

# INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MARCH 31, 2024

## OBJECTIVE

A portfolio of the investment committee's highest conviction ideas from developed markets (excluding U.S.) and emerging markets.

## **INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY**

Confluence's international equity investment philosophy is rooted in a fundamental approach focused on owning high-quality, growth-oriented companies at reasonable valuations. We believe that higher-quality companies will outperform the broader market over the long-term, especially when the countries in which they do business benefit from favorable macroeconomic factors.

The investment process integrates top-down comprehensive evaluation of market cycles, macroeconomic variables, and geopolitical analysis with the firm's bottom-up, fundamental, company-specific approach.

# OVERVIEW

- Invests in all international markets, including developed (excluding U.S.) and emerging markets
- Highly concentrated portfolio (not broadly diversified)
- May not be suitable for all clients

7-12 positions

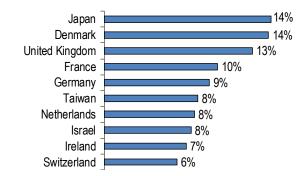
Strategy assets: \$1.7 million<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Total strategy assets include assets under management (AUM) and assets under advisement (AUA). As of 12/31/23, AUM = \$0.3 million and AUA = \$1.4 million.

## **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS<sup>2</sup>**

CHARACTERISTICS	
Number of Positions	7-12
Portfolio Yield	1.5%
Annual Turnover (5-Year Rolling as of 12/31/23)	36%
P/E (12-Month Trailing)	18.0
P/E (Forward 1-Year)	21.2
5-Year EPS Growth Rate	18.0%
Price/Book Ratio	4.1
Price/Sales Ratio	6.0
Return on Equity	27.8%
Weighted Debt-to-Capital	30.2%

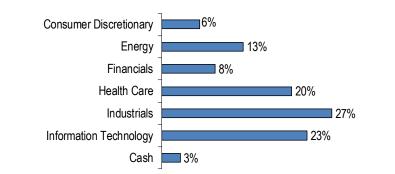
# **COUNTRY ALLOCATION**



# MARKET CAP

MARKET CAP		
Median Market Cap (\$MM)	\$108,138	
Weighted Avg. Market Cap (\$MM)	\$221,885	
% of Holdings Above \$10B	100%	
% of Holdings Below \$10B	0%	
5 Largest Holdings	SECTOR	WEIGHT
Novo Nordisk A.S.	Health Care	14.2%
Shell plc	Energy	12.8%
Safran S.A.	Industrials	9.8%
Reinmetall AG	Industrials	9.1%
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial	Financials	8.4%

#### SECTOR ALLOCATION



See GIPS Report on pages 2-3.

## COMPOSITE RETURNS<sup>3</sup> (For Periods Ending March 31, 2024)

	Since Inception**	10-year*	5-year*	3-year*	1-year	YTD	QTD
International Opportunities Pure Gross-of-Fees⁴	8.4%	7.6%	12.3%	5.7%	16.4%	10.2%	10.2%
Max Net-of-Fees⁵	5.2%	4.4%	9.0%	2.6%	12.9%	9.4%	9.4%
MSCI World ex-U.S. (Net)	3.2%	4.8%	7.5%	4.9%	15.3%	5.6%	5.6%

\*Average annualized returns

Calendar Year	Pure Gross- of-Fees⁴	Max Net- of-Fees⁵	MSCI World ex-U.S. (Net)	Difference (Gross-MSCI World ex-U.S.)	# of Portfolios	Composite Assets (000s)	Total Firm Assets (000s)	Composite 3yr Std Dev	MSCI World ex-U.S. 3yr Std Dev	Composite Dispersion
2007**	19.6%	17.2%	3.4%	16.2%	1	\$240	-	N/A	N/A	N/A
2008	(24.2%)	(26.5%)	(43.6%)	19.3%	2	\$1,695	-	N/A	N/A	1.2%
2009	32.7%	28.8%	33.7%	(0.9%)	7	\$7,837	-	N/A	N/A	1.7%
2010	23.2%	19.5%	8.9%	14.2%	5	\$4,365	-	24.5%	26.3%	0.8%
2011	(19.0%)	(21.4%)	(12.2%)	(6.8%)	6	\$4,081	-	21.6%	22.3%	0.7%
2012	19.3%	15.8%	16.4%	2.9%	4	\$2,155	-	20.3%	19.0%	0.6%
2013	26.3%	22.6%	21.0%	5.3%	3	\$2,576	-	18.7%	16.0%	0.5%
2014	3.3%	0.2%	(4.3%)	7.6%	3	\$3,306	-	14.6%	12.7%	0.7%
2015	(5.0%)	(7.8%)	(3.0%)	(2.0%)	2	\$2,807	-	14.2%	12.3%	0.3%
2016	(6.1%)	(8.9%)	2.7%	(8.8%)	2	\$2,612	-	14.3%	12.3%	0.4%
2017	32.3%	28.3%	24.2%	8.0%	2	\$3,425	-	13.6%	11.7%	0.3%
2018	(18.5%)	(20.9%)	(14.1%)	(4.4%)	1	\$79	\$5,486,737	13.1%	11.1%	N/A
2019	42.8%	38.5%	22.5%	20.3%	1	\$113	\$7,044,708	14.1%	10.8%	N/A
2020	29.0%	25.2%	7.6%	21.4%	1	\$146	\$6,889,798	18.1%	18.1%	N/A
2021	12.2%	8.9%	12.6%	(0.4%)	2	\$336	\$7,761,687	15.5%	17.2%	N/A
2022	(16.9%)	(19.4%)	(14.3%)	(2.6%)	2	\$279	\$6,931,635	19.5%	20.1%	0.5%
2023	15.2%	11.8%	17.9%	(2.7%)	2	\$321	\$7,200,019	16.9%	16.6%	0.2%

### \*\*Inception is 5/1/2007

See performance disclosures on last page.

