



## Facts

Portfolio value	\$10.22 bn
Fund commenced	30 April 1995
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 – 1.8979 Red – 1.8884
Unit prices P Class	App – 0.9111 Red – 0.9065

## Performance<sup>1</sup>

	P Class %	C Class %	MSCI %
1 month	(0.36)	(0.38)	(3.58)
3 months	(7.91)	(7.97)	(10.33)
6 months	(8.30)	(8.42)	(4.52)
Calendar year to date	(8.24)	(8.47)	0.64
1 year	(8.24)	(8.47)	0.64
2 years (compound pa)		7.03	7.47
3 years (compound pa)		6.22	7.77
5 years (compound pa)		7.19	9.38
7 years (compound pa)		13.21	14.36
10 years (compound pa)		9.09	9.35
Since inception (compound pa)*	1.97	12.09	6.48

## Invested positions<sup>3</sup>

	LONG %	NET %	CURRENCY %
Australia	0.3	0.2	2.0
Austria	1.1	1.1	
Brazil	0.2	0.2	0.2
Canada	2.6	2.6	2.6
China	5.7	5.7	6.5
China Ex PRC	14.7	14.7	
Hong Kong	0.7	0.7	12.6
Denmark	0.7	0.5	0.7
France	3.0	3.0	
Germany	4.4	4.4	
India	6.1	6.1	6.3
Italy	1.0	1.0	
Japan	8.9	8.2	16.7
Korea	6.2	5.1	5.1
Malaysia	0.2	0.2	0.2
Norway	2.6	2.6	2.6
Russia	0.1	0.1	
Switzerland	4.7	4.6	2.1
Thailand	0.6	0.6	0.6
United Kingdom	1.9	1.5	4.5
United States	14.9	6.1	41.2
	80.5	69.3	
China Renminbi Off Shore			(15.6)
Euro Currency			12.0
Cash	19.5	30.7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

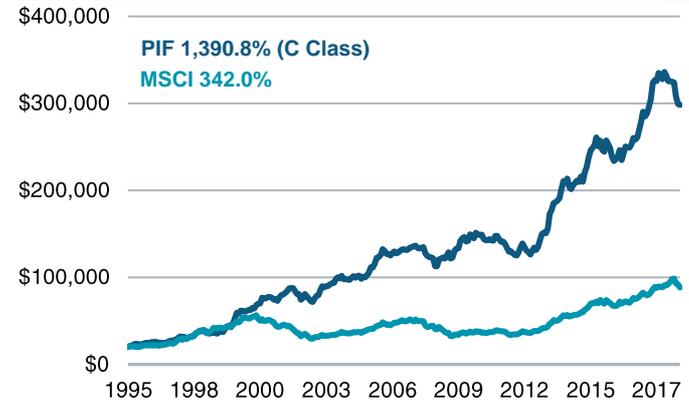
Long - 113 stocks, 3 swaps    Short - 20 stocks, 1 index

## 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	%
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	Korea	Info Technology	2.8
Ping An Insurance Grp	China	Financials	2.7
Alphabet Inc	USA	Communication Serv.	2.6
Glencore PLC	Switzerland	Materials	2.6
China Overseas Land & Invst	China	Real Estate	2.4
Sanofi SA	France	Health Care	2.3
Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	Health Care	2.1
Siemens AG	Germany	Industrials	2.0
Facebook Inc	USA	Communication Serv.	2.0
PICC Property & Casualty Co	China	Financials	1.8

\*China includes exposure to Chinese A shares, H shares and ADRs.

## Industry breakdown<sup>3</sup>

SECTOR	LONG %	NET %
Financials	15.1	15.0
Communication Services	14.0	14.0
Industrials	10.7	10.7
Materials	10.0	9.8
Info Technology	8.0	7.1
Cons Discretionary	6.1	3.8
Health Care	5.9	3.6
Energy	5.9	5.9
Real Estate	2.4	2.4
Consumer Staples	2.3	0.1
Utilities	0.1	0.1
Other*	0.0	(3.3)

\* Includes index short position

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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 World Net Index in A\$ (nb. the gross MSCI Index was used prior to 31 December 1998 as the net MSCI Index did not exist). 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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- **Weakest quarter for global markets since March 2009.**
- **Portfolio conservatively positioned.**
- **After multi-year migration, portfolio biased towards Asia-Pacific (42% net exposure) and away from US (6% net exposure).**

Whilst the Fund stayed broadly flat during the sharp declines of December, the global index\* ended 2018 with its worst quarter since Q1 2009 – the height of the GFC. The index\* returned over 200% in a bullish market environment from 31 March 2009 to 30 September 2018.

