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QIC AWARDS \$80 MILLION MANDATE TO ALETHEIA RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT

QIC has awarded an A\$80 million tailored US equity long/short mandate to Californian-based manager Aletheia Research and Management (Aletheia).

The Aletheia appointment was funded through the termination of a US equity mandate managed by Legg Mason. Legg Mason has been part of QIC's line up since September 2004.

Senior Portfolio Manager Greg Clarke said that Aletheia's unique research methodology was a key factor in their appointment.

"Aletheia is distinguished by its relatively unique process of stock selection, which has a heavy reliance on management trading information to identify value-adding opportunities.

"Together with corporate buyback signals, this activity reveals powerful, albeit indirect views, about expected share price performance and company valuation," he said.

Head of Implemented Equities Greg Liddell said the mandate was awarded to further diversify alpha streams in the QIC International Equities Fund.

"We believe that as management buying and selling and corporate buyback activity is unlikely ever to disappear, the ability of the process to generate meaningful alpha is likely to be sustainable.

"The inclusion of this manager is aimed at providing our clients with more efficient capture of active return and also serves to diversify our alpha drivers," he said.

Aletheia Research and Management is an independent, registered investment advisor. The firm employs hard data - insider and corporate actions, forensic analysis of balance sheets, and industry research - to produce superior results. The firm currently manages US\$3.5 billion in assets.

QIC is one of Australia's largest institutional fund managers with more than \$60 billion currently under management for its Australian and overseas clients.

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