## **Portfolio Benchmark**

**MSCI World ex-U.S. (Net) Index** – A free float-adjusted market capitalization index designed to measure developed market equity performance, excluding the USA. Performance results are presented net of estimated foreign withholding taxes on dividends, interest and capital gains. (*Source: Bloomberg*)

(An index is unmanaged and an investor cannot invest directly in an index. They are shown for illustrative purposes only & do not represent the performance of any specific investment. Index performance figures are reported as net returns.)

#### **Confluence International Equities Investment Committee**

Mark Keller, CFA William O'Grady Tore Stole Gregory Tropf, CFA Matthew Sinkovitz Kaisa Stucke, CFA Blair Brumley, CFA Patrick Fearon-Hernandez , CFA

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT A MEMBER OF OUR SALES TEAM: (314) 530-6729 or sales@confluenceim.com

See <u>Territory Map</u> on the Confluence website for sales coverage.

#### DISCLOSURES

<sup>2</sup> Portfolio Holdings—Securities, country, sector, currency, and other information presented does not constitute a recommendation by Confluence or a solicitation of any offer to buy or sell any securities. Sector/country allocations and holdings listed represent a portion currently or previously held in a representative portfolio invested in accordance with the Confluence International Opportunities strategy. Listings of countries and holdings do not represent all of the countries/stocks currently or previously owned in the portfolio or which Confluence may be currently recommending. Sector/country weightings and holdings of individual client portfolios in the strategy may differ, sometimes significantly, from these listings. Investing in securities involves the risk of loss of the amount invested that investors should be prepared to bear. There can be no assurance that any investment objective will be achieved or that any investment will be profitable or avoid incurring losses. Sources: MSCI, Confluence Research. Yield data source: Bloomberg. Composite-level weighted average gross yield, calculated based on annualized current dividends. Annual turnover 5-year rolling calculated from sample accounts for periods ending 12/31/2023. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

<sup>3</sup>Performance Composite Returns—Confluence Investment Management LLC claims compliance with the Global investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Confluence Investment Management LLC has been independently verified for the periods August 1, 2008, through December 31, 2022. The verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards.

Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

GIPS<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. The International Opportunities Strategy was incepted on May 1, 2007, and the current International Opportunities Composite was created on May 1, 2018. Performance presented prior to May 1, 2018, occurred while the Portfolio Management Team was affiliated with a prior firm and was independently verified for the periods of 10/1/1999 through 12/31/2017. The Portfolio Management Team members were the primary individuals responsible for selecting securities to buy and sell. Composite performance is typically net of foreign withholding taxes on dividends, interest income and capital gains with some exceptions based on custodian treatment. Confluence Investment Management LLC is an independent registered investment adviser. Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns are presented gross and net of all fees and include the reinvestment of all income.

<sup>4</sup> Pure gross returns are shown as supplemental information to the disclosures required by the GIPS standards.

<sup>5</sup>Net-of-fee performance was calculated using the highest applicable annual bundled fee of 3.00% applied quarterly. This fee includes brokerage commissions, portfolio management, consulting services and custodial services. The Confluence fee schedule for this composite: 1.00% on the first \$500,000; 0.90% on the next \$500,000; and 0.75% over \$1,000,000. There are no incentive fees. Clients pay an all-inclusive fee based on a percentage of assets under management. The collection of fees produces a compounding effect on the total rate of return net of fees. Bundled fee accounts make up 0% of the composite for all periods. Actual investment advisory fees incurred by clients may vary. Wrap fee schedules are provided by independent wrap sponsors and are available upon request from the respective wrap sponsor.

Historical performance is based on the International Opportunities–Direct Composite which was initially created on May 1, 2007. The International Opportunities–Direct Composite includes accounts that pursue the International Opportunities strategy, but do not have bundled fees. Gross returns from the International Opportunities–Direct Composite include transaction costs and net-of-fee performance was calculated using the highest applicable annual bundled fee of 3.00% applied quarterly.

A complete list of composite descriptions is available upon request. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request. The annual composite dispersion is an equal-weighted standard deviation, using gross-of-fee returns, calculated for the accounts in the composite for the entire year. Prior to year-end 2018, the annual composite dispersion was an asset-weighted standard deviation calculated for accounts in the composite for the entire year. The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns over the preceding 36-month period. The International Opportunities Composite contains fully discretionary International Opportunities wrap accounts. The International Opportunities portfolio invests in U.S.-listed shares of non-U.S. companies from developed and emerging markets. The portfolio is long-only and concentrated in the team's 7-12 highest conviction ideas.

\*\*Results shown for the year 2007 represent partial period performance from May 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007. N/A-Composite Dispersion: Information is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year. N/A-3yr Std Dev: Composite does not have 3 years of monthly performance history.