

Spire Copper Rock Capital Global Smaller Companies Fund

A SPIRE GLOBAL INVESTMENT SERIES FUND

Monthly Fact Sheet - August 2018



Fund Objective

To outperform the MSCI World Small Cap Index \$A on an annual basis and to outperform the same index by 2% to 3% p.a. over a full market cycle (e.g 5 - 7 years).

Fund Manager

Copper Rock Capital Partners LLC ("Copper Rock"), based in Boston, MA, was founded in 2005 and provides specialised global equity investment management solutions for investors throughout the world with a strong focus on small cap investing globally. Copper Rock had approximately \$6.4 billion (USD) in assets under management as at 31 December 2017.

Investment Philosophy and Approach

Copper Rock believes that small and mid-cap markets are inefficient and uses a blend of quantitative and fundamental analyses to identify companies with superior growth rates relative to their peers. The Global Small Cap strategy typically looks for resilient and defensible business models that are characterized by underlying unit growth, longer term market share gains (an evidence of competitive strength), high profitability, and significant internal cash generation. Distinguishing elements of the process are also the application of a routinely practiced and proven Sell Discipline and Alert List that provide risk control and are crucial in preserving alpha earned in the portfolio.

Ratings

Zenith Investment Partners – Recommended
Lonsec – Recommended

Fund Summary as at 31 August 2018

APIR Code ETL0410AU

Exit Price 1.0708

Fund Size \$96.2 Million

Inception Date 1 July 2014

Companies in Portfolio 98

Total Management Fee 1.38%

Indirect Cost Ratio (ICR) 1.38%

Buy / Sell Spread 0.20% / 0.20%

Investment Manager Copper Rock Capital Partners, LLC

Portfolio Management Team

Stephen Dexter CIO, Lead Portfolio Manager

Denise Selden, CFA Portfolio Manager

H. David Shea, CFA Portfolio Manager

Responsible Entity Equity Trustees Limited

Custodian State Street Australia Limited

The information provided in this report should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any particular security. There is no assurance that any security discussed will remain in portfolio at any time you receive this report or that securities sold have not been repurchased. The securities mentioned may represent only a small percentage of a portfolio's holdings. It should not be assumed that any of the holdings were or will prove to be profitable, or that the investment recommendations made in the future will be profitable or will equal the performance of the securities presented in this material. All securities recommendations within the preceding 12 months are available upon request.

Monthly Performance (gross %)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	-0.55	-0.30	1.34	1.72	1.76	0.10	0.79	5.49				
2017	-3.78	1.68	2.46	4.11	0.12	2.12	-1.98	1.03	4.45	4.96	1.29	-2.36
2016	-3.99	-1.90	-0.37	0.98	8.09	-5.85	2.49	0.22	-1.27	-3.76	8.84	4.21

Performance (%)

Performance %	1 mth	3 mths	6 mths	1 year	4 years	Inception on pa>
Total (net)	5.36	6.03	10.81	18.26	12.06	11.15
Benchmark*	5.08	7.97	15.45	27.96	16.91	16.04
Active Return#	0.28	-1.94	-4.64	-9.70	-4.85	-4.89
Distribution	0.00	6.41		6.41	8.58	8.21

*Benchmark – MSCI World Small Cap \$A

> Inception Date: 1 July 2014 # Based on net performance. The performance data has not been audited. Performance figures are audited on an annual basis. Source: State Street.

Top 10 Common Stock Holdings**

Companies	% of Portfolio	Country
INGEVITY CORPORATION	1.50	USA
TIS, INC.	1.46	JAPAN
EVERCORE, INC.	1.40	USA
COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.	1.38	USA
ICF INTERNATIONAL, INC.	1.37	USA
CHARLES RIVER LABORATORIES INT.	1.34	USA
NOMAD FOODS, LTD.	1.33	UK
ITOCHU TECHNO-SOLUTIONS CORP.	1.30	JAPAN
GENERAC HOLDINGS, INC.	1.30	USA
HILL-ROM HOLDINGS, INC.	1.27	USA
TOTAL:	13.67%	

Portfolio Characteristics*

Characteristics	Fund	MSCI World Small Cap Index (USD)
Price / Cash Flow	12.8	10.5
P/E (Forward 1 Year)	17.0	17.7
LT EPS Growth	14.8	13.2
ROE	15.4	10.2
ROA	6.1	4.4
Operating Margin	16.2	17.2
Yield (%)	1.9	2.6
Price to Book	2.2	2.0
Weighted Average Market-Cap (US\$bil)	3.3	3.6
Number of Holdings	98	4,363
Active Share	96%	

* Data derived from a Copper Rock Global Small Cap representative account expressed in USD. Source: FactSet.

