

# STONEHAGE FLEMING GLOBAL BEST IDEAS EQUITY FUND

OUR FOUR  
FUNDAMENTAL  
QUALITY PILLARS -  
IDENTIFYING  
GLOBAL BEST IN  
CLASS BUSINESSES



## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

To achieve long-term growth in capital and income in a focused portfolio of high quality listed businesses from around the world.

## INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY

We invest in best in class businesses for their quality, strategic competitive edge and value.

## FUND COMMENTARY

As is often the case, September delivered a weak stock market performance. Apart from the normal seasonality, the Federal Reserve's firm message that they plan another hike this year, that rates will be kept high for long and that they remain committed to a 2% inflation target level collectively contributed to push US rates to new 16-year record levels. This negatively affects risk appetite and increases stock market volatility.

The US economy remains resilient, with continued strong employment. Given their strong balance sheets, our businesses are well sheltered against higher interest rates from a cost perspective. With the higher interest rates, investors rely even more on solid operational and earnings performance. Whilst we project +13.9% p.a. earnings<sup>1</sup> growth for the portfolio over the next three years, we are scrutinising the immediate outlook carefully.

We have completed two introductions to the portfolio. Linde is the world's largest global industrial gas business following a re-merger of Praxair with Linde AG a few years ago. This consolidation follows a mega-industry swapping of strategic assets a decade ago in favour of the end consumer and shareholders alike. Linde is also capitalising on the Biden Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act by installing subsidised capacity in green energy.

Arthur J Gallagher has a strong cash generation business model, in essence earning an annuity broking commission on casualty insurance coverage in the mid-category corporate market. It does not take any underwriting risk itself. Climate change and cyber security issues ensure continuing good organic growth.

We have furthermore introduced MasterCard to the portfolio as both a quality business and as partial counter against potential volatility in our Visa shares with the planned unlocking of the 20% holding by sponsor banks.

The best contributors to performance in September have been UnitedHealth, AJ Gallagher and Colgate-Palmolive, with Zoetis, Visa and LVMH the largest detractors.

<sup>1</sup>Calculated using weighted average internal forward three-year earnings projections.

Opinions expressed represent the view of SFIM at the time of preparation. They are subject to change and should not be interpreted as investment advice.

## RISK DISCLOSURE

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments can fall. Investors may not get back the amount invested. Income from investments may vary and is not guaranteed. The return may increase or decrease due to currency fluctuations. Performance figures are net of fees and charges. The Fund may hold a relatively small number of stocks as compared to many other funds. This may make the Fund's performance more volatile than would be the case if it had a more diversified investment portfolio. For a full list of risks applicable to this fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- Invest for sustainable growth
- Fundamental research driven
- Particular focus on quality of management, balance sheet strength, return on invested capital, free cash flow, ability to grow dividends each year
- Bottom-up approach to identify exceptional businesses
- Global orientation, with emerging market exposure
- High conviction concentrated portfolio
- Predominantly larger capitalisation businesses, also consider exceptional medium-sized ones
- Buy to hold and disciplined selling
- No benchmark orientation, no active trading, no leverage, no hedging

## CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup> (CLASS F GBP)



## CLASS F GBP CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE %

	1m	YTD	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Since inception
SF GBI Equity	-2.2	8.7	9.6	12.5	52.8	220.5	210.5
Annualised	-	-	-	4.0	8.8	12.4	11.8
MSCI AC £ TR	-0.5	9.1	10.2	29.2	46.1	174.7	172.3
Annualised	-	-	-	8.9	7.9	10.6	10.4

## CLASS F GBP PERIODIC PERFORMANCE %

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
SF GBI Equity	-17.9	21.0	22.8	26.0	-0.3	19.0
MSCI AC £ TR	-8.7	19.6	13.0	21.7	-3.9	13.2

<sup>1</sup> Performance prior to 23 August 2013 is simulated using the performance of the D share class. Fund Inception Date: 16 August 2013. Source for all performance is Northern Trust, Bloomberg, MSCI and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited as at 30/09/2023. Third parties (including Bloomberg) whose data may be included in this document do not accept any liability for errors or omissions.

