

## FACTS

Portfolio value	\$7.26 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	Annual, 30 June
Unit valuation	Sydney Business Day
Unit prices C Class	App - 2.0467 Red - 2.0405
Unit prices P Class	App - 0.9692 Red - 0.9662

## PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

	C Class %	P Class %	MSCI %
1 month	0.9	0.9	1.5
3 months	4.8	4.9	(0.7)
6 months	14.6	14.8	5.0
Calendar year to date	3.9	4.0	4.7
1 year	8.4	8.7	(1.3)
2 years (compound pa)	4.9	5.1	6.6
3 years (compound pa)	8.1	8.4	7.2
5 years (compound pa)	5.0	5.2	8.9
7 years (compound pa)	8.8		10.7
10 years (compound pa)	10.8		12.5
Since inception (compound pa)	11.6	7.1	7.2

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

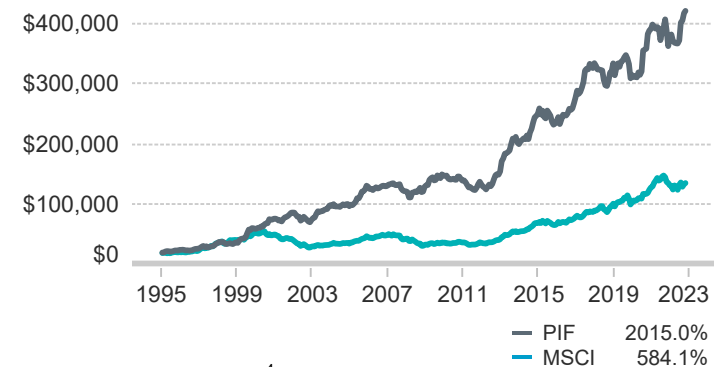
	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %	CCY %
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	36.5	(4.0)	32.6	50.2
Australia	1.5	(1.9)	(0.4)	1.7
China	20.0		20.0	22.4
Hong Kong	0.1		0.1	0.4
Taiwan	0.2		0.2	0.2
India	2.0		2.0	2.0
Japan	8.3	(1.9)	6.4	20.1
Kazakhstan	0.3		0.3	0.3
New Zealand		(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)
South Korea	4.2		4.2	4.3
China Renminbi Offshore				(1.0)
<b>Europe</b>	28.9	(0.1)	28.8	33.8
Austria	2.5		2.5	
Belgium	0.1		0.1	
Denmark	0.1	(0.1)		0.1
Finland	2.9		2.9	
France	3.2		3.2	
Germany	3.9		3.9	
Ireland	0.8		0.8	
Italy	2.8		2.8	
Monaco	0.8		0.8	
Netherlands	2.7		2.7	
Norway	0.3		0.3	0.3
Sweden	0.1		0.1	0.1
Switzerland	1.1		1.1	1.1
United Kingdom	7.6		7.6	11.1
Euro				21.1
<b>North America</b>	18.2	(10.5)	7.7	14.2
Canada	1.9		1.9	2.4
United States of America	16.3	(10.5)	5.8	11.8
<b>Other</b>	1.8		1.8	1.8
<b>Sub-Total</b>	85.5	(14.6)	70.9	100.0
<b>Cash</b>	14.5	14.6	29.1	
<b>Total</b>	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.*

\* 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	%
ZTO Express Cayman Inc	China	Industrials	3.5
Microchip Technology Inc	United States	Info Technology	3.1
Minebea Co Ltd	Japan	Industrials	3.0
Ping An Insurance Group	China	Financials	2.9
UPM-Kymmene OYJ	Finland	Materials	2.9
Allfunds Group Plc	UK	Financials	2.7
Intesa Sanpaolo SpA	Italy	Financials	2.7
Shell PLC	Netherlands	Energy	2.3
Beazley PLC	UK	Financials	2.2
Weichai Power Co Ltd	China	Industrials	2.1
<b>Total</b>			<b>27.5</b>

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

SECTOR	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %
Financials	17.7	(1.2)	16.4
Industrials	18.9	(3.2)	15.8
Materials	8.6		8.6
Consumer Discretionary	11.4	(3.0)	8.4
Information Technology	11.0	(3.2)	7.8
Energy	7.5		7.5
Health Care	4.1		4.1
Communication Services	3.3	(0.9)	2.5
Real Estate	2.4	(0.2)	2.2
Consumer Staples	0.5	(0.4)	0.1
Other		(2.5)	(2.5)

Long - 131 stocks, 2 swaps, 1 option, 2 other Short - 33 swaps, 1 index

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1. & 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 index is provided as a reference only.

