Alphinity Global Equity Fund

Monthly Fact Sheet July 2020

Performance[1]	Quarter %	6 months %	1 year %	2 years % p.a	3 years % p.a	Inception % p.a[2]
Fund return (net)	1.6	-5.6	5.5	9.9	14.0	10.9
MSCI World Net Total Return Index (AUD)[3]	2.9	-7.3	3.1	7.3	11.5	9.8
Excess return[4]	-1.3	1.7	2.4	2.6	2.5	1.1

Fund facts	
Portfolio managers	Jonas Palmqvist, Lachlan MacGregor, Jeff Thomson, Nikki Thomas
APIR code	HOW0164AU
Inception date	21 December 2015
Investment objective	To outperform the MSCI World Net Index (AUD).
Management fee	1.00% p.a.
Performance fee	10% of the excess return of the Fund above the Performance Benchmark (MSCI World Net Return Index (AUD)) and only paid if performance is above the Performance Hurdle (Reserve Bank of Australia cash rate target). Any negative or unpaid performance is carried forward to the next period.[1]
Buy/sell spread	+0.25% / -0.25%
Fund size	$49.0M
Distributions	Annually at 30 June
Min. Investment	$10,000
Max. cash position	20%

Fund features

Concentrated: A long only, concentrated portfolio of 30-45 of our best ideas, highly diversified across sectors and regions. A truly global fund consistently exposed to powerful trends reshaping our world.

Discipline: A disciplined process finding quality businesses with strong earnings that are under appreciated by the market. This approach has proven successful across different market cycles.

Talent: A united and deeply experienced team of global portfolio managers each with over 20 years in the industry.

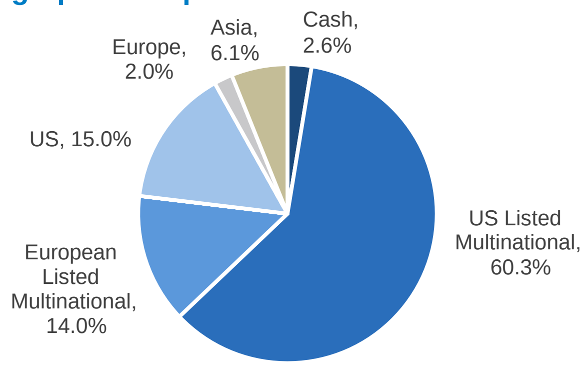
Aligned: Alphinity Investment Management is a boutique firm, strongly aligned with its clients' investment objectives and focused solely on growing clients' wealth.

Top 10 positions

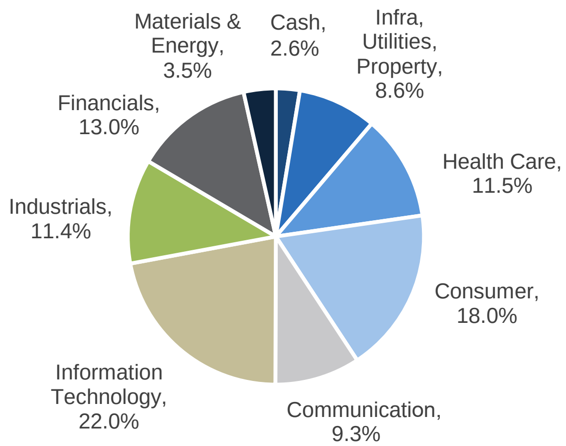
Company	Sector	%
Microsoft Corp	Info. Technology	5.8
Amazon.com Inc	Cons. Discretionary	4.4
Activision Blizzard Inc	Communication Services	4.1
HCA Inc	Health Care	3.8
FMC Corp	Materials	3.7
Trane Technologies plc	Industrials	3.7
Nestle SA	Consumer Staples	3.6
Vestas Wind Systems A/S	Industrials	3.5
Morgan Stanley	Financials Ex Prop	3.5
NextEra Energy Inc	Utilities	3.4
Total		**39.6**

Data Source: Fidante Partners Limited, 31 July 2020.

