# **Investment Trusts Quarterly**



## Featured topic: Europe

#### Summary: A surprisingly successful year

The European debt crisis was a prominent feature of headlines during 2012. In February, analysts coined the term "Grexit" for the prospect of Greece being ejected from the eurozone and within a few months that scenario was looking increasingly likely. As the year rolled on, the focus of the crisis shifted to other highly indebted countries with Spain, Portugal, Italy and Cyprus all attracting attention. In all of these countries unemployment climbed and growth forecasts fell.

Against this weak economic backdrop you might expect that equity markets would be volatile and their performance poor. Volatility was indeed a feature but, as Exhibit 1 illustrates, European equities, while weak in the spring, rallied through the summer and provided decent returns during 2012. The MSCI Europe outperformed the MSCI World Index by 5% over the year. A critical turning point was ECB President Mario Draghi's commitment on 26 July 2012 that within the ECB's mandate it would do "whatever it takes to preserve the euro".

#### Exhibit 1: MSCI Europe ex UK and MSCI Europe ex UK relative to MSCI World



Source: Datastream; Note: Index total return rebased.

Negative sentiment towards Europe affected demand for European equities during 2012 and, as we show later, this was reflected in retail investors' demand for openended funds focused on Europe, although there was a marked shift in sentiment as markets rallied following Draghi's comments in July. Inevitably, managers of openended funds will have had to contend with these swings in funds flows, but this will not have been a problem for their equivalents in the investment company world. By and large the European investment companies had a good year, outperforming both their benchmarks and the open-ended peers, on average. It may be that their closed-end structure contributed to this.

Following a strong six-month period in which European equities have performed well, investors may now be wondering if this strong run for European investment companies will continue in 2013. At first glance, European equities look to be quite fully valued (at 19.6x, the P/E on the MSCI Europe ex UK index is now at levels last seen in 2010). However, Exhibit 2 shows the price to book and dividend yield on non-financial European stocks going back to 1980. With the price to book at 1.74x, vs a long run average of 1.84x, and the dividend yield at 3.5%, vs a long run average of 3.4%, Exhibit 2 might suggest that stocks actually are fairly valued.

#### Edison client profiles included in this report:

Aberdeen New Thai Investment Trust

Acencia Debt Strategies

**BB** Biotech

Biotech Growth Trust

Brunner Investment Trust

Carador Income Fund

City Natural Resources High Yield Trust

CQS Rig Finance

Deutsche Beteiligungs

Diverse Income Trust

European Assets Trust

Fidelity European Values

Finsbury Growth and Income Trust

Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust

Geiger Counter

Golden Prospect Precious Metals

Greenwich Loan Income Fund

HarbourVest Global Private Equity

Henderson Fledgling Trust

Henderson Global Trust

International Biotechnology Trust

Invesco Asia Trust

Martin Currie Global Portfolio Trust

Merchants Trust

Midas Income & Growth Trust

NB Global Floating Rate Income Fund

New City Energy

Pacific Assets Trust

PXP Vietnam Fund

RENN Universal Growth Investment Trust

Scottish Oriental Smaller Companies Trust

Securities Trust Scotland

Vietnam Infrastructure Fund

Vinacapital Vietnam Opportunities Fund

VinaLand

Worldwide Healthcare Trust

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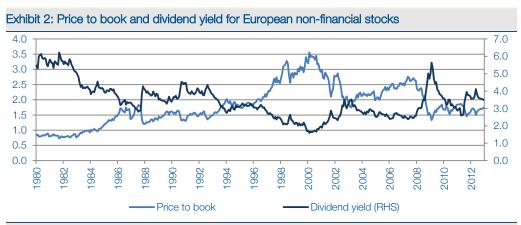
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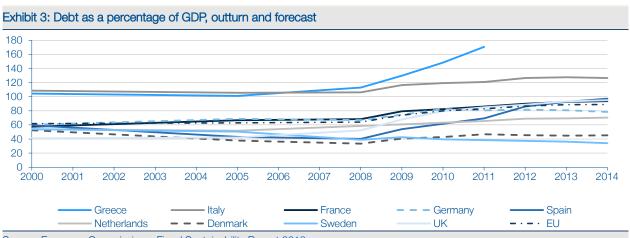
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Source: Edison Investment Research, Datastream

With regard to valuation levels in European equity markets, there is still considerable debate as to the appropriate level, but, with signs that politicians and central bankers maybe moving towards an interim solution, some participants have become increasingly positive and can point to European Shiller (cyclically adjusted) P/E close to 30-year lows.

#### The macro picture: Muddling on



Source: European Commission – Fiscal Sustainability Report 2012

The economic and political situation in Europe has seldom been out of the news during the past 12 months. So far politicians and central bankers have managed to keep the plates spinning, but progress towards lasting reform has been slow. The latest figures from the European Commission's Fiscal sustainability report (shown in Exhibit 3) neatly illustrate the problem. Debt to GDP ratios remain, and are forecast to remain stubbornly high for many countries (forecasts for Greece were omitted). There is a distinct north/south bias to the numbers and, as we show in the next section, this seems to have been reflected in stock market performance.

Francesco Conte, manager of JP Morgan European Smaller Companies, points out that ECB President Draghi's commitment on 26 July 2012 to do, within the ECB's mandate, "whatever it takes to preserve the euro" dramatically diminished the tail risk of a eurozone break up. Consequently, the risk premium on eurozone equities declined and, he believes, will continue to decline into 2013. While he thinks eurozone growth will remain anaemic, year-on-year comparisons will start to look more favourable and, for those companies with global earnings, he sees growth emanating from the recovering economies of Asia, Latin America and the United States. Francesco Conte says: "With the Eurozone periphery implementing important structural reform, central banks in US and Europe providing cheap liquidity, and attractive valuations we are confident that despite much expected volatility, the underlying trend for equity markets should remain positive."

