# Platinum International Fund ARSN 089 528 307

### MONTHLY REPORT 30 April 2024

#### **FACTS**

Portfolio value \$6.06 bn Fund commenced 30 April 1995

Minimum investment A\$10,000 or NZ\$10,000 Regular Investment Plan (min.) A/NZ\$5,000 plus A/NZ\$200 mth/qtr

Income distribution date
Unit valuation
Unit prices C Class
Unit prices P Class
Valuation
Annual, 30 June
Sydney Business Day
App - 2.0323 Red - 2.0262
App - 0.9597 Red - 0.9568

### PERFORMANCE 1

	C Class %	P Class %	MSCI %
1 month	(0.5)	(0.4)	(2.8)
3 months	6.5	6.5	5.9
6 months	7.8	8.0	16.8
Calendar year to date	6.0	6.1	9.9
1 year	4.3	4.5	19.5
2 years (compound pa)	9.0	9.3	14.5
3 years (compound pa)	4.6	4.9	10.5
5 years (compound pa)	6.0	6.3	11.2
7 years (compound pa)	7.1		11.7
10 years (compound pa)	8.4		12.1
Since inception (compound pa)	11.3	6.9	7.8

## **INVESTED POSITIONS**<sup>3</sup>

	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %	CCY %
Asia-Pacific	41.8	(0.2)	41.7	61.6
Australia	0.3	(0.2)	0.1	1.4
China	22.4		22.4	22.4
Taiwan	3.3		3.3	3.3
India	2.9		2.9	2.9
Japan	8.5		8.5	26.4
South Korea	3.2		3.2	3.2
Other Asia-Pacific	1.2		1.2	2.0
Europe	23.5		23.5	27.4
Austria	1.3		1.3	
Finland	3.0		3.0	
France	5.1		5.1	
Italy	1.5		1.5	
Netherlands	1.1		1.1	
Switzerland	2.9		2.9	3.0
United Kingdom	8.0		8.0	10.0
Euro				14.4
Other Europe	0.5		0.5	0.1
North America	22.2	(1.4)	20.8	8.8
Canada	2.8		2.8	3.1
United States of America	19.4	(1.4)	18.0	5.7
Other	2.1		2.1	2.1
Sub-Total	89.6	(1.6)	88.1	100.0
Cash	10.4	1.6	11.9	
Total	100.0		100.0	100.0

#### **FEES**

Entry fee	Nil
Buy/sell spread	0.15%/0.15%
C Class	Investment management 1.35% p.a.
	Investment performance N/A
P Class	Investment management 1.10% p.a.
	Investment performance 15.00% p.a.*

Platinum

# PERFORMANCE GRAPH<sup>2</sup>



### TOP TEN POSITIONS

STOCK	COUNTRY	INDUSTRY	%
ZTO Express Cayman Inc	China	Industrials	4.2
Alphabet Inc	United States	Comm Services	3.3
Taiwan Semiconductor	Taiwan	Info Technology	3.3
Allfunds Group Plc	UK	Financials	3.2
Samsung Electronics Co	South Korea	Info Technology	3.2
UPM-Kymmene Oyj	Finland	Materials	3.0
InterGlobe Aviation Ltd	India	Industrials	2.9
UBS Group AG	Switzerland	Financials	2.9
Tencent Holdings Ltd	China	Comm Services	2.8
Trip.com Group Ltd	China	Cons Discretionary	2.6
		Total	31.5

#### INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN<sup>3</sup>

SECTOR	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %
Industrials	21.3	(0.1)	21.3
Financials	16.5	(0.5)	16.1
Information Technology	13.2	(8.0)	12.4
Consumer Discretionary	11.4	(0.1)	11.3
Communication Services	7.3	(0.2)	7.1
Materials	7.0		7.0
Energy	6.4		6.4
Real Estate	3.8		3.8
Health Care	1.4		1.4
Consumer Staples	1.1		1.1
Utilities	0.3		0.3

Long - 63 stocks, 1 swap, 2 other Short - 9 swaps

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<sup>\*</sup> of the amount by which the Fund's return exceeds its index return

<sup>1. &</sup>amp; 2. Source: Platinum for Fund returns and Factset Research Systems for MSCI returns. Investment returns are calculated using the Fund's NAV unit price (i.e. exclude a buy/sell spread) for C Class and P Class (as indicated), and represent the combined income and capital returns for each of these unit classes in the specified period. All returns are pre-tax, net of fees and costs and assume the reinvestment of distributions. Returns for P Class are net of any accrued investment performance fee. The returns are calculated relative to the MSCI All Country World Net Index in A\$ (the gross MSCI Index was used prior to 31/12/98). Since inception date for C Class is 30/04/95 and for P Class is 03/07/17. Since inception date of C Class has been used for the purposes of calculating since inception returns of the index. The investment returns depicted in the graph are cumulative on A\$20,000 invested in C Class units in the Fund since the C Class inception date. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. Platinum does not invest by reference to the weightings of the index. The investment returns are reference only.