STONEHAGE FLEMING  
**GLOBAL BEST IDEAS EQUITY FUND**

**TOP TEN HOLDINGS (% OF FUND)**

Alphabet	7.4
Microsoft	6.7
Cadence	5.1
Accenture	4.9
Zoetis	4.3
EssilorLuxottica	3.9
S&P Global	3.8
Visa	3.8
Verisk Analytics	3.8
L'Oreal	3.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47.4</b>

**SECTOR BREAKDOWN (% OF FUND)**

Technology	25.6
Health Care	21.8
Discretionary	12.9
Financials	12.6
Staples	10.0
Communication	7.4
Industrials	3.8
Materials	3.5
Cash	2.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**PORTFOLIO MANAGER**



**GERRIT SMIT**

Gerrit Smit is Head of the Equity Management team. He has overall responsibility for its Portfolio Management and Equity Research functions. The team invests for sustainable growth with a particular focus on quality of management, balance sheet strength, cash flow generation and the ability to grow dividends each year.

**SECTOR BREAKDOWN**

Source: Northern Trust International Fund Administration Services (Ireland) Limited and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited.

**PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

\* Such forecasts are not a reliable indicator of future performance.

<sup>1</sup> Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation. <sup>2</sup> Earnings Per Share. <sup>3</sup> Dividend Per Share. <sup>4</sup> Of underlying holdings, and stated gross of withholding taxes and costs. <sup>5</sup> Estimated 12 months forward. <sup>6</sup> Price / Earnings to Growth Ratio. <sup>7</sup> Weighted portfolio Trailing P/E Ratio and EPS projections applied.

Source: Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited, Bloomberg.

**ESTIMATED REGIONAL REVENUES**

<sup>8</sup> Source: Based on where underlying companies in the Stonehage Fleming Global Best Ideas Equity Fund derive their revenues.

Source: Bloomberg; Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited; Northern Trust International Fund Administration Services (Ireland) Limited. Due to rounding, values may not add up to 100%.

**FUND RATINGS**

Source & Copyright. Morningstar and Morning star OBSR ratings © 2023 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved. Ratings are collected on the first business day of the month. Morningstar Sustainability Rating as of 30/09/23. Morningstar ratings refer to the B class rating for all USD denominated share classes and to the D class rating for all GBP denominated share classes. Sustainalytics provides company-level analysis used in the calculation of Morningstar's Sustainability Score. Sustainability Mandate information is derived from the fund prospectus. Morningstar Carbon Metrics cover all equity holdings as of 30/09/23. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

**REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (% OF FUND)**

United States	75.5
Continental Europe	19.0
Asia Pacific	3.1
Cash	2.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**ESTIMATED REGIONAL REVENUES<sup>8</sup> (% OF FUND)**

North America	48.9
Emerging Markets	22.7
Continental Europe	21.8
Japan	2.7
Other	4.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

Average Market Cap (Billions GBP)	283.7
Number of Holdings	29
Operating Margin	30.1%
Return on Invested Capital	19.6%
Net Debt/EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	0.7
Expected 3 Year Revenue Growth (p.a.)*	8.9%
Expected 3 Year EPS <sup>2</sup> Growth (p.a.)*	13.9%
Expected 3 Year DPS <sup>3</sup> Growth (p.a.)*	9.0%
Dividend Yield (Gross) <sup>4,5</sup>	1.1%
Price/Earnings Ratio <sup>5</sup>	26.4
Free Cash Flow Yield <sup>5</sup>	3.8%
PEG Ratio <sup>6,7</sup>	2.5

**FUND RATINGS<sup>1</sup>**



**STONEHAGE FLEMING  
GLOBAL BEST IDEAS EQUITY FUND**

**OUTCOME OF FAIR VALUE ASSESSMENTS (2023)**

Our assessment confirms:

- The fund meets the needs of the target market.
- The intended distribution strategy remains appropriate.
- The fund provides fair value to customers.