#### North/south divide, but no bias by style or size

European markets are not homogeneous and, as Exhibit 4 (which shows the performance over 2012 of the eight largest equity markets in Europe ex UK) illustrates, there seems to be a distinct north/south bias with northern countries outperforming.

Exhibit 4: Selected MSCI Country indices



Source: Datastream, index total return rebased

In Europe, there was no meaningful difference between the performances of small- and large-cap companies during 2012, as illustrated in Exhibit 5. This has been in contrast to many other parts of the globe as we highlighted in our last <u>quarterly note</u>. In addition, growth stocks have outperformed value stocks in Europe, as illustrated in Exhibit 6, while in many other markets investors have been favouring defensive sectors.

Exhibit 5: Small capitalisation stocks vs large capitalisation stocks in Europe



Source: Datastream, index total return rebased

Exhibit 6: MSCI Europe ex UK Value and Growth indices relative to MSCI Europe ex UK



Source: Datastream, index total return rebased

There has been considerable debate as to the underlying causes of the performance of European equity markets during 2012. Sam Morse, manager of Fidelity European Values, believes the answer is threefold:

- At the start of 2012 European stocks were, on the whole, lowly valued.
- In aggregate, European companies are in good shape with decent balance sheets.
- Dividend yields on many stocks were attractive relative to historical levels and, given the
  paucity of income available from cash deposits or government bonds, stocks with attractive
  and sustainable yields have been in demand.

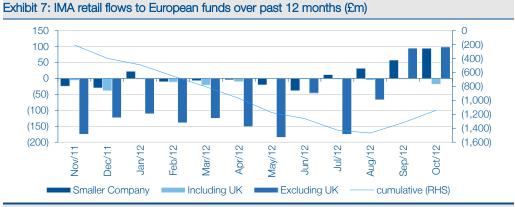
Sam Morse believes the same holds true for 2013, although market returns may prove more modest, given a higher starting point.

Tim Stevenson, manager of Henderson EuroTrust, says that, "Even after a good run in 2012, European equities remain attractively valued. Excluding financials, many of which still face challenges adapting to a post credit crisis world, stocks are trading on p/es of 11.4x vs. historical averages of 13/14x".

#### Demand for European equity funds

#### Open-ended funds

The evidence suggests that, for much of 2012, Europe equities were out of favour with investors. Exhibit 7, which shows the net flows of retail money into the various classes of open-ended European equity funds, illustrates the point quite well. Net inflows saw a noticeable improvement over the autumn, but overall there was well over £1bn of net disinvestment during the year. However, it may be interesting to note that, relative to both 'Europe including UK' funds and 'Europe excluding UK' funds, 'European smaller company' funds saw quite marked inflows during the last couple of months of 2012. Outflows from European funds, during 2012, are actually a continuation of a long-term trend. Europe excluding UK has been the worst sector for net retail sales during six of the last 10 years.



Source: Investment Managers' Association

#### Closed-end funds

In theory, when a sector or geography is out of favour, closed-end funds have a distinct advantage over their open-ended peers as managers do not have to worry about selling assets at depressed valuations to fund redemptions, although a few investment companies have had to fund regular buybacks. JP Morgan European Smaller Companies (JESC) has also conducted a reverse tender for 10% of its share capital during 2012 and we saw the departure of two funds from the sector – SR European (SR) and Charter European (CPE). Exhibit 8 shows the capital changes to the European investment companies sector during the year. Overall just over £110m net came out of the sector in 2012 (just less than 4% of the money invested in the sector at the start of the year). BlackRock Greater European (BRGE) appears to buck the trend as it was chosen as the rollover vehicle for

shareholders in Charter European. Another exception is Jupiter European Opportunities (JEO) which also managed to issue shares as it traded at a premium to asset value for the last couple of months of the year. Jupiter's European team was also selected to provide the rollover vehicle for SR European. Unfortunately for the investment companies sector (and SR's shareholders given the subsequent move on JEO's discount) the SR board opted for Jupiter's open-ended European fund rather than JEO.



Exhibit 8: European investment companies capital changes over past 12 months (£m)

Source: Edison Investment Research. Note: Figures are approximated.

Sam Cosh, manager of European Assets (which has beaten the HSBC European Smaller companies index, its benchmark, by almost 11% this year), notes that this year's decent performance has come at a time when many investors were underweight Europe. The reversal in retail fund flows towards the end of 2012 (particularly evident for small-cap funds) could potentially extend into 2013. He says that "in recent marketing meetings there has been a noticeable improvement in attitude towards Europe and European equities. If this continues, it has the potential to be a powerful driver for equity markets". He believes a "combination of good valuations and the prospects for a shift in allocations towards the region should have a significant positive impact on future returns".

#### Investment company outperformance

Generally, 2012 was a good year for investment companies focused on Europe. The total return, for the average investment company in net asset value terms, was 21.3% during 2012 and, as Exhibit 9 shows, the average discount narrowed and so the average share price return was stronger at 27.8%. This compared well to the total return on the MSCI Europe ex UK Index (up 17.2%) and the HSBC European Smaller companies Index (up 20.4%).



Source: Edison Investment Research

On average, investment companies also beat their open-ended counterparts. Over the year to 2 January 2013, investment companies specialising in European large-cap equities returned 23.8%, on average, vs 20.8% for the average equivalent open-ended fund, and for European small-cap specialists the figures were 24.2% vs 23.8%.

