INSURANCE ASIA NEWS
Institutional Asset Management Awards 2026
★★★★★

BNP Paribas Asset Management

Best Quantitative Solutions Manager

Best Small Cap Manager

Ramkumar Rasaratnam, CIO & Head of Research of AXA IM's Equity QI*

The EQI team's investment approach — blending innovative technology, disciplined analysis, and transparency — has set an industry benchmark, consistently supporting the achievement of sustainable, risk-adjusted returns across diverse markets.

Best Quantitative Solutions Manager

With a legacy spanning over four decades, the BNPP AM's Equity Quantitative Investing (EQI) team combines disciplined fundamental analysis with cutting-edge technology, which aims to deliver consistent excess returns.

Ramkumar Rasaratnam, CIO & Head of Research of AXA IM's Equity QI*, highlighted that
their approach mirrors the meticulous analysis of traditional analysts but is scaled to evaluate approximately 20,000 stocks daily through advanced, transparent models. By focusing on intrinsic company value, growth drivers, and proprietary data—including global patent filings—the team champions long-term, fundamentals-based investing that resists fleeting market fads.

A core differentiator is their unwavering commitment to transparency: employing 'white-box' neural networks layered with linear regression models to ensure interpretability and confidence in insights. Their integration of innovation metrics and ESG considerations—particularly in green technologies—provides forward-looking signals aligned with sustainability goals.

Their evolving earnings surprise models, leveraging new data sources and machine learning techniques, further enhance their ability to anticipate market movements with stability and reliability.

*AXA Investment Managers (AXA IM) is now part of BNP Paribas Asset Management.

Best Small Cap Manager

Recognizing that small-cap stocks often exhibit greater market inefficiency, the EQI team applies their quantitative expertise to this segment with equal rigor. They leverage extensive data sets and employ machine learning techniques to evaluate over 10,500 small-cap companies worldwide within a consistent investment framework.

Central to this strategy is a proprietary valuation model, refined over four decades, guiding stock selection. The team conducts detailed, ongoing assessments of each company's business quality, earnings profile, and valuation, identifying mispricings through analysis of key income statement and balance sheet metrics, complemented by evaluations of earnings quality and market sentiment.

Given small caps' heightened sensitivity to macroeconomic shifts, active management remains crucial. Their multi-factor strategy emphasizes value, momentum, and quality factors, supported by sophisticated machine learning models. This data-driven approach enables thorough analysis while seamlessly incorporating ESG considerations into portfolio construction.