Platinum Asia Investments Limited Ask PA

31 January 2020

Facts

Portfolio value Portfolio Inception Current share price Pre-tax NTA Post-tax NTA

\$417.3 mn 15 September 2015 \$1.03 \$1.1479 \$1.1217

Fees Management fee:

Performance fee:

1.1% p.a. of the portfolio value

Payable at 15% of the amount by which the portfolio's annual performance exceeds the return achieved by the MSCI All Country Asia ex Japan Net Index

Performance ¹		
	Company % (Pre-tax NTA)	MSCI %
1 month	0.42	0.33
3 months	5.28	5.14
6 months	6.62	6.91
Calendar year to date	0.42	0.33
1 year	17.62	14.60
2 years (compound pa)	1.20	4.27
3 years (compound pa)	12.93	13.52
Since inception (compound pa)	9.12	10.86

PAI's returns are calculated after the deduction of fees and expenses, adjusted for taxes paid and any capital flows and assume the reinvestment of dividends. PAI's returns have not been calculated using PAI's share price.

Invested positions ³					
	Long %	Short %	Net %	Currency %	
Asia-Pacific	77.4	(3.6)	73.7	60.4	
China	7.3	(3.0)	4.3	4.3	
China Ex PRC	27.8		27.8		
Hong Kong	7.4	(0.6)	6.8	33.1	
Taiwan	7.7		7.7	6.9	
India	8.8		8.8	9.7	
Korea	9.6		9.6	9.4	
Malaysia	0.1		0.1	0.2	
Philippines	2.7		2.7	2.7	
Thailand	3.0		3.0	3.1	
Vietnam	3.1		3.1	3.1	
China Renminbi Off Shore				(12.1)	
North America				39.6	
United States Dollar				39.6	
Sub-Total	77.4	(3.6)	73.7	100.0	
Cash	22.6		26.3		
Total	100.0		100.0	100.0	
Long 60 stocks. Short 1 swap 1 other					

Long - 60 stocks Short - 1 swap, 1 other

Performance graph² \$35,000 PAI (Pre-tax NTA) 46.5% \$30,000 \$25,000 \$25,000 \$20,000 \$15,000 \$15,000

2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 PAI's returns are calculated after the deduction of fees and expenses, adjusted for taxes paid and any capital flows and assume the reinvestment of dividends. PAI's returns have not been calculated using PAI's share price.

Top ten positions ⁴			
Stock	Country	Industry	%
Taiwan Semiconductor	Taiwan	Info Technology	5.1
AIA Group Ltd	Hong Kong	Financials	3.9
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	Korea	Info Technology	3.8
Midea Group	China	Cons Discretionary	3.8
Ping An Insurance	China	Financials	3.7
Largan Precision	Taiwan	Info Technology	2.6
Vietnam Enterprise	Vietnam	Other	2.6
Tencent Holdings	China	Comm Services	2.5
Reliance Industries Ltd	India	Energy	2.4
Kasikornbank PCL	Thailand	Financials	2.3
		Total	32.4

Industry breakdown ³			
Sector	Long %	Short %	Net %
Info Technology	17.0		17.0
Financials	16.0		16.0
Consumer Discretionary	15.0		15.0
Communication Services	6.5		6.5
Industrials	5.3		5.3
Real Estate	4.7		4.7
Materials	2.7		2.7
Health Care	2.5		2.5
Energy	2.4		2.4
Consumer Staples	2.1	(0.6)	1.5
Utilities	0.5		0.5
Other	2.6	(3.0)	(0.5)

1. & 2. Source: Platinum for portfolio returns and Factset Research Systems for MSCI returns. The returns are calculated relative to the MSCI All Country Asia ex-Japan Net Index in A§. The investment returns in the line graph are cumulative on A\$20,000 invested in PAI since inception. 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 short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the "Net %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index deriva

3. The "Long %" is the exposure to long securities/index derivative positions, the "Short %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions, each as a percentage of PAI's portfolio value. The "Currency %" is the effective currency exposure of PAI's portfolio as a percentage of its portfolio value, taking into account long and short securities, otherwise they are included under the relevant sector if they are sector specific, otherwise they are included under "Other".

included under the relevant sector if they are sector specific, otherwise they are included under "Other". 3. and 4. China generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange. China Ex PRC generally refers to securities or derivatives over securities, which securities are listed on the Shanghai or Shenzhen stock exchange.