This good performance is the continuation of a long-term trend. As Exhibit 10 shows, cumulatively the average European investment company has beaten its benchmark over most of the time periods provided. It is also worth noting that the average European large-cap investment company has outperformed the MSCI Europe ex UK index in 13 of the last 20 years, and the average European Small Cap investment company has outperformed the HSBC Smaller European index, in 12 of the last 20 years.

Exhibit 10: NAV total return over various time periods of average European investment companies								
	2012	3 years	5 years	10 years	15 years	20 years		
NAV large cap	21.3	23.4	9.1	192.6	228.8	666.0		
MSCI Europe ex UK	17.2	9.7	(3.2)	147.6	141.5	465.0		
NAV large cap relative to MSCI Europe ex UK	4.1	13.8	12.4	45.0	87.3	201.1		
Relative (annualised)	4.1	4.3	2.4	3.8	4.3	5.7		
NAV small cap	21.7	21.4	4.1	280.3	285.0	852.6		
HSBC Smaller European	20.4	18.9	8.8	263.6	228.5	580.8		
NAV small cap relative to HSBC Smaller European	1.3	2.5	(4.6)	16.7	56.5	271.8		
Relative (annualised)	1.3	0.8	(0.9)	1.6	3.0	6.8		
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Source: Thomson Datastream

### The European investment company sector

Exhibit 11: Europe sector, as at 31 December 2012								
Company	١	NAV total return		Market cap	Disc/	Net gearing	Div. yield	
, ,	One year	Three years	Five years	(£m)	(prem)	(100=no gearing)		
BlackRock Greater Europe (BRGE)	22.0	20.8	15.2	225.3	3.4	105	2.17	
European Investment (EUT)	14.2	6.1	(21.0)	231.0	13.0	98	2.19	
Fidelity European Values (FEV)	25.0	18.0	7.5	555.0	8.1	108	2.06	
Henderson Eur Focus Trust (HEFT)	22.1	20.7	18.0	108.2	10.3	113	2.97	
Henderson EuroTrust (HNE)	18.3	22.1	26.1	116.5	9.3	109	2.89	
JPMorgan Eur Growth (JETG)	19.6	7.8	(9.7)	165.7	10.6	104	3.92	
JPMorgan Eur Income (JETI)	16.1	13.1	8.6	56.2	8.6	106	4.63	
Jupiter Eur Opportunities (JEO)	33.0	62.2	55.1	286.6	(3.3)	118	0.52	
Large cap average	21.3	21.3	12.5	218.1	7.5	108	2.67	
European Assets (EAT)	30.8	41.4	5.2	102.2	7.0	104	5.14	
JPMorgan Eur Smaller (JESC)	10.2	6.4	5.8	261.0	14.3	112	2.33	
Montanaro Eur Smaller (MTE)	23.6	31.7	24.9	70.9	12.7	108	1.29	
TR European Growth (TREG)	22.2	2.2	(12.7)	169.9	21.3	110	1.32	
Small cap average	21.7	20.4	5.8	151.0	13.8	109	2.52	
Source: Datastream, Morningstar, Edi	ison Investme	nt Research						

There are seven European large cap investment companies and four European small cap investment companies listed on the LSE. The largest trust is Fidelity European Values (an Edison client) with assets under management of £603m. The sector has seen a number of corporate actions and manager changes over the years, targeted at illiquid and underperforming funds, such that the remaining investment companies generally have good long-term track records relative to their benchmarks. Exhibit 11 provides a peer group comparison as at the end of 2012. Jupiter European Opportunities (JEO), managed by Alex Darwall, has the best track record of any trust in the peer group. His is a focused stock-picking approach. JEO's most notable feature though is its bias towards the UK market (which falls outside its benchmark). Of note is JP Morgan European. This has two different share classes that correspond to its two distinct portfolio pools; one focused on growth stocks (JETG) and the other focused on income (JETI).

Exhibit 12 shows the asset allocation of the investment companies investing in large-cap European equities relative to the MSCI Europe ex UK index. The table highlights JEO's 35% weight to the UK and corresponding underweights in France and Switzerland. Interestingly however, JEO's recent outperformance cannot be ascribed purely to its asset allocation as the MSCI UK Index has lagged the MSCI Europe ex UK Index by c 7% over 2012. Exhibit 12 excludes JETI as it is benchmarked to the MSCI Europe (ie including UK) index).

Exhibit	Exhibit 12: Asset allocation of European large-cap funds relative to the MSCI Europe ex UK Index at 30 November 2012															
	Fra.	Swi.	Ger.	Swe.	Spain	Neth.	Italy	Belg.	Den.	Nor.	Fin.	Ire.	Aus.	Port.	UK	Other
BRGE	(7.1)	4.7	2.7	(5.8)	(4.4)	0.6	(3.6)	(0.6)	1.9	(2.2)	1.8	2.6	(0.6)	1.9	0.0	8.3
EUT	(3.9)	(12.7)	(4.2)	(4.9)	4.7	7.0	5.3	3.0	0.6	0.4	(1.8)	6.0	(0.6)	(0.4)	0.0	1.5
FEV	0.2	(2.3)	(5.4)	(2.5)	(4.6)	(1.6)	0.7	3.8	3.5	3.2	0.7	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.4)	3.3	2.9
HEFT	(6.3)	6.5	10.9	(2.6)	(6.9)	5.2	(5.2)	0.2	(0.3)	(1.1)	0.3	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.4)	0.0	1.1
HNE	0.2	0.5	9.9	1.2	(3.8)	(2.6)	1.5	(2.7)	(0.7)	(0.5)	(1.8)	(0.6)	0.8	(0.4)	0.0	(8.0)
JEO	(10.9)	(12.4)	(6.5)	(5.4)	(4.5)	2.2	(5.2)	(2.7)	11.2	3.0	(1.4)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.4)	35.1	(8.0)
JETG	(2.4)	(1.3)	(3.7)	0.7	(1.3)	0.1	1.1	2.5	0.8	(0.5)	(0.4)	0.2	0.4	(0.4)	2.4	2.0

Source: management companies, Edison Investment Research. Note: Dark blue = active weight relative to benchmark of more than 10%; Light blue = active weight relative to b'mark between +5 and +10%; Dark grey = active weight relative to b'mark is less than -10%; Light grey = active weight relative to b'mark between -5 and -10%.

