# Q4 2019 USD

## **KBI Global Investors**



# **KBIGI International Developed Equity Strategy**

Summary Details			
Assets under Mgmt.	\$996.2m		
Inception Date	01 Jul 2005		
Benchmark	MSCI EAFE Net Return Index		
Number of Stocks	113		
Risk Characteristics			
Beta (10 Yrs)	0.98		
Information Ratio (10 Yrs)	-0.27		
Volotility	14.40		
Volatility	14.	.+0	
Portfolio Statistics	Strategy	Index	
•			
Portfolio Statistics	Strategy	Index	
Portfolio Statistics Dividend Yield	Strategy 4.3%	Index 3.2%	
Portfolio Statistics Dividend Yield Dividend Payout	Strategy 4.3% 61.6%	Index 3.2% 60.3%	
Portfolio Statistics Dividend Yield Dividend Payout Dividend Growth	Strategy 4.3% 61.6% 11.1%	Index 3.2% 60.3% 7.9%	
Portfolio Statistics Dividend Yield Dividend Payout Dividend Growth Total Payout Yield	Strategy 4.3% 61.6% 11.1% 5.6%	3.2% 60.3% 7.9% 3.4%	
Portfolio Statistics  Dividend Yield  Dividend Payout  Dividend Growth  Total Payout Yield  Price to Earnings (trailing)	Strategy 4.3% 61.6% 11.1% 5.6% 13.4x	1ndex 3.2% 60.3% 7.9% 3.4% 16.3x	

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 12/31/19. The risk characteristics are calculated using monthly gross returns over a 10 year period relative to the Index as at the 12/31/19. Portfolio Statistics are of a representative account and are calculated relative to the Index. The AUM listed above is Global Equity International Equity AUM. This is the combined AUM of KBI Global Investors Ltd and KBI Global Investors (North America) Ltd. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars.

The EAFE AUM figure is inclusive of the EAFE component of a Global equity mandate which up to 30/09/15 was managed as an EAFE only mandate. Due to the significance in size of this Global mandate we have maintained its EAFE assets within the EAFE AUM categorisation. The EAFE component of the Global mandate is managed identically to a EAFE only mandate. These EAFE assets are not included in the Global AUM.

### Strategy Overview

**Objective** Consistency. Downside protection. Lower risk.

Style Relative value. High quality. Multi cap.

Diversified.

Products Global, EAFE, Emerging Markets, North

America, ACWI, Eurozone.

## **Investment Philosophy**

We are "total return" investors.

Our conviction is that companies with the financial strength and discipline to maintain and grow their dividend commitments outperform.

Uniquely, we find such companies across all capitalisations, and in every sector and every region, even ones where dividends are low and not typically used as a method of analysis. By "looking where others don't look" we consistently find and exploit mispriced stocks.

The main reasons for outperformance are:

- Quality of information
- Better governance
- Plentiful positive earnings surprises
- Capital efficiency and financial discipline
- Lower volatility
- Better valuations

**Annualised Performance (\$)** 

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	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs
Strategy (Gross)	9.5	18.2	18.2	7.0	3.7
Strategy (Net)	9.3	17.6	17.6	6.3	3.0
MSCI EAFE Net Return Index	8.2	22.0	22.0	9.6	5.7
MSCI EAFE Value Net Return Index	7.8	16.1	16.1	6.3	3.5

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream, MSCI as of 12/31/19

Returns are gross of fees in USD. Our firm claims GIPS compliance and is annually verified by an independent verification firm to be so. The verification report from our verifier and our GIPS composite presentation are available upon request. The performance record disclosed here is that of the firm's composite for this strategy. The EAFE Developed Equity composite (formerly known as the EAFE Developed Equity Dividend Plus composite) is a well diversified, all cap, strategy that invests across all 24 industry sub classifications and the three major geographic global regions (Europe, Japan and Pacific Basin ex Japan) of the global developed equity market (ex North America). Investment is restricted to developed markets as defined by inclusion in the MSCI EAFE benchmark. No active currency management is undertaken. The strategy invests purely in those companies that pay above average dividends relative to their industry peer group and is managed by a dedicated, specialist team of investment professionals in Dublin, Ireland. The benchmark is the MSCI EAFE Index, inclusive of net income. The Net index provides a better comparator for potential investors and representation of the investment strategy of the composite. The benchmark is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed market countries. The benchmark is market-cap weighted. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; but not materially so. See disclaimers for further information

## **Investment Process**

We summarise our process into three steps

### Stop

- Create regional group segments from MSCI Index.
- Eliminate stocks below segment average yield.
- Lower yield stocks, countries, industries will qualify.

