HF Hereford Funds

DSM US Large Cap Growth Sub-Fund Class A - August 2018

Investment Review

The Hereford/DSM US Large Cap Growth Sub-Fund Share Class A appreciated 2.05% for the month of August compared to a 5.47% return for the Russell 1000 Growth Index and a 3.26% return for the S&P 500 both including dividends. At the end of August, the Sub-Fund was invested primarily in the technology sector, with smaller weights in the health care, consumer discretionary, financials, consumer staples and industrials sectors.

For the month, the Sub-Fund trailed the benchmark by approximately 324bps. This was primarily the result of the Manager's selections in technology. The Manager's underweight in industrials versus the benchmark benefitted performance. In August, the positions that contributed the most to the portfolio's return were Microsoft, Adobe Systems, Visa, PayPal Holdings and MSCI Inc. The positions that contributed the least in the month were Alibaba Group, Tencent Holdings, BlackRock, Electronic Arts and Booking Holdings.

Manager's Commentary

Based on the Manager's calculations, with all twenty-six companies in the portfolio having reported, second quarter 2018 revenue and earnings grew in excess of 21% and 29% respectively. This result follows strong first quarter 2018 growth and that of calendar year 2017 when revenue growth approximated 24% and earnings growth exceeded 32%. Finally, in 2016, revenue and earnings both grew in excess of 20%. Today the portfolio is valued at 21.6x forward four quarters of earnings through September of 2019, which follows the past four quarters of earnings growth of 33%. The Manager calculates "high-teens" earnings growth going forward and believes there remains significant appreciation potential in the portfolio.

It is important to note that the share prices of two large and long-term holdings in the portfolio, Facebook and Tencent, both declined after their second quarter earnings reports. In the Manager's view, the investment cases for both companies remain very much intact. Regarding Facebook, DSM believes the company's decision to increase and accelerate spending on its infrastructure and operations may reduce near term earnings, but does not change the longer-term earnings power of the company. Facebook's attractiveness to advertisers is as strong as ever, as the company's market position as the leading platform for on-line advertising remains unrivaled. Tencent's businesses, other than China gaming, are all doing quite well. The revenue shortfall in gaming was a result of the restructuring of the Chinese governmental agencies that provide licenses for "monetizing" these games. Once the restructuring is complete, the Manager expects Tencent's revenue growth from gaming in China to reaccelerate, and believes the stock should appreciate.

The DSM portfolios have the economic value, in terms of earnings, that were expected at the start of 2018, but the stocks' prices, in the Manager's view, simply have not reflected this substantial earnings growth thus far. Perhaps the most difficult aspect of investing can be maintaining one's patience, but the Manager believes the portfolio returns should be strong because earnings growth has been, thus rewarding their clients' patience. In addition, changing the global terms-of-trade, as President Trump is proposing, is disconcerting to many investors. However, the Manager believes today's uncertainties will be of little concern over time. As fears regarding the economic impact of tariffs dissipate, DSM anticipates that a "weight will be lifted" from the shoulders of investors and global equity markets will resume their march higher.

Key Information

NAV A Shares (31/08/18) Total Fund Size (all share clas		US\$ 238.21 es) US\$ 93.6m				Strategy Assets Fund Launch Date						US\$ 5,565.4m ^(a) 29-Nov-07				
Monthly Performance (%	6)															
	Já	an	Feb	Mar	Apr	Ma	iy	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep		Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
HF-DSM US LCG	9).4	-3.97	-2.9	0.03	4.4	3	-0.6	0.86	2.0						8.9
Russell 1000 Growth ^(c)	7	'.1 ·	-2.62	-2.7	0.35	4.3	88	1.0	2.94	5.5						15.1
S&P 500 ^(c)	5	j.7	-3.69	-2.5	0.38	2.4	11	0.6	3.72	3.3						9.9
Period Performance (%)	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2009	2009	2008	2007	2006	Cum	ulative	Annualised

Period Performance (%)	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2009	2009	2008	2007	2006	Cumulative	Annualised
HF-DSM US LCG Returns ^(b)	8.9	36.8	(3.3)	7.0	9.7	34.1	18.2	(2.0)	21.9	22.8	(39.3)	18.7	9.8	290.2	8.34%
Russell 1000 Growth ^(c)	15.1	30.2	7.1	5.7	13.1	33.5	15.3	2.6	16.7	37.2	(38.4)	11.8	9.1	254.1	7.72%
S&P 500 ^(c)	9.9	21.8	12.0	1.4	13.7	32.4	16.0	2.1	15.1	26.5	(37.0)	5.5	15.8	281.6	8.27%