Leaving JEO aside, Exhibit 12 does not highlight any universal bias in the asset allocation of this part of the peer group. JETG has the least deviation from the MSCI Europe ex UK Index, a coincidence possibly as it uses another Europe ex UK index as its benchmark, but this may also be reflective of its manager's relatively risk-averse investment style. However, across the group, France is generally out of favour, possibly reflecting its rising debt burden and an antipathy towards the policies of François Hollande.

The trust whose geographic allocations differ most markedly to its immediate peer group is European Investment Trust (EUT). While the other trusts have an overall bias towards (better performing) Northern Europe, EUT has large over weights in Italy, Spain and Ireland. EUT invests on a five-year time horizon and its manager, Dale Robertson of Edinburgh Partners, says he has consciously been building up EUT's exposure to the periphery of Europe. To do this he has been taking profits on stocks that have been rerated on the predictability of their earnings (primarily growth stocks during 2012) and switching into more out of favour stocks (primarily value stocks) in the periphery of Europe. He believes that, over a five-year time horizon, this approach is likely to provide EUT with the strongest return. Edinburgh Partners believe that, over the course of 2013, investors' economic fears (over Chinese growth, the euro and the US fiscal cliff) will recede and, as a consequence, what they currently see as an excessive premium attached to low volatility will be sequentially eroded.

#### Conclusion

- Following a period of fund outflows, investors who underweighted Europe during 2012 were potentially left behind as the region outperformed.
- Even when set against a difficult macro backdrop, well managed companies with good business models and with strong balance sheets can prosper and, if purchased at attractive valuations, can potentially deliver strong returns.
- European equity valuations could benefit if investors increase their allocations to Europe.
- The sector has not been immune corporate action, and management changes, and so the managers of the close-end funds that remain have broadly delivered outperformance both of index benchmarks (and by implication the ETFs that are based on these) and equivalent openended funds.

Exhibit 13: Edison's					•	
Aberdeen New Tha	ai Investment Trust	Code : AN	W	Market cap: £85	.3m	
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	5 years	10 years	(Discount)/ premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
162.4	270.3	330.6	997.2	(12.3)	1.8	
Aberdeen New Thai I	nvestment Trust's inve	estment objective is	Launch date	December 1989		
	ers with long-term, abo		AIC Sector	Country Specialists	: Asia-Pacific	
	tment in Thailand. Its a of securities – substa		Management group	Aberdeen Asset Ma	anagement Asia	
·	ated securities such as		Manager	Asian equities team	1	
	nts - in companies spi		Website	www.newthai-trust.	co.uk	
of industries quoted on the Stock Exchange of Thailand.			Dividend policy	One dividend annually, paid in July.		
Acencia Debt Strategies Code : ACI			D	Market cap: £106.6m		
	Share price tota	I return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
117.5	133.4	89.2	-	(11.9)	3.8	
	ies' primary investme		Launch date	November 2005		
	s in excess of three-mear period, and annual	· ·	AIC Sector	Hedge Funds		
	npany's principal activ		Management group	Saltus Fund Manag	ement	
	rtfolio of predominantly	y debt-oriented	Manager	Saltus Partners		
hedge funds.			Website	www.acencia.co.uk		
			Dividend policy	ACD aims to pay two totalling 3.5% of the	o dividends annually NAV.	
BB Biotech		Code : Blo	ON SW	Market cap: CHF	1246.1m	
	Share price tota	I return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
141.0	145.9	135.7	224.8	(23.4)	4.7	
	s-domiciled biotech in	The second secon	Launch date	November 1993		
	ng-term returns from p s with established pro		AIC Sector	N/A		
and earnings) and pro	omising pipeline cand	idates. It is	Management group	Bellevue Asset Mar	nagement	
-	t the NASDAQ Biotech		Manager	Dr Daniel Koller		
managed bottom-up	with a concentrated 2	0-35 Stock portiolio.	Website	www.bbbiotech.com		
			Dividend policy	and no longer pays	on capital appreciation a dividend.	
Biotech Growth Trust Code : Bl		Code : BIC	OG	Market cap: £198	8.0m	
Biotech Growth Tru				(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
	Share price tota		10 2000	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)		
1 year 144.0	Share price tota 3 years 212.2	5 years 290.7	576.2	(0.4)	0.0	
1 year 144.0 The Biotech Growth T	Share price tota 3 years	5 years 290.7 preciation through		(0.4) June 1997	0.0	
1 year 144.0 The Biotech Growth T nvesting in the world emerging biotechnolo	Share price tota 3 years 212.2  Trust seeks capital applied biotechnology incompanies. Perfor	5 years 290.7 preciation through dustry, mainly in mance is measured	576.2 Launch date AIC Sector	(0.4) June 1997 Sector Spec: Biotec		
1 year 144.0 The Biotech Growth Tonvesting in the world emerging biotechnologagainst its benchmar	Share price tota 3 years 212.2  Trust seeks capital applied biotechnology income	5 years 290.7 preciation through dustry, mainly in mance is measured	576.2 Launch date	(0.4) June 1997	0.0	
1 year 144.0 The Biotech Growth T nvesting in the world emerging biotechnolo	Share price tota 3 years 212.2  Trust seeks capital applied biotechnology incompanies. Perfor	5 years 290.7 preciation through dustry, mainly in mance is measured	576.2 Launch date AIC Sector Management group	(0.4) June 1997 Sector Spec: Biotector Spector Capital	0.0 chnology/Life Sciences	

dividends are expected to be small.