**INVESTOR PROFILE**

The fund is appropriate for all investor types, including those with only a basic knowledge of funds. It is compatible with investors who do not need a capital guarantee (investors must be prepared to accept fluctuations in the value of capital, including the ability to bear 100% capital loss) and are seeking capital growth. Due to the volatility of markets, investors should be willing to accept price fluctuations in exchange for the opportunity of potentially higher returns. This is a long term investment and investors should have an investment time horizon of at least 5 years. The recommended holding period does not provide any guarantee that the objective will be achieved. This product is eligible for all distribution channels (e.g. investment advice, portfolio management, non-advised sales and pure execution services).

The fund is unlikely to be appropriate for those who:

- Are looking for full capital protection or full repayment of the amount invested, and those who want a guaranteed return
- Have no risk tolerance
- Who are unwilling to accept price fluctuations (volatility) in the value of the fund
- Do not intend to invest for the long term

**FUND INFORMATION**

Total Net Assets	£1,801.1m
Comparative Index	MSCI World All Countries \$ TR
Fund Type	UCITS
Fund Domicile	Ireland
Base Currency	USD
Currencies Available	GBP, USD, EUR, CHF
Inception Date	16 Aug 2013
Range of Holdings	20-30 stocks
Income Paid	Annually
Type of Payment	Dividend
Ex Dividends	4 Jan 2023
Payment Date	18 Jan 2023
Pricing	Daily by 11pm (IRE)
Dealing	Daily by 12pm (IRE)

**FUND CHARACTERISTICS**

Active Share <sup>1</sup>	85.0%
Ex Post Tracking Error	6.9%
12 Month Turnover	9.4%
Beta	0.96

**GBP F (ACCUMULATION) SHARE CLASS DETAILS**

Price	£227.53
ISIN	IE00BDB5NS30
Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator (SRRI) rating	5
Annual Management Fee	0.50%
Total Ongoing Charge (OCF <sup>2</sup> )	0.58%
Min Initial Investment (GBP)	35,000,000
Registered For Sale	UK, CH, SA

<sup>1</sup> Active Share measures how much the portfolio holdings differ from the benchmark index (MSCI World) ie. a portfolio that is identical to the benchmark would have 0% active share. <sup>2</sup>The OCF is the Annual Management Fee plus additional fund expenses as a percentage of the assets of the fund. This gives an indication of annual expenses. This figure may vary over time. It excludes portfolio transaction costs.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus and the KIID of the UCITS before making any final investment decisions. All investments risk the loss of capital. No guarantee or representation is made that the funds will achieve their investment objective. The value of investments may go down as well as up and, for products designed to return income, the distributions can also go down or up and you may not receive back the full value of your initial investment. Derivatives may be used for efficient portfolio management. The fund invests in assets which are denominated in other currencies; hence changes in the relevant exchange rate will affect the value of the investment. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. If the information is not displayed in your base currency, then the return may increase or decrease due to currency fluctuations. The distribution or possession of this document in jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom may be restricted by law or other regulatory requirements. The Fund has been classified by the Manager, working in conjunction with the Investment Manager, as a product in accordance with Article 6 of SFDR, for further information please follow this link to our website: [https://cdn.io.stonehagefleming.com/craft-cms/investmentManagement/Sustainability-Disclosure\\_2021-10-20-124901\\_fcnr.pdf](https://cdn.io.stonehagefleming.com/craft-cms/investmentManagement/Sustainability-Disclosure_2021-10-20-124901_fcnr.pdf). Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the information provided to clients is accurate and up to date, some of the information may be rendered inaccurate by changes in applicable laws and regulations may be subject to change in the future. The information in this document does not constitute legal, tax, or a personal recommendation. Issued by Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited (SFIM). Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (194382) and registered with the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (South Africa) as a Financial Services Provider (FSP No. 46194). Approved for distribution in Jersey by affiliates of Stonehage Fleming Investment Management that are regulated for the provision of financial services by the JFSC. Affiliates of Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited are authorised and regulated in Jersey by the JFSC for financial services business. This document has been approved for use in Jersey. The Fund has been granted consent pursuant to the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Order 1958, by the Jersey Financial Services Commission ("JFSC") to circulate an offer for

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NOTE: THIS INVESTMENT IS NOT FOR SALE TO U.S. PERSONS.  
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