

**Facts**

Portfolio value	\$4.63 bn
Fund commenced	04 March 2003
Minimum investment	A\$10,000 or NZ\$10,000
Regular Investment Plan	A/NZ\$5000 plus A/NZ\$200 mth/qrt
Income distribution date	Annual, 30 June
Unit valuation	Sydney Business Day
Unit prices C Class	App – 2.5526 Red – 2.5398
Unit prices P Class	App – 0.9117 Red – 0.9071

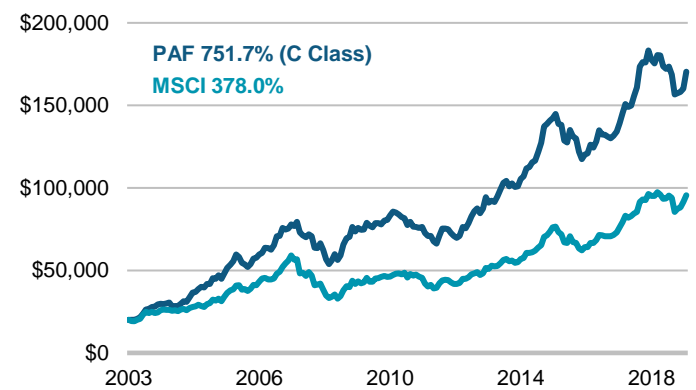
**Performance<sup>1</sup>**

	P Class %	C Class %	MSCI %
1 month	6.46	6.44	4.63
3 months	8.30	8.23	9.40
6 months	(1.71)	(1.83)	0.31
Calendar year to date	7.79	7.75	8.40
1 year	(3.97)	(4.21)	0.53
2 years (compound pa)		12.74	14.39
3 years (compound pa)		13.20	15.44
5 years (compound pa)		10.66	11.30
7 years (compound pa)		12.37	11.76
10 years (compound pa)		11.69	11.27
Since inception (compound pa)*	7.66	14.34	10.28

**Fees**

Entry fee	Nil	
Buy/sell spread	0.25%/0.25%	
Fee:	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.*

\*of the amount by which the Fund's return exceeds its index return

**Performance graph<sup>2</sup>**

**Top ten positions<sup>4</sup>**

STOCK	COUNTRY*	INDUSTRY	%
Alibaba Group	China	Cons Discretionary	4.6
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	Korea	Info Technology	3.8
Ping An Insurance Grp	China	Financials	3.1
Tencent Holdings Ltd	China	Communication Serv.	2.9
Kasikornbank PCL	Thailand	Financials	2.9
Axis Bank Ltd	India	Financials	2.8
Ayala Land Inc	Philippines	Real Estate	2.6
58.COM Inc	China	Communication Serv.	2.6
Vietnam Enterprise	Vietnam	Other	2.2
Melco Resorts	Hong Kong	Cons Discretionary	2.2

China includes exposure to Chinese A shares, H shares and ADRs

**Industry breakdown<sup>3</sup>**

SECTOR	LONG %	NET %
Financials	23.5	23.5
Cons Discretionary	18.8	18.8
Communication Services	13.9	13.9
Industrials	6.4	6.4
Real Estate	6.2	6.2
Info Technology	5.7	4.8
Consumer Staples	4.8	4.8
Other	2.2	2.2
Health Care	1.8	0.5
Energy	1.2	1.2
Materials	1.0	1.0
Utilities	0.8	0.8

**Invested positions<sup>3</sup>**

	LONG %	NET %	CURRENCY %
China	13.9	13.9	16.8
China Ex PRC	32.9	31.9	
Hong Kong	7.6	7.6	23.3
India	12.2	11.3	14.8
Korea	9.5	9.2	9.4
Malaysia	0.5	0.5	0.5
Philippines	3.2	3.2	3.2
Thailand	4.4	4.4	4.4
Vietnam	2.2	2.2	2.2
	86.4	84.2	
Australian Dollar			0.4
China Renminbi Off Shore			(19.1)
UK Pound Sterling			0.1
United States Dollar			44.0
Cash	13.6	15.8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Long - 75 stocks, 1 swap    Short - 2 stocks, 1 index

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1. & 2. Source: Platinum for Fund returns and RIMES Technologies 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, 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 Asia ex-Japan Net Index in AS. The investment returns depicted in the graph are cumulative on A\$20,000 invested in the Fund since inception. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. It should be noted that Platinum does not invest by reference to the weightings of the index. Underlying assets are chosen through Platinum's bottom up stock selection process and as a result holdings will vary considerably from the make-up of the index. The index is provided as a reference only.

3. China refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed outside of the PRC but provide exposure to PRC companies. The "Long %" represents the exposure to direct securities holdings and long stock/index derivatives as a percentage of the Fund's net asset value. The "Net %" represents the exposure to direct securities holdings and both long and short stock/index derivatives as a percentage of the Fund's net asset value. The "Currency %" represents the effective currency exposure of the Fund's portfolio as a percentage of the Fund's net asset value, taking into account currency exposures through securities holdings, cash, forwards and long and short stock/index derivatives.

4. The "Top ten positions" show the Fund's top ten long positions as a percentage of the Fund's net asset value. Direct securities holdings and long stock derivatives are included. However, short stock derivatives are not included.