Brunner Investmen	t Trust	Code : BU	IT	Market cap: £19:	2.7m	
		al return on £100	''	(Discount)/	2.7111	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
114.5	130.2	123.1	256.7	(19.3)	2.9	
	ent Trust's investmen		Launch date	January 1927	2.0	
		ds over the long term	AIC Sector	Global Growth		
-	•	ternational securities.	Management group	Allianz Global Inves	tors/RCM (UK)	
	st's investments are	in equities and it ive industrial sectors,	Manager	Jeremy Thomas/Lu		
with no one sector co			Website	www.brunner.co.uk	(	
The benchmark, since 25 March 2008, is a composite of 50% FTSE All-Share and 50% FTSE World Index (ex UK $\mathfrak{L}$ ).			Dividend policy	Two dividends paid annually in March and September. The trust aims to provide long term dividend growth.		
Canadian General Investments Code : CGI			àl	Market cap: C\$3	36.5m	
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend violal (0/	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
103.1	129.9	112.8	485.2	(28.2)	1.5	
Canadian General Inv		· ·	Launch date	January 1930		
than average returns l medium to long-term			AIC Sector	N/A Morgan Meighen & Associates Limited		
The manager seeks to		•	Management group			
security selection, tim	ely recognition of cap	ital gains/losses as	Manager	Jonathan Morgan		
	te selection of income	egenerating	Website	www.mmainvestme	ents.com	
instruments.			Dividend policy	Quarterly dividends share) and a special based on the years		
Carador Income Fu	ınd	Code : CII	=U	Market cap: US\$	580.6m	
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/ Dividend violat (%)		
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%	
148.0	565.3	-	-	4.2	11.5	
Carador Income Fund			Launch date	April 2006		
		res, with an objective compared with equity	AIC Sector	N/A		
narkets.	This with low volatility (	compared with equity	Management group	The Blackstone Gro	oup LP	
			Manager	GSO Capital Partne	ers International	
			Website	www.carador.co.uk	(	
			Dividend policy	Quarterly dividends February, May and	paid in November, August.	
City Natural Resou	rces High Yield Tr	ust Code : CY	'n	Market cap: £144	4.4m	
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividona yiola (70,	
83.0	121.9	135.4	658.1	(13.5)	2.3	
City Natural Resource			Launch date	November 1994		
is to provide sharehol a portfolio of mining a			AIC Sector		Natural Resources	
industrial fixed interes		. 1300. 000 010	Management group	New City Investmen		
			Manager	Will Smith and lan F	Francis	
			Website	www.ncim.co.uk		
			Dividend policy		s paid in November, August. CYN aims to	

Exhibit 15: Edison's	investment trust cli	ents cont'd				
CQS Rig Finance		Code : RIC	3	Market cap: £31.	5m	
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
117.6	192.6	35.5	-	(9.9)	1.9	
CQS Rig Finance's inv			Launch date	December 2006		
shareholders with an a combination of capital			AIC Sector	N/A		
comprises predomina			Management group	CQS		
the construction, mod			Manager	CQS Cayman LP/Co		
and related infrastruct			Website	www.cqsrigfinance.		
of off/onshore assets used in the exploration, production and distribution of oil, gas and other resources.			Dividend policy		nds payments targeting % of NAV per share at	
Deutsche Beteiligur	ngs	Code : DE	A GR	Market cap: €285	5.2m	
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
143.0	133.6	196.7	692.3	8.4	5.8	
Deutsche Beteiligungs			Launch date	December 1986		
the longer term, on but the following sectors:			AIC Sector	N/A		
automotive suppliers,		0	Management group	Self managed		
automation technology	y and specialised ser	rvice providers for	Manager	Team managed		
different industries. Us			Website Dividend policy	www.deutsche-bete		
	available through co-investment funds, it is able to make investments in companies valued from €50-250m.			An annual, sustainal with exceptional rea distributed via 'surp	lisation proceeds	
Diverse Income Tru	ıst	Code : DI\	/I	Market cap: £97.	4m	
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/ Dividend yield (%)		
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
141.9	-	-	-	6.1	3.5	
The Diverse Income T			Launch date	April 2011		
of income with long-te diversified portfolio of			AIC Sector	UK Growth & Income	е	
stronger focus on sma			Management group	MAM Funds		
typical of the UK incor			Manager	Gervais Williams, M		
specific portfolio there initial yield of around 4			Website	www.mamfundsplc		
income growth higher	•		Dividend policy	May and August). Ea	(November, February, ach year, DIVI aims to ally, all income net of	
European Assets T	rust	Code : EA	T	Market cap: £113	3.3m	
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	al return on £100 5 years	10 years	(Discount)/ premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
150.9	166.1	154.4	543.6	(3.3)	5.4	
European Assets Trus			Launch date	1972		
in the Netherlands and capital growth through		-	AIC Sector	European Smaller C	Companies	
companies in Europe			Management group	F&C Management		
Smaller Companies Ir			Manager	Sam Cosh		
policy has been adop		peen paid from a	Website	www.europeanasse	ets.eu	
combination of income	e and capital.		Dividend policy	Three dividends and and August) totalling NAV at the start of the	6% of the opening	