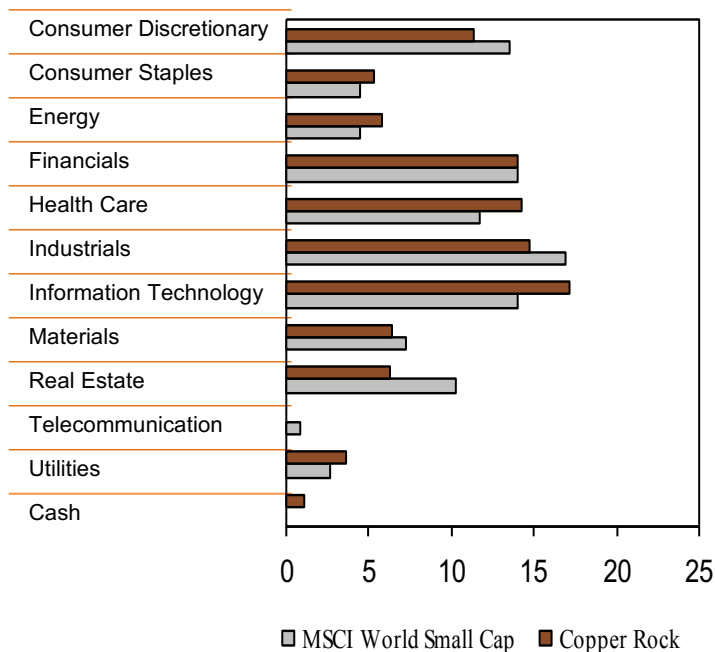
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Sector Exposure (%)*



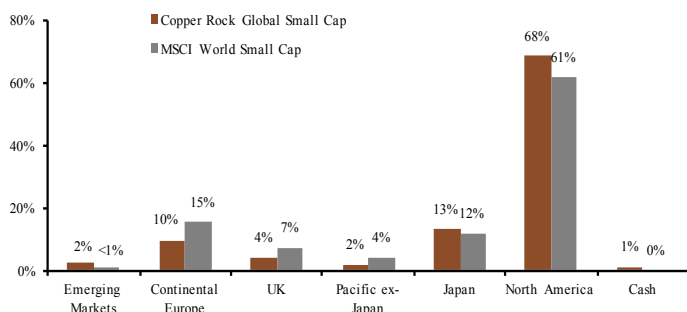
Market Commentary

In the month of August, the Copper Rock Global Small Cap Composite returned +5.46% (AUD) and outperformed the MSCI World Small Cap index which returned +5.08% (AUD). While there was strong market volatility during the first half of 2018, Copper Rock has seen the spreads between Quant Rank 1s (most attractive stocks) and Quant Rank 5s (least attractive stocks) grow more strongly positive. This has resulted in a more supportive environment for the strategy and it has outperformed the benchmark in July and August.

In the portfolio, there was strong stock selection in the Consumer Discretionary and Materials sectors. The portfolio's overweight allocation relative to the index in the Information Technology and Healthcare sectors was also additive. There was some underperformance from individual stock selection in the Energy, Utilities, Consumer Staples, and Financials sectors. On a regional basis, positive stock selection in the U.K. and Japan contributed to relative return while there were some laggards from Canada and Europe.

Entering into September, the portfolio continues to have an overweight position relative to opportunities with structural growth in Information Technology - with an emphasis on software and services, and Healthcare. The portfolio has an underweight allocation relative to the index in the Real Estate, Industrials, Consumer Discretionary, Materials, and Telecommunication Services sectors. Regionally, the portfolio is overweight relative to the index in the US and Japan. The portfolio has an underweight allocation relative to the index in Continental Europe, the U.K., and Pacific ex-Japan.

Regional Allocation (%)*



* Data derived from a Copper Rock Global Small Cap representative account expressed in USD. Source: FactSet. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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