The market\* has only fallen by 10% or more 6 times since the Fund's inception. Two of these episodes developed into bear markets -> markets fell 48% over 29 months from 31 October 2000, and 38% over 22 months from 31 May 2007. The Fund (C Class) made a positive 5% return in the first case, and fell 9% in the latter.

The other four periods, including the current episode, are compared below:

Period	Duration (months)	Index return *	Fund (C Class) return ^
31 Jul 1998 - 30 Sep 1998	2	-10%	-8%
28 Feb 2011 - 30 Sep 2011	7	-13%	-12%
31 Jul 2015 - 31 Mar 2016	8	-10%	-8%
30 Sep 2018 - 31 Dec 2018	3	-10%	-8%

**Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.**

While the precise causes of any sell-off are hard to define, key factors that have concerned investors include China's slowdown, triggered by financial reform and exacerbated by the impact of trade "war" and rising US rates, coupled with a more general global tightening. Encouragingly, the Chinese government has recently loosened policy and the market has started to question how far US rates will rise. Trade talks continue, but with pain now being felt in the US, a resolution seems more likely. If 2018's headwinds reverse, this could help sentiment.

Looking forward, remember the market has already absorbed the media's alarmist headlines. During the first 9 months of 2018, we reduced the Fund's net exposure considerably, realising profits and adding shorts; we have tentatively added to the Fund's long exposure since October. Market moves have been relatively sharp already; China and emerging markets peaked as early as January (as discussed last month) – many stocks are now down 30-50%. Last month's comments on momentum and market breadth remain relevant.

Looking at the portfolio - long positions have an average forward PE of 10x (market\* = 14x; the Fund was on 15x a year ago). On price to book, the Fund averages 1.4x, compared with the market at 2.2x. Valuations across the Fund's portfolio are highly attractive. A sizeable cash balance provides optionality, and short positions should add some protection.

Our goal is to generate capital growth from investing in mispriced equities whilst trying not to lose clients' money. We believe that, over a cycle, our strategy will generate better outcomes than the market. If September 2018 turns out to be the top of the market – the prior peak being May 2007 – then peak to "peak" our cumulative return of 141% (annualised 8.1% p.a.) bested the market's 90% (annualised 5.8% p.a.) for cumulative outperformance of 51% (annualised 2.3% p.a.).

Whilst the Fund's ten-year returns are similar to the index, this has been achieved with only a 75% average net exposure during the strongest ten-year period for global markets since the Fund commenced in 1995. Last month's comments on end point bias remain appropriate.

Looking at the last quarter, long positions in Europe and North America cost the Fund a total of 6%, with oil-related exposures hurting the most. Shares of Transocean, TechnipFMC and Seven Generations fell hard as oil prices plummeted.

The top four contributors over the quarter were short positions which added over 2%, while currency management also added a little. Leading the positive long contributors were Indian banks and a Chinese property company (China Overseas Land & Investment), suggesting the region's markets may be basing. While Asia and Japan each cost the Fund 2%, there is around three times the capital deployed in Asia.

More detail on the macro environment, and on the activity within the portfolio, will be in the Quarterly Report, which will be available on our website from 14 January 2019.

\* "Index", "the market" and "global market(s)" all refer to the MSCI All Country World Net Index (A\$).

^ Source: Platinum for Fund returns and RIMES Technologies for MSCI index returns. Fund returns are calculated using the Fund's NAV unit price (i.e. excluding buy/sell spread) for C Class, and represent the combined income and capital returns for C Class in the specified period. All returns are pre-tax, net of fees and costs, and assume the reinvestment of distributions.