Exhibit 16: Edison's	investment trust cli	ents cont'd			
Fidelity European \	/alues	Code : FE	V	Market cap: £591	.3m
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	al return on £100 5 years	10 years	(Discount)/ premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
132.6	137.8	125.4	366.5	(9.1)	1.9
Fidelity European Valuterm capital growth fre Europe. It invests prin with a view to achieving shareholders. The massessment of the fursituations. While the countries and industry structured primarily of although certain investigation.	om the stock markets acipally in continental and long-term capital ganager selects the pondamental value avail company's overall expy sectors is monitored a country or industrial	European securities growth for rtfolio based on its lable in individual cosure to individual d, the portfolio is not rial weightings basis,	- Launch date AIC Sector Management group Manager Website Dividend policy	November 1991 Europe FIL Investments Inter Sam Morse www.fidelity.co.uk FEV policy is to pay full. One dividend an	out revenue earnings in
Finsbury Growth &	Income Trust	Code : FG	iΤ	Market cap: £302	.7m
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	al return on £100 5 years	10 years	(Discount)/ premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
125.9	189.8	198.4	453.0	1.4	2.4
Finsbury Growth and Income Trust's investment objective is to achieve capital and income growth and provide shareholders with a total return in excess of that of the FTSE All-Share index. It invests principally in the securities of UK-quoted companies. At the time of acquisition, up to a maximum of 20% can be invested in quoted companies worldwide. FTSE 100 companies normally represent between 50% and 100% of the portfolio with at least 70% usually invested in FTSE 350 companies.			Management group  Manager	Nick Train www.finsburygt.com Two dividends annu	ı ally, paid in May and nd is expected to rise
Foreign & Colonial	Investment Trust	Code : FR	CL	Market cap: £194	1.6m
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
115.8	135.1	133.9	283.5	(10.7)	2.4
Foreign & Colonial Inv long-term growth in caprimarily listed global investments. The perf comprising 40% FTSI index. Gearing is an in	apital and income fro equities but also incl formance benchmark E All-Share index and	m a portfolio of uding unlisted x is a composite index 1 60% FTSE All-World	Launch date AIC Sector Management group Manager Website Dividend policy	Jeremy Tigue www.foreignandcolo Two dividends annu	ally, interims paid in Is in May. FRCL has a
Geiger Counter		Code : GC	CL	Market cap: £28.	5m
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	al return on £100 5 years	10 years	(Discount)/ premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
64.8	58.1	46.6	-	(14.0)	0.0
Geiger Counter's investigation of seeking			Launch date AIC Sector	July 2006 SS: Commods and	Natural Resources

Manager

Dividend policy

Management group New City Investment Managers

www.ncim.co.uk

John Wong and Will Smith

Reflecting its capital appreciation objective,

GCL does not currently pay dividends.

shares, convertibles, fixed income securities and warrants. The Website

in the securities of companies involved in the exploration,

development and production of energy, as well as related

service companies. These include, but are not limited to,

be invested in other resource-related companies.

main focus is the uranium sector, but up to 30% of assets can

Golden Prospect Precious Metals Co		Code : GPM	Market cap: £45.9m		
Share price total return on £100				(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
77.6	132.0	86.1	-	(7.8)	0.0

Golden Prospect Precious Metals' investment objective is to generate above-average returns to shareholders, primarily through the capital appreciation of its investments. GPM invests selectively in a portfolio of securities and other instruments in the precious metals, diamond and uranium sectors. These include, but are not limited to, shares, convertibles, fixed income securities, and warrants as well as physical commodities.

Launch date October 2006

**AIC Sector** 

Management group New City Investment Managers

Manager John Wong Website www.ncim.co.uk

Dividend policy Reflecting its capital appreciation objective, GPM does not currently pay dividends.

Greenwich Loan Income Fund Code: GLIF Market cap: £65.6m Share price total return on £100 (Discount)/ Dividend yield (%) premium (%) 3 years 5 years 1 year 10 years 127.6 251.0 89.4 14.9 8.6

Greenwich Loan Income Fund is a closed-ended Guernsey registered investment company that invests in the US syndicated corporate loan market across a wide range of sectors. It invests primarily in loans to middle-market companies. Typically the loans are secured against assets and will have traditional credit-based covenants. The investments are senior debt and have either a first or second lien collateral position in the issuer's assets. GLIF focuses on companies with experienced management, a strong competitive advantage, positive cash flow and a clear exit strategy. The portfolio of loans is leveraged with a CLO subsidiary.

Launch date August 2005 Sector Specialist: Debt **AIC Sector** Management group T2 Advisers

J. Cohen, P. Conroy & S. Barak Manager

Website www.glifund.com

Quarterly dividends (March, June, Dividend policy

> September and December) while providing a stable and predictable dividend yield.

Market cap: US\$714.7m Harbourvest Global Private Equity Code: HVPE Share price total return on £100 (Discount)/ Dividend yield (%) premium (%) 3 years 5 years 10 years 1 year 135.5 (23.4)0.0

HarbourVest Global Private Equity is a Guernsey closed-ended investment company that aims to provide long-term capital appreciation through a private equity portfolio well diversified by vintage year, geography, industry and strategy.

Launch date December 2007 **AIC Sector** Private Equity

Management group HarbourVest Global Private Equity

Manager HarbourVest Advisers LP Website www.hvgpe.com

Dividend policy HVPE has a capital gains investment objective and does not pay dividends.

Henderson Fledgling Trust Code: HFT Market cap: £62.8m Share price total return on £100 (Discount)/ Dividend yield (%) premium (%) 3 years 1 year 5 years 10 years 125.8 108.2 144.6 288.3 (18.8)2.6 December 1994 Henderson Fledgling Trust's investment objective is to provide Launch date long-term growth in capital and dividends from investment **AIC Sector UK Smaller Companies** 

predominantly in the constituents of the FTSE Fledgling (ex. Investment Companies) Index.

