

Spire Copper Rock Capital Global Smaller Companies Fund

A SPIRE GLOBAL INVESTMENT SERIES FUND

Monthly Fact Sheet - October 2017



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 \$5.7 billion (USD) in assets under management as at June 30, 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 October 2017

APIR Code ETL0410AU

Exit Price 1.0579

Fund Size \$86.9 Million

Inception Date 1 July 2014

Companies in Portfolio 91

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
2017	-3.78	1.68	2.46	4.11	0.12	2.12	-1.98	1.03	4.45	4.96		
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
2015	3.20	6.55	4.51	-3.95	4.87	-1.63	5.34	-2.70	-1.92	2.18	-2.09	-2.29

Performance (%)

Performance %	1 mth	3 mths	6 mths	1 year	3 years	Inception on pa>
Total (net)	4.83	10.35	10.19	29.48	13.26	12.58
Benchmark*	3.83	9.83	7.67	25.74	15.96	14.82
Active Return#	1.00	0.52	2.52	3.74	-2.70	-2.24
Distribution				8.71	10.44	9.33

*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
GENERAC HOLDINGS, INC.	1.8	USA
ESSENT GROUP LTD.	1.8	USA
NEXITY SA	1.7	FRANCE
SILICON LABORATORIES, INC.	1.5	USA
MGIC INVESTMENT CORPORATION	1.4	USA
BE SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRIES N.V.	1.4	NETHERLANDS
COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.	1.4	USA
TP ICAP PLC	1.4	UK
MAEDA CORPORATION	1.3	JAPAN
RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC.	1.3	US
TOTAL:	15.0%	

Portfolio Characteristics*

Characteristics	Fund	MSCI World Small Cap Index (USD)
Price / Cash Flow	13.7	10.9
P/E (Forward 1 Year)	17.9	19.3
LT EPS Growth	13.0	12.9
ROE	15.0	9.6
ROA	6.4	4.2
Operating Margin	14.5	16.7
Yield (%)	1.9	2.5
Price to Book	2.6	2.0
Weighted Average Market-Cap (US\$bil)	3.0	3.4
Number of Holdings	91	4,263
Active Share	97%	

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

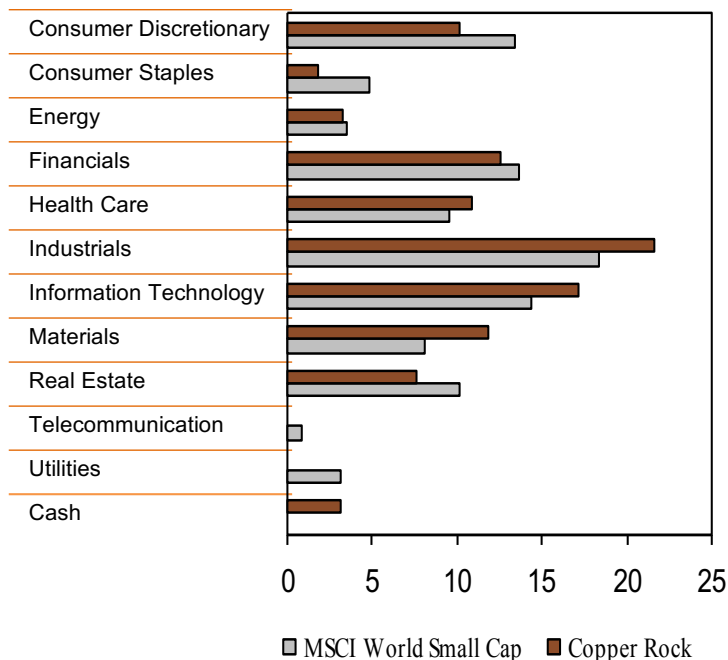
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Sector Exposure (%)*



Market Commentary

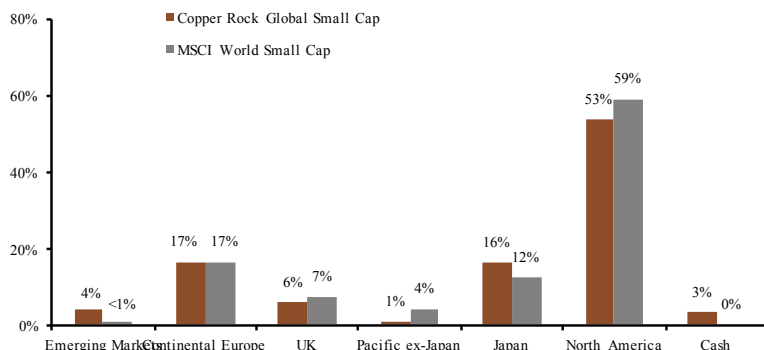
During the month of October, the Copper Rock Global Small Cap Composite returned +4.97% (AUD) and outperformed the MSCI World Small Cap index which returned +3.83% (AUD).

During the month, positive stock selection in the Financials, Information Technology, Real Estate, Energy, and Materials sectors contributed to relative return. The market has felt better as Copper Rock have seen companies with good fundamentals be rewarded in the earnings season. On a regional basis, the portfolio benefited from positive stock selection in North America, Japan, the Emerging Markets, and the UK. Macronix International Co., Ltd. which makes semiconductors used for memory in a range of consumer electronics devices, was the top contributor in October. The company reported better than expected 3rd quarter earnings results primarily due to higher sales contribution from its high capacity products and rising product prices. The outlook for this stock also remains very favorable.

On the downside, the portfolio continued to see some underperformance from its positioning and overall selection in largely based US Healthcare and some Consumer sector positions. For example, the position in Amedisys, Inc. which provides hospice and home healthcare services to the chronic and aging American population, was the largest detractor in the month. The stock took a pause despite announcing preliminary strong 3rd quarter earnings results reflecting top-line growth and good execution. The company should continue to benefit from its recent acquisition of Tenet Healthcare in terms of adding to Amedisys' pipeline as well as capitalize on greater economies of scale. We continue to own the position in the portfolio

As the portfolio enters November 2017, it remains overweight relative to the index in the Materials, Industrials, Information Technology, and Healthcare sectors, while being underweight in the Consumers, Utilities, Real Estate, Financials, Telecommunication Services, and Energy sectors. Regionally, the portfolio has an overweight allocation versus the index in Japan and the Emerging Markets. The portfolio is essentially equal weighted relative to the index in Continental Europe and underweight in North America, Pacific ex-Japan, and the UK.

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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