3. 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".

3. 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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## MARKET UPDATE AND COMMENTARY

- The Fund rose 0.9% for the month – in line with broader market\* moves.
- The net invested position remains near historical averages.
- Looking forward, there are exciting opportunities on the long side, but we remain wary of further market weakness.

### Market Commentary

After charging out of the gate in January, markets had a more subdued February. Despite resilient economic data in the US, the S&P 500 index has been driven more by company-specific factors than macroeconomic variables, creating more stock-picking opportunities. We expect much more divergent markets over the course of 2023, as a complex and uncertain environment creates mispricing in equities. We think this is a great market for active ‘true’ investors.

In the US, the Federal Reserve increased interest rates early in the month as expected, but the continued strength in the jobs market, strong retail sales and a high Personal Consumption Expenditures Price Index (PCE) number saw market participants price in a higher peak (terminal) Fed Funds rate, along with a “higher-for-longer” scenario, i.e. the potential for rate cuts has been pushed further out. With that backdrop, the US markets held up surprisingly well. Corporates reported lower but better-than-expected earnings numbers in the face of increasing interest rates. One highlight was Meta Platforms, which rose 23% on its result, its strongest day in nearly a decade (source: FactSet).

Elsewhere, US President Joe Biden and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen both made separate surprise trips to declare their “unwavering support” for Ukraine as Russia’s invasion passed the one-year mark. Even with the tragic headlines, the broad STOXX Europe 600 index has bounced 20% from its September low and the FTSE 100 index climbed to a record all-time high during the month (source: FactSet). Similarly, to the US, investors in Europe also increased their terminal rate expectations from the European Central Bank and the Bank of England.

Our Chinese positions were a drag on performance this month, as the markets consolidated their strong calendar-year-to-date returns. We continue to believe that China is a much-unloved stock market, and we remain confident in the Chinese businesses we hold. China is in a different part of its economic cycle from economies in the West, and the government is taking clear steps to stimulate the economy, particularly the property sector.

Our net exposure remains at around 71%. We continue to buy stocks that we think offer good value and remain excited by opportunities across decarbonisation, semiconductors, travel, Chinese consumers, financials, and growth industrials. Our short book remains dynamic and aims to protect capital. The composition of the short portfolio continues to have less emphasis on highly valued growth names and more on COVID beneficiaries (e.g. retailers, e-commerce) that we expect will have weak earnings outcomes in the year ahead, as well as some of the more dubious and overvalued ‘energy transition’ related companies.

### Performance Analysis\*\*

Over the past three months, the long positions contributed 4.3% to the Fund’s return (versus an underlying market return of -0.7%). The Fund’s return was driven by our positions in European financials and selective US shorts. European holdings contributed 3.3% over the past three months, with Intesa Sanpaolo, Allfunds and Erste Group being the major contributors.

### Valuation

The portfolio’s aggregate valuation metrics are attractive in both an absolute sense and relative to the market, with a 33% higher starting earnings yield and a 40% discount on an asset basis (see table below).

Metric	Platinum International Fund	MSCI AC World Net Index (A\$)
NTM Earnings Yield	8.8% (Price-to-Earnings ratio of 11.4x)	6.6% (Price-to-Earnings ratio of 15.2x)
NTM Dividend Yield	3.3%	2.8%
NTM Enterprise Value-to-Sales	1.1x	1.6x
LTM Price-to-Book Ratio	1.5x	2.5x

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. As at 28 February 2023. NTM = next twelve months. LTM = last twelve months.

\* Market returns throughout this report refer to the MSCI AC World Net Index in A\$. Source: FactSet.

\*\*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.**