<sup>3.</sup> The "Long %" is the exposure to long securities and long securities/index derivative positions, the "Short %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions, and the "Net %" is the exposure to long and short securities and long and short securities/index derivative positions, each as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio. The "Currency %" is the effective currency exposure as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio taking into account long and short securities, cash, forwards and long and short securities/index derivative positions. For the "Industry breakdown", index positions (whether through ETFs or derivatives) are only included under the relevant sector if they are sector specific, otherwise they are included under "Other".

<sup>3.</sup> and 4. Country classifications for securities reflect Bloomberg's "country of risk" designations, and currency classifications for securities reflect the relevant local currencies of our country classifications.

4. The "Top ten positions" show the Fund's top ten long securities positions as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio (including long securities and long securities derivative positions).

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MONTHLY REPORT 30 April 2024

#### MARKET UPDATE AND COMMENTARY



- The Platinum International Fund returned -0.5% for April 2024, beating the MSCI AC World Index which was down -2.9% for the month.
- Chinese stocks contributed 2.1% to monthly returns, mainly through consumer discretionary and real estate stocks. European stocks were the worst performers, detracting 1.0% from monthly performance.
- Platinum's investment philosophy has always been to find mispriced stocks and opportunities in areas that are out of favour and away from the crowd. We avoid trying to predict which direction the overall market is heading and instead look for attractively-valued idiosyncratic business opportunities to invest capital in over the medium to long term.

#### Performance Analysis\*

The Platinum International Fund returned -0.5% for April 2024, outperforming the MSCI AC World Index which fell 2.9% for the month.

The Fund's Chinese holdings were the standouts, contributing 2.1% to monthly performance. The top contributor to portfolio performance was China Overseas Land and Investment Limited, a Hong Kong based real estate conglomerate. China's property sector has been in the doldrums for the past few years, however, we have seen the government recently announce further stimulus measures targeted at the sector. The latest urban village renovations and social housing programs are further signs the government is committed to helping the sector. The essence of the program is that the government can buy excess housing stock from developers to hold or rent out and/or buy housing in the secondary market to soak up inventory. The Fund's exposure to Chinese real estate is ~3%.

A major contributor to monthly returns – and a new addition to the Fund's top 10 stocks - is Alphabet, the parent company of Google. The Fund bought its original position in May 2023 when there were concerns that a potential US recession would trim the advertising revenue of the company. Since then, recessionary concerns have eased and while the stock price has increased by nearly 60% since May 2023, its valuation multiple has remained largely the same as the company has improved profitability.

The current mispricing opportunity in Alphabet's stock is the market's concern that Al will disrupt Google's search business. There are also questions around:

- how Google will be able to serve advertisements if they implement an AI ChatGPT style interface
- that the computing power required will be more expensive and therefore compress the company's margin.

There have been times in the past where investors worried about a platform change impairing Google's position in search. The first was the move away from desktop computers to mobile phones and the second was the increased uptake in voice assistants. In both those cases, the fear was overblown and we think this time will be the same. What gives us confidence is that Microsoft's search function, Bing, has integrated ChatGPT but failed to take market share away from Google. Given Google's market leading position, we think it well positioned to lead the Al-enabled search evolution. The company has proven they can address these threats and evolve their business e.g. they built Android to deal with the shift to mobile.

Alphabet have experience in making valuable Al products (e.g. Google Translate), they have their own specialist Al chips (the best chips independent of Nvidia) and they are positioning Google Cloud as the provider of choice for Al start-ups. We approach Alphabet like our other investments in the Al theme - we are investing in businesses that will benefit from the continued spend in Al but have good quality underlying businesses that are growing and can sustain their valuation multiples even if the spend or hype in Al dies down. This describes Alphabet, which is growing at double digits and trading at a substantial discount to other Al enablers like Microsoft

# An attractively valued portfolio

The portfolio's aggregate valuation metrics are attractive in both an absolute sense and relative to the market, with a ~43% higher earnings yield and a ~39% discount on an asset basis (see table below).

Metric	Platinum International Fund	MSCI AC World Net Index (A\$)
NTM Earnings Yield	8.3% (Price-to-Earnings ratio of 12.1x)	5.8% (Price-to-Earnings ratio of 17.1x)
NTM Dividend Yield	2.6%	2.4%
NTM Enterprise Value-to-Sales	1.8x	2.3x
LTM Price-to-Book Ratio	1.7x	2.8x

The valuations in the table have been calculated by Platinum and for the Fund refer to the long portion of the portfolio, exclude negative net earnings and use FactSet consensus earnings. MSCI data is sourced from Rimes, FactSet and Platinum. As at 30 April 2024. NTM = next twelve months. LTM = last twelve months.

\*Source: Platinum. Contribution numbers are based on the total return of individual positions (in AUD) and are gross as they do not take into account the Fund's fees and costs (other than brokerage). **Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.**