425.00		
400.00		HF-DSM US LCG vs. R1000 Growth vs. S&P500
375.00	KEY HF-DSM US LCG Post Fee	
350.00	HF-DSM US LCG POST Pee	
325.00	R1000 Growth	
300.00	S&P500	
275.00		
250.00		
225.00		
200.00		Start of HF-DSM US LCG
175.00		
150.00		
125.00		
100.00		
75.00		
50.00		
25.00		
0.00		Dec-06 Dec-07 Dec-08 Dec-09 Dec-10 Dec-11 Dec-12 Dec-13 Dec-14 Dec-15 Dec-16 Dec-17 Dec-

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Top Ten Holdings	
Adobe Systems	Facebook
Alibaba Group	Microsoft
Alphabet (Cl. A)	Tencent Holdings
Becton Dickinson & Co.	Visa
Charles Schwab	Zoetis

Sectoral Breakdown	% of Assets
Information Technology	54.9%
Health Care	19.5%
Consumer Discretionary	10.4%
Financials	8.3%
Consumer Staples	4.1%
Industrials	1.9%

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the HF-DSM US LCG is to provide capital appreciation principally through investments in US-based growing corporations with market capitalizations generally above US\$ 5 billion. These companies are chosen for their growth prospects, attractive returns, solid business fundamentals and intelligent management. The sub fund may, on an ancillary basis, invest in US-based companies with lower market capitalizations as well as in non-US based companies. The Compartment may invest in American Depository Receipts and American Depository Shares. The reference benchmark for this strategy is the Russell 1000 Growth Index.

Fund Codes		Since inception	HF-DSM US LCG	HF-DSM US LCG Composite	R1000 Growth
Bloomberg	DSMUSLA LX	Volatility	n/a	14.4	14.3
ISIN	LU0327604228	Sharpe Ratio	n/a	0.5	0.5
Reuters	LP65102015	Information Ratio	n/a	0.0	
Sedol	B28TLX2	Tracking Error	n/a	6.5	
	3504726	Beta	n/a	0.9	
WKN	A0M58T	Alpha	n/a	0.9	

Fund Details		(
Dealing Day	Daily	
Dividends	None - income accumulated within the fund] '
Investment Manager	DSM Capital Partners LLC 7111 Fairway Drive, Suite 350, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418) (a
Management Company	FundPartner Solutions (Europe) S.A. 15, Avenue John F Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg) (b
Custodian	Pictet & Cie (Europe) S.A. 15A, Avenue John F Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg	
Legal Advisers	Elvinger, Hoss & Prussen 2 Place Winston Churchill, L-1340 Luxembourg	(c) (d
Auditor	Deloitte Audit S.à,r,I. 560 Rue de Neudorf, L-2220 Luxembourg	(e (f)

Annual Management Charge				
Share Class A & U ^(e)	1.25%			
Share Class D ^(f)	1.75%			

Minimum Investment

Share Class A & U ^(e)	\$100,000 initial / \$10,000 subsequent
Share Class D	\$10,000 initial / \$1,000 subsequent

Order Transmission Information

FundPartner Solutions (Europe) S.A.	Via Fax +352 46 71 71 7667
15, avenue J. F. Kennedy	or SWIFT PICTLULXTAS
L-1855 Luxembourg	

(a) This refers to the total assets invested in the reference strategy managed by the Investment Manager.

- Data and graph depict DSM Composite through November 2007 and Hereford Funds DSM US Large Cap Growth Fund Class A thereafter. Historical gross performance of DSM Large Cap Composite returns (the Reference Strategy) is net of modeled fee and expense typical of Hereford Funds DSM US Large Cap Growth Fund Class A (1.25% fee + 0.25% expense). Fund follows same strategy. Performance presentation incomplete without accompanying footnotes as shown at www.dsmcapital.com. Total return including dividends.
- (d) The fund is registered with the BaFin for public distribution in Germany from 17/10/12, registered with the AFM for public distribution in the Netherlands and registered with the AMF for public distribution in France
- Share Class U has been granted Reporting Status by HMRC as of (e) October 1, 2010.
 - Share Class D is German tax registered from October 1, 2010.

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