Management group Henderson Global Investors Harmesh Suniara, Adam McConkey Manager Website www.hendersonfledglingtrust.com Two dividends annually, interims paid in Dividend policy

May and final paid in December. HFT seeks to pay an increasing dividend.

Exhibit 10.	Edicon's	investment trust	alianta contid
EXIIIDII IO.	FOISOUS	INVASITIANI ITTISI	CHADIS CODE O

Henderson Global Trust Code :		Code : Ho	BL	Market cap: £14	1.6m	
Share price total return on £100				(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
120.4	122.5	159.2	335.8	(4.5)	3.1	
	Trust's objective is long		Launch date	February 1929		
	d portfolio of internation	the state of the s	AIC Sector	Global Growth Henderson Global Investors		
	e to increase dividends t least 2%) the compos	•	Management group			
	SE All-Share Index and		Manager	Brian O'Neill & Hamish Chamberlayne		
Capital World Index	cex UK, within a target	racking error of not	Website	www.hendersonglo	baltrust.com	
Capital World Index ex UK, within a target tracking error of not more than 5%.			Dividend policy	Two dividends annually, interims paid in October and finals in April. The dividend is expected to rise over the longer term.		

Invesco Asia Trus	t	Code : IA	IAT Market cap: £170.5m			
	Share price tota	I return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend vield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
109.5	135.0	166.7	454.9	(11.5)	2.0	
	objective is to provide		Launch date	July 1995		
	n a diversified portfolio		AIC Sector	Asia-Pacific excluding Japan		
the second secon	nies. The investment tr et value (NAV) in exces		Management group	Invesco Asset Management		
•	national All Countries A	•	Manager	lan Hargreaves		
Index, measured in s	sterling.		Website	www.invescoperpetual.co.uk		
			Dividend policy	One dividend annually, paid in August.		

International Biotechnology Trust Code: IB		Market cap: £114.9m				
Share price total return on £100				(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
123.6	163.2	163.2	342.6	(16.5)	0.0	
	nology Trust aims to ac		Launch date	May 1994		
	vesting in development		AIC Sector	Sector Spec: Biotechnology/Life Sciences		
	es companies, both qu h potential. It invests in	the state of the s	Management group	SV Life Sciences Managers		
0 0	good prospects, experi	the state of the s	Manager	D. Pinniger, K. Bingham		
0	otential through the dev	•	Website	www.ibtplc.com		
commercialisation o	f a product, device or e	nabling technology.	Dividend policy	Reflecting its capital appreciation objective, IBT's current policy is to not pay dividends.		

Martin Currie Global Portfolio Trust		Code : MI	Code : MNP		Market cap: £151.7m	
Share price total return on £100				(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Bividoria yiola (70)	
114.7	136.8	140.2	315.1	(2.7)	2.7	
Martin Currie Global Portfolio Trust's objective is to achieve long- term capital growth in excess of the capital return of the FTSE World Index by investing in a diversified portfolio of international			- Launch date	March 1999		
			AIC Sector	Global Growth		
quoted investments		folio of international	Management group	Martin Currie Investment Mgmt		
quoted investments.			Manager	Tom Walker		
			Website	www.martincurrieportfolio.com		
			Dividend policy	Two dividends annually, interims paid in October and finals in June.		

	vestment trust clients					
Merchants Trust				Market cap: £421.3m		
	Share price total re		40	(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)		
115.8	140.5	132.4	255.6	(8.9)	5.7	
	re of the Merchants Trus income and income gro		Launch date  AIC Sector	February 1889 UK Growth & Income		
long-term growth of cap	oital through investing m		Management group			
yielding UK FTSE 100 c	ompanies.		Manager	Simon Gergel	013/110101 (014)	
			Website	www.merchantstrus	t co uk	
			Dividend policy		paid in February, May,	
			Dividend pency	August and Novembraintain a high and	er. MRCH aims to	
Midas Income & Gro	wth Trust	Code : MI	GT	Market cap: £47.8	3m	
	Share price total re	turn on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (70)	
120.4	126.4	113.8	296.6	(8.3)	4.3	
Midas Income & Growtl outperform three-month			Launch date	April 1996		
with low volatility and th		•	AIC Sector	Global Growth & Income		
through investment in a			Management group	MAM Funds	- Callau	
included in the companequities, fixed interest s			Manager Website	Alan Borrows, Simon Callow		
and structured product		malive assets		www.mamfundsplc.com/migt  Quarterly dividends paid in September,		
			Dividend policy	December, March and June. MIGT looks to progress the total annual dividend.		
NB Global Floating F	Rate Income Fund	Code : NE	BLS	Market cap: £413	.3m	
	Share price total re	turn on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
108.9	-	-	-	1.8	4.9	
NB Global Floating Rate secured bank loans with			Launch date	April 2011		
regular dividends at sus		•	AIC Sector	Sector Specialist: Debt		
value of its investment	•			Neuberger Berman Group  Neuberger Berman Europe		
classes (sterling denominary shares, with a			Manager Website	www.nbgfrif.com	Europe	
subsequently issued U			Dividend policy	9	(paid in March, June,	
shares 1.6 votes.	ary shares carry one vo	te and sterling	Dividend policy		cember). NBLS aims to	
New City Energy		Code : NC	E	Market cap: £25.2	2m	
	Share price total re	turn on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)		
91.5	115.2	-	-	(14.8)	3.5	
New City Energy's investigations shareholders, principally			Launch date	February 2008		
some prospect of income. New City Energy invests in the			AIC Sector	N/A	t Managara	
securities of companies	·		Management group	New City Investment Will Smith and Ian Fi	•	
development and produ	uction of energy, as well		Manager		anulo	
	see include hut are not	limited to	Maheita			
service companies. The shares, convertibles, fix			Website Dividend policy	www.ncim.co.uk	paid in January, April,	

Fyhihit 21.	Ediconic	in contra and	t ten sot	olionto	oontid.