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## Market update and commentary

After a frustrating year the Fund performed more satisfactorily in February, returning 6.5% for the month, led by very strong performance from our Chinese holdings, in particular tech and related holdings such as Alibaba, 58.com and Autohome, as well as long term holding Ping An Insurance.

Problematic stocks over the last year have been: YES! Bank and Bharti in India; Chinese internet companies Sina and Weibo; and resources companies Yanzhou Coal and MMG.

Yes! Bank was struck by regulatory interference when its CEO was not granted a permit required to remain as head of the bank. This appears to us to relate to somewhat arbitrary classifications of loans as being "in arrears" or "delinquent". Meanwhile total credit growth in India is approximately 10% p.a. and nimble private sector banks can be expected to grow faster than system.

Bharti, meanwhile, is engaged in a price war with other Indian telco operators (notably Mukesh Ambani-led Jio), which while difficult in the near term, we see as likely to become more rational with time in the world's fastest growing and second-largest mobile phone market.

The weakness in several of our Chinese internet holdings appears due to sentiment rather than imperilled business models. This has improved in recent weeks: for instance Weibo is up over 35% from recent lows.

Our mining holdings have come under pressure, in line with many mining stocks outside of the global diversifieds, as markets have fretted about demand for commodities such as coal and copper. In our view the longer term outlook for these commodities, and by extension Yanzhou and MMG, is strong. MMG was one of the Fund's best performing holdings in the month of February, incidentally.

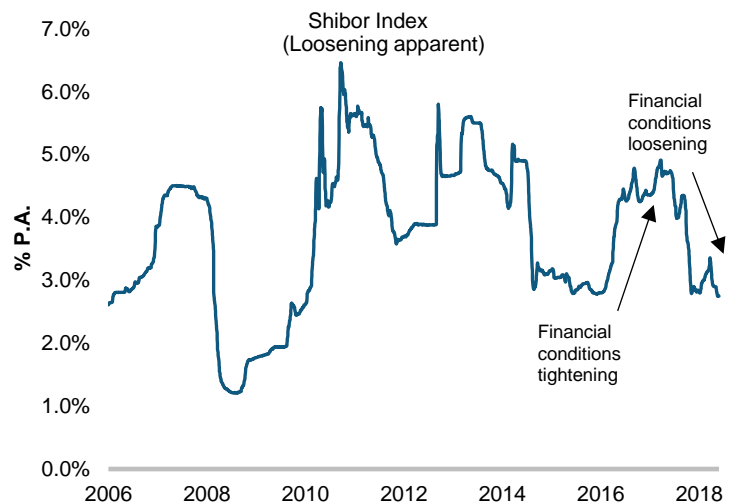
News came from MSCI during the month that the index provider will include China as 20% of emerging markets indices moving forward, a move likely to see foreign buying of Chinese equities. We regard this as a pleasant tangent to the underlying reasons for owning Chinese stocks, which is that they are cheap, with good growth prospects and generally clean balance sheets in the private segment of the economy (as opposed to China's generally heavily indebted state owned enterprises).

Investors may be asking if it is time to take profits after a rapid recovery in Chinese shares. Our inclination is that this is not the time to sell. After ten years of weak performance and an appalling 2018, Chinese shares remain cheap, even after the recent rally. And the Chinese government has clearly signalled that growth will be prioritised in the near term, as a response to the excessive tightening of monetary and fiscal conditions in the last year.

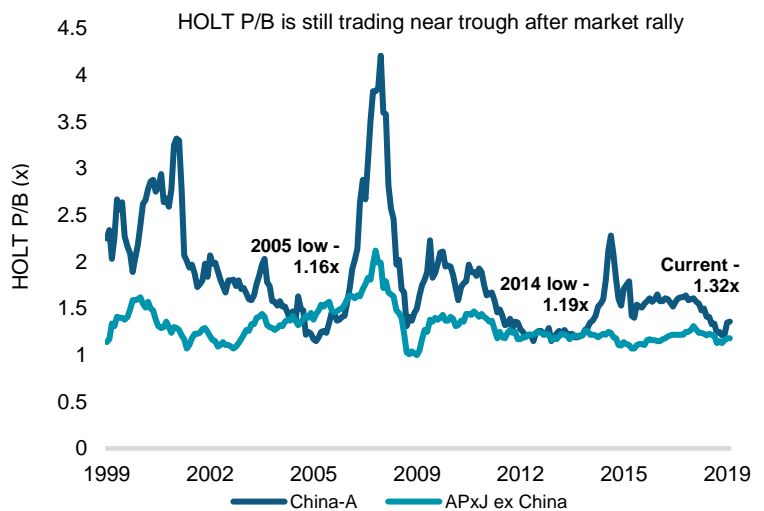
As we have written previously, given the underlying resilience we see in the dominant economy in Asia, China, and the exceptional value presented by cyclicals, we continue to hold a portfolio dominated by cyclicals. Given valuations and our outlook for reasonable global demand growth, plus Chinese stimulus and a Fed pause, we are confident regarding the positioning of the portfolio.



Source: Bloomberg, correct at 4 March 2019.



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Source: Credit Suisse HOLT lens™