

KBIGI North America Equity Strategy (EUR)

Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	€32.6m
Inception Date	01 Nov 2013
Benchmark	MSCI North America Net Return Index
Number of Stocks	68

Risk Characteristics

Beta (5 Yrs)	0.96
Information Ratio (5 Yrs)	-0.38
Volatility	17.90

Portfolio Statistics	Strategy	Index
Dividend Yield	3.0%	1.7%
Dividend Payout	39.0%	29.8%
Dividend Growth	13.5%	7.9%
Total Payout Yield	5.7%	2.3%
Price to Earnings (trailing)	10.4x	17.4x
Price to Book	2.8x	3.7x
Weighted Avg Mkt Cap.	\$132.1bn	\$360.8bn
ESG Score	7.9	6.7
Wtd Avg Carbon Intensity	77.2	150.4

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 31/12/22. The risk characteristics are calculated independently by KBI Global Investors using monthly gross returns of the composite over a 5 year period relative to the Index as at the 31/12/22. Portfolio and Benchmark Statistics are from a representative account managed to the same strategy and the benchmark respectively. KBI Global Investors independently estimate these statistics for both the portfolio and the benchmark. The AUM listed above is Global Equity North America AUM excluding AUA from Q1 2022. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars. KBI calculate the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity figure for the portfolio (representative account managed to the same strategy) quarterly. Index carbon intensity data is sourced from MSCI ESG Research. KBI calculate the ESG scores for the portfolio (representative account managed to the same strategy) quarterly. Index ESG ratings are sourced from MSCI ESG Research.

Prior to 1/4/20 the North America AUM figure was inclusive of the North America equity component of a Global Equity Mandate.

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 (€)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs
Fund (Gross)	4.7	-4.8	-4.8	8.0	8.4
Benchmark	-1.8	-14.3	-14.3	8.7	11.1

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream, MSCI as of 31/12/22
KBI calculate both composite returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in EUR. 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 North American Equity composite is a well diversified all cap strategy that invests across all 24 industry sub classifications of the North American equity markets as defined within the MSCI North America benchmark. 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 material risks associated with the composite include market risk and stock-specific event risk. Share prices can decline and there is a risk that the composite may under-perform its benchmark. The benchmark is the MSCI North America 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. MSCI benchmark returns assume the reinvestment of dividends after the deduction of withholding taxes. See disclaimers for further information.

Investment Process

We summarise our process into three steps

Step 1

- 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 North America Portfolio Characteristics

Mkt. Cap \$bn	Strategy	MSCI NAM Index	+/- %
<3 (small)	0.0	0.0	0.0
3-5 (mid-small)	0.0	0.2	-0.2
5-10 (mid)	5.7	2.0	3.7
10-25 (mid-large)	39.8	11.2	28.6
>25 (large)	54.6	86.6	-32.0

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 31/12/22. Market Cap figures are based on a representative account relative to the Index. Market Cap figures are in US Dollars.

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 Team

Key People	Title	Investment Experience
CIO		
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	35yrs
Portfolio Management Team		
Gareth Maher	Head of Portfolio Management	35yrs
David Hogarty	Head of Strategy Development	31yrs
Ian Madden	Senior Portfolio Manager	22yrs
James Collery	Senior Portfolio Manager	22yrs
John Looby	Senior Portfolio Manager	32yrs
Massimiliano Tondi	Senior Portfolio Manager	19yrs
Jeanne Chow Collins	ESG & Engagement Analyst	22yrs
Trading		
Ultan O'Kane	Trader	17yrs

Contact Details

Address: KBI Global Investors Ltd.
3rd Floor, 2 Harbourmaster Place
IFSC
Dublin 1
Ireland

Phone: +353 1 438 4400 Email: info@kbigi.com
Web: www.kbiglobalinvestors.com

Portfolio Positioning

Sector Breakdown

Sector	%	Sector	%
Information Technology	25.3	Consumer Staples	5.9
Health Care	15.4	Energy	5.6
Financials	11.7	Materials	3.4
Consumer Discretionary	10.3	Utilities	2.5
Industrials	10.1	Real Estate	2.2
Communication Services	7.6		

Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
USA	90.0
Canada	10.0

Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
Microsoft Corporation	US	3.9
Merck & Co Inc	US	3.6
Marathon Petroleum Corp	US	3.1
Gilead Sciences Inc	US	3.0
Omnicom Group Inc	US	2.9
Cigna Corp	US	2.8
Interpublic Group Of Companies Inc	US	2.8
Automatic Data Processing Inc	US	2.8
Texas Instruments Inc	US	2.8
Hewlett-Packard Enterprise Co	US	2.8

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 31/12/22

Overview

While much of the narrative at year end is around recession fears and impending disappointing earnings, we feel there may well be more opportunities to generate good returns than many realise.

The percentage of stock passing our quality hurdles is high, and payout ratios are near all time lows. This means the buffer around existing dividend behavior is high. Even if earnings disappoint (we feel the portfolio is good shape on this front) current levels of yield and dividend growth can be maintained by allowing payout ratios to return to more normal long term levels. Dividends and dividend growth become highly valuable sources of return when share price increases are scarce.

The rally in value and high yield stocks in the fourth quarter suggests that investors have begun to pick up on this opportunity. While the shine may have gone off tech stocks investors have started to look elsewhere. The good news is that they like what they see. The surprisingly strong fundamentals and cheap valuations of companies that exist across the market capitalisations are starting to get noticed.

Up until quarter four, all of the relative outperformance of value over growth stocks since last year had come in down markets. Value stocks were seen as attractive for the defensive qualities they bring and their lower sensitivity to rising rates. However, in quarter four, value stocks led the rally. The fact that they did so as long bond yields fell suggest something is now seriously different.

Disclaimer

KBI Global Investors Ltd. is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority in the UK. Details about the extent of our regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority are available from us on request. KBI Global Investors claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). Gross results shown do not show the deduction of investment management fees. A client's actual return will be reduced by the management fees and any other expenses which may be incurred in the management of an investment account. For example, a €1,000,000 investment with an assumed annual return of 5% with a management fee of 0.85% would accumulate €8,925 in fees during the first year, €48,444 in fees over five years and €107,690 in fees over ten years. Under MiFID II this is deemed marketing material and should not be regarded as investment research. The firm is defined as the institutional business of KBI Global Investors Ltd., and its subsidiary, KBI Global Investors (North America). The term 'institutional business' shall have the meaning of all pensions, charity and corporate asset management strategies of the firm as they pertain to client funds. Unitised clients are specifically excluded from composite assignment given that their underlying unit holdings are already assigned to composites and such strategies are therefore accounted for in composite values and returns. 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

IMPORTANT RISK DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: This material is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to purchase any security, product or service including any group trust or fund managed by KBI Global Investors Ltd., or any of its affiliates (collectively, "KBI Global Investors"). The information contained herein does not set forth all of the risks associated with this strategy, and is qualified in its entirety by, and subject to, the information contained in other applicable disclosure documents relating to such a strategy. KBI Global Investors Ltd's investment products, like all investments, involve the risk of loss and may not be suitable for all investors, especially those who are unable to sustain a loss of their investment. The views expressed in this document are expressions of opinion only and should not be construed as investment advice. Past performance may not be a reliable guide to future performance and the value of investments may fall as well as rise. Investments denominated in foreign currencies are subject to changes in exchange rates that may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of the product. Income generated from an investment may fluctuate in accordance with market conditions and taxation arrangements. Performance for periods of more than 1 year is annualized. All MSCI data is provided "as is". In no event shall MSCI, its affiliates, or any MSCI data provider have any liability of any kind in connection with the MSCI data. No further distribution or dissemination of the MSCI data is permitted without MSCI's prior express written consent. Net total return indices reinvest dividends after the deduction of withholding taxes, using (for international indices) a tax rate applicable to non-resident institutional investors who do not benefit from double taxation treaties. The products mentioned in this Document may not be eligible for sale in some states or countries, nor suitable for all types of investors. In some tables and charts, due to rounding, the sum of the individual components may not appear to be equal to the stated total(s).