

【NEWS RELEASE】

November 11, 2021

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.

SMBC Group Receives “Gold” and “Best Practice” Awards of the PRIDE Index 2021

TOKYO, November 11, 2021 -- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group and nine other group companies* (President and Group CEO: Jun Ohta; the corporate group will hereinafter be referred to as “SMBC Group”) received “Gold,” the highest award of the PRIDE Index 2021. The index is organized by work with Pride (a Japanese voluntary association) and recognizes efforts to establish inclusive working environments for individuals identifying as LGBT or as other sexual minorities (“LGBT”). This is the third consecutive year for the group companies to jointly receive the award as SMBC Group.

Furthermore, SMBC Group collaborated with Mizuho Financial Group, Inc. and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. to create a video outlining our vision of realizing an inclusive society. This initiative received the “Best Practice” award.

[Link to Video] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X913gu24k08>



SMBC Group’s basic policy for promoting diversity is the Diversity and Inclusion Statement. The document clearly states that the source of SMBC Group’s competitiveness is its culture where employees of diverse backgrounds, including those from the LGBT community, can work together in an environment of mutual respect to realize professional fulfillment and growth. As such, we endeavor to create inclusive workplaces which LGBT employees can feel proud being part of.

Each SMBC Group company has set up consultation services, improved corporate welfare systems for same-sex partners, and conducts training seminars to raise employee awareness and prompt behavioral change. SMBC strives to improve the services it offers to the LGBT community and began offering home loans to same-sex partners.

Diversity and inclusion remain key pillars of SMBC Group’s growth strategy as we seek to create a work environment in which all employees can display their talents and reach their full potential. Through such efforts we hope to provide even greater value-added services to our customers.

(*) Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.; Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation; SMBC Trust Bank Ltd.; Sumitomo Mitsui Finance & Leasing Company, Limited; SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.; Sumitomo Mitsui Card Co., Ltd.; SMBC Finance Service Co., Ltd.; SMBC Consumer Finance Co., Ltd.; The Japan Research Institute, Limited.; and Sumitomo Mitsui DS Asset Management Company, Limited

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