Pacific Assets Trust		Code : PAC			6.8m
Share price total return on £100				(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
124.6	136.3	132.5	404.5	(9.5)	1.8
Pacific Assets Trust's investment objective is to achieve long- term capital growth through investment in selected companies in the Asia Pacific region and the Indian sub-continent, but			Launch date AIC Sector Management group	January 1985 Asia-Pacific - Excluding Japan Frostrow Capital	
excluding Japan, Austr region). Up to a maxim (at the time of investme incorporated and/or lis whose economic activi	um of 20% of the corent) may be invested ted outside the Asia	mpany's total assets in companies Pacific region but	Manager Website Dividend policy	First State Investme www.pacific-assets One dividend annua	s.co.uk

PXP Vietnam Fund		Code : VNF			46.8m
	Share price tota	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	
129.8	-	-	-	(12.2)	0.0
PXP Vietnam is a close		. , ,	Launch date	December 2003  N/A  PXP Vietnam Asset Mgmt  Kevin Snowball	
in the Cayman Islands		•	AIC Sector		
capital growth through listed) Vietnamese equ		· ·	Management group		
or foreign ownership.	*		Manager		
traded and settled thro	ough CREST as dep	ository receipts.	Website	www.pxpam.com	
			Dividend policy	To date, VNF has fo growth and has not although it may elec	made distributions,

<b>RENN Universal G</b>	rowth Investment Trus	st Code : RU	G	Market cap: £40.	2m	
	Share price total r	eturn on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)	
1 year	1 year 3 years		10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
131.4	89.2	85.7	202.6	(23.9)	0.0	
RENN Universal Gro	wth Investment Trust's in	vestment objective	Launch date	May 1996		
	growth and outperform its		AIC Sector	North American Sm	aller Companies	
Russell 2000 Index. Investments are made in companies listed, quoted or domiciled in the US and Canada, typically with			Management group	RENN Capital Group		
•	111 line 00 and Canada, ly		Manager	Russell Cleveland		

market caps below \$1bn. It may also invest in unlisted US companies.

Manager

Website

Dividend policy

Russell Cleveland

www.renaissanceusgrowth.co.uk

Reflecting its capital appreciation objective, RUG's current policy is to not pay dividends.

Scottish Oriental	Smaller Companies	Trust Code: SS	ST	Market cap: £246	3.1m	
1 year	Share price tota 3 years	al return on £100 5 years	10 years	(Discount)/ premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)	
141.0	207.0	321.2	843.7	1.1	1.4	
	naller Companies Trust	*	Launch date	March 1995		
•	rs with long-term capita	0	AIC Sector	Asia-Pacific ex Japan		
	er Asian-quoted compa ified portfolio of securiti		Management group	First State Investments		
	nough other listed inves	,	Manager	Susie Rippingall		
	securities such as conv		Website	www.scottishoriental.co.uk		
warrants are permit Australasia).	ted in Asia (excluding J	lapan and	Dividend policy	One dividend annual The board intends to dividend, using reserved.	o maintain this level of	

Securities Trust of	Scotland	Code : ST	S	Market cap: £145	5.5m
	· ·	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	
114.9	164.0	143.5	- Laurada data	3.6	3.5
The investment object ncome and long-term global equities. Perfor Vorld High Dividend	capital growth throu mance is measured	gh a portfolio of	Launch date AIC Sector Management group Manager Website Dividend policy	June 2005 Global Growth & Inc Martin Currie Investi Alan Porter www.securitiestrust Quarterly dividends September and Dec	ment Mgmt .com paid in March, June,
Strategic Equity Ca	nital	Code : SE	C	Market cap: £61.	9m
on atogro Equity Ou		al return on £100	.0	(Discount)/	
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	Dividend yield (%)
120.9	189.1	175.1	-	(17.9)	1.6
Strategic Equity Capits the medium-term, prin a portfolio of equity markets operated by Manager believes sec from strategic, operati movest up to 20% of greecognised exchanges unquoted securities.  I year 146.5	al's aism to provide a marily through capita and equity-linked sethe LSE. Investments urities are undervaluonal or management ross assets in securis, and up to 20% of gure Fund  Share price tota 3 years  84.5  Fund's investment or capital gains with son aking. Investment are ark development, teles tilities and agribusine mpanies, including op	s are made where the ed and could benefit initiatives. SEC can ties quoted on other gross assets in  Code: VN al return on £100 5 years 73.5 bijective is to achieve me recurring income eas include energy, ecommunications, ess. VNI invests	10 years - Launch date AIC Sector Management group Manager Website	July 2007  UK Smaller Company SVG Investment Many Adaam Steiner and www.strategicequity. The Board intends to dividends only where with investment trust Market cap: US\$ (Discount)/ premium (%) (39.2)  July 2007  N/A  VinaCapital  Tony Hsun www.vinacapital.com	nies nagers Stuart Widdowson rcapital.com o declare final e necessary to comply t rules.  119.4m  Dividend yield (%)  0.0
/inaCapital Vietnan		ınd Code : VC	Dividend policy		eay dividends. Current ash to shareholders via 564.1m
	· ·	al return on £100		(Discount)/	Dividend yield (%)
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	premium (%)	
142.3	124.3	81.9	L oupob dota	(24.0)	0.0
The investment object opportunities Fund is some recurring incomnvestment focus area	medium- to long-tern e and short-term pro	m capital gains with ofit taking. Primary tiated equity	Launch date AIC Sector Management group Manager Website	September 2003 Country Specialists: VinaCapital Dom Lam	Asia-Pacific

vary accordingly.

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