A. The "Top ten positions" show PAI's top ten long securities percentage of PAI's portfolio value (including long securities and long securities derivative positions). All data where MSCI is referenced is the property of MSCI. No use or distribution of this data is permitted without the written consent of MSCI. This data is provided "as is" without any warranties by MSCI. MSCI assumes no liability for or in connection with this data. Please see full MSCI disclaimer in https://www.platinum.com.au/Special-Pages/Terms-Conditions

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Improving economic data in early January saw markets trade positively in Asia, which changed dramatically toward the end of the month given the spread of the novel coronavirus in Wuhan and the response of Chinese authorities (more on this below). We remained very exposed to markets for most of January and thus benefited from investor positivity earlier in the month.

In the last week of January we moved to reduce our net equity exposure, taking it down to mid-70's percent in response to the serious concerns about the coronavirus and its economic impact. This was helpful when the market reopened in the first week of February. In response, we closed shorts and added to quality businesses that had been marked down in the sell-off. If all this sounds fickle – it is! Flexibility is required in times such as this, with serious investor concerns and correspondingly large market moves reflecting those.

As things stand, Chinese authorities' response has been severe, effectively shutting off Wuhan, a city of 11 million people. This appears to have limited the spread of the disease to other parts of China and to other countries. Mortality appears to be low in areas outside of Wuhan, which we interpret to mean that if hospital systems can treat infected patients i.e. they are not overrun with cases, chances of survival may be very good. As always, this must come with a caveat that we are relying on Chinese data, and the situation is evolving. As such we continue to monitor events carefully.

From an investment perspective, the inevitable interruption to Chinese economic activity further heightens our drive to remain in what we consider to be high quality stocks in Asia. The risk here is always that we pay too much and that these positions are overcrowded. We believe we have a margin of safety even in the region's best-known names like Alibaba or Tencent. These trade at discounts comparable to Western peers in our view, and are frequently derided as fraudulent or otherwise unworthy in global financial circles.

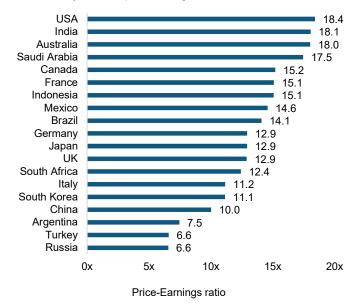
Over the month our larger holdings in tech in China did well, notably Tencent and Alibaba, while chip makers Samsung and SK Hynix also contributed strongly (see last month's monthly update for more details on our holdings in chip makers). Poor performers for the month included restaurant stock Yum China, copper miner MMG and job placement company 58.com.

January saw a new company join our top ten holdings – Taiwanese firm, Largan Precision. Largan is the leader in high end lenses for mobile phone cameras. Our rationale here is that lens quality is improving alongside camera phone requirements which works to the company's advantage, and 5G may see some reacceleration of handset sales. We initiated the position late last year and its performance has seen the stock move into the top ten.

The performance of the last year serves as reminder of the potential for Asia to deliver pleasing returns to investors. This will come with some volatility, as highlighted by current fears around coronavirus. However, the region boasts low valuations and strong growth potential – a good starting position for investment returns, in our view.

Please visit our website for an update on coronavirus as at 29 January 2020.

https://www.platinum.com.au/Insights-Tools/The-Journal/Update-recoronavirus Major market price-earnings ratios - Next 12 months



Source: Chart 1 – IBES consensus, in local currency. Correct as at 31 January 2020.



Earning Per Share Growth

Earnings Per Share Growth - Next 12 months

Source: Chart 2 – IBES consensus, in local currency. Correct as at 31 January 2020.