken into consideration.

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