Geographical exposure



Sector exposure



Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

[1] Returns are calculated after fees have been deducted and assume distributions have been reinvested. No allowance is made for tax when calculating these figures.

[2] The inception date for the Fund is 21 December 2015

[3] From 21 December 2015 to 31 March 2019, the Benchmark was the MSCI World Equity ex Australia (Net) Index. The current index is effective from 1 April 2019.

[4] Numbers may not add due to rounding

Market comment

Global equities rallied +5.1% in July (MSCI ACWI Index USD), seemingly driven by better economic data and earnings reports, as well as vaccine optimism. Emerging Markets, Asia Pacific and the US outperformed, while Europe and Japan lagged. Japan was the only major market down during the month. By global sector, some of the cyclicals outperformed again, with IT Hardware, Consumer Discretionary, Materials and Semiconductors leading. Energy, Banks and Property were the main laggards, with Energy being the only sector ending the month in negative territory.

The global recovery is progressing – albeit with some moderation in the pace after the sharp jump in indicators in May-June. Global manufacturing Purchasing Managers Indices (PMIs) moved back into expansion mode, reaching 50.6 in July, from 48.8 in June. The improvement appears to be sustainable, with the New Orders component jumping to 52.6 and inventory levels historically low. However, the upswing is still held back by weak global trade. The US labour market is on a gradual recovery path, with jobless claims resuming its recovery, after a brief setback in mid-July after new lockdowns in certain states. Retail sales in both the US and EU are already close to or above their Jan-20 levels.

Against this backdrop, the USD weakened significantly during the month, with the trade weighted DXY index falling -4.1%. Bond markets continued to rally and the US 10y yield fell from 0.66% to 0.53%. The weaker USD and significantly negative real interest rates contributed to commodity strength, including Gold which rose +11% to a new all-time high of $1,976/Oz.

The global earnings cycle is bottoming and analysts' overall earnings expectations for 2020 rose by +2.0% for the month. US earnings were the strongest, up +3.4%, as the reporting season produced unusually large earnings beats against aggressively cut expectations. By global sector Energy, Consumer Discretionary and Healthcare saw the biggest upgrades, and Industrials, Property and Financials the biggest downgrades.

Market outlook

The macro outlook continues to be clouded by COVID lockdowns, vaccine timing, the US presidential election, and the current escalation of the geopolitical dispute between the US and China. We can't accurately forecast the pace of growth from here, but our bottom-up work on companies across all sectors indicate that global economies are currently steadily improving.

As always, we focus on company earnings insights to identify interesting trends and stocks. The second quarter earnings season produced unusually large, positive surprises. Broadly speaking, expectations had been lowered too far, and cost cutting was under-estimated. The earnings downgrade wave due to the economic shutdowns earlier in the year were the most aggressive on record, but currently a bottom in the global earnings cycle is forming. The US and Europe are leading, with Japan and Asia Pacific lagging somewhat.

Also adding to the outlook is that the earnings recovery is broadening, i.e. the change of direction is not just due to the substantial, well-published earnings 'beats' of US large cap technology stocks. Our Alphinity Global Earnings Diffusion Ratio, which measures all earnings revisions across the market, recently inflected to positive territory, i.e. upgrades now outnumber downgrades. It had been in negative territory since end-2018.

A changing earnings-cycle always produces fresh investment ideas and we are currently finding plenty of new opportunities where we believe the market is significantly under-estimating earnings. These earnings and valuation 'gaps' are visible both in the near term (economic recovery), as well as over the longer term (world class franchises in growing industries). These new ideas also come from both sides of the market (i.e. growth and cyclicals). Consequently, at present there is healthy competition for capital in the portfolio. During the month, we added Adobe, Reckitt-Benckiser and Otis to the portfolio. The remaining position in CME was sold out as the earnings case deteriorated.

For further information, please contact:

Fidante Partners Investor Services | **p:** 13 51 53 | **e:** info@fidante.com.au | **w:** www.fidante.com.au