### Step 2

- Eliminate stocks and segments that fail sustainability, quality and growth criteria
- Rank remaining stocks.

## Step 3

Create portfolio preferred financial criteria and highest ranked stocks.

## **Current EAFE Developed Portfolio Characteristics**

Mkt. Cap \$bn	Strategy	MSCI EAFE Index	+/- %
<3 (small)	1.8	1.5	0.3
3-5 (mid-small)	7.0	5.1	1.9
5-10 (mid)	16.0	13.0	3.0
10-25 (mid-large)	32.5	23.0	9.5
>25 (large)	42.8	57.3	-14.5

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 12/31/19. Market Cap figures are based on a representative account relative to the Index. Market Cap figures are in US Dollars.

#### **Investment Team**

Key People	Title	Investment Experience		
	CIO			
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	32yrs		
Port	folio Management T	eam		
Gareth Maher	Head of Portfolio Management	32yrs		
David Hogarty	Head of Strategy Development	28yrs		
lan Madden	Senior Portfolio Manager	19yrs		
James Collery	Senior Portfolio Manager	19yrs		
John Looby	Senior Portfolio Manager	29yrs		
Massimiliano Tondi	Senior Portfolio Manager	16yrs		
Jeanne Chow Collins	ESG & Engagement Analyst	19yrs		
Trading				
Ultan O'Kane	Trader	14yrs		

#### **Contact Details**

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## Portfolio Positioning

#### Sector Breakdown

Sector	%	Sector	%
Financials	19.8	Communications	6.4
Industrials	15.3	Energy	6.0
Health Care	11.3	Information Technology	5.5
Consumer Discretionary	9.6	Real Estate	4.9
Consumer Staples	9.3	Utilities	3.6
Materials	8.3		

#### Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
Europe	63.4
Japan	24.5
Pacific Basin ex Japan	12.1

## **Top 10 Holdings**

Stock	Country	%
Novo Nordisk A/S	Denmark	3.7
Siemens AG	Germany	2.9
Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	2.8
Assicurazioni Generali SpA	Italy	2.7
Rio Tinto Plc	UK	2.7
KBC Groep NV	Belgium	2.6
Barratt Developments PLC	UK	2.4
Iberdrola SA	Spain	2.4
ACS SA	Spain	2.4
Royal Dutch Shell Plc - B Shs	UK	2.3

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. The above information represents the top 10 largest positions in the strategy as of 12/31/19 based on the aggregate USD value. Each quarter KBI Global Investors uses this same objective, non-performance based criteria to select the ten largest holdings. The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for the strategy, and the reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable. All information is provided for informational purposes only and should not be deemed as a recommendation to buy the securities mentioned.

## Overview

Following muted returns in the third quarter, global markets once again rose sharply in Quarter 4. The main catalyst driving market sentiment in Q4 was the massive re-expansion of liquidity in the monetary system, most notably in the US, but also in Europe and Asia

2019 proved to be a record-breaking year for global stock markets, as they posted their best year for returns since the aftermath of the GFC. While of course welcoming such large returns its only prudent to recognise that this performance went hand in hand with declining profits and deteriorating economic sentiment (falling PMI's and economic growth downgrades).

All the return came from multiple expansion and the decade ended with the MSCI EAFE Index trading at 15x forward EPS, close to its highest forward valuation outside of the tech bubble.

In light of such aggressive absolute returns it is not a surprise to us that our relative performance was a challenge given the conservative and defensive nature of our dividend orientation. The magnitude of the variance in style over the year was the dominant contributor to our relative under performance over the twelve months to end December 2019.

From an investment style perspective Growth again outperformed Value by more than 10%. Growth is now almost 2 standard deviations above its long-term average at 20.6 times forward earnings.

## Disclaimer

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The firm definition has been re-defined on two occasions over recent years; on 30 September 2010 to reflect the firm's sale to RHJI by our previous parent firm KBC Asset Management NV, and on 1 October 2016 to reflect the firm's sale to Amundi Asset Management. No change in investment process arose as a result of these sales. To receive a copy of the compliant presentation and/or a list of composite descriptions, please contact sales@kbigi.com. Gross results shown do not show the deduction of Adviser's fees. A client's actual return will be reduced by the advisory fees and any other expenses which may be incurred in the management of an investment advisory account. See Part 2 of Adviser's Form ADV for a complete description of the investment advisory fees customarily charged by Adviser. 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