

## Equity Strategies • Value Opportunities

Value Opportunities is a concentrated portfolio of businesses that range in market capitalization. Companies are selected using a bottom-up, fundamental research process that seeks to identify individual businesses that are trading at substantial discounts to our estimate of intrinsic value and have near-term catalysts in which to unlock the value. The portfolio may have concentrations in both individual holdings and/or industries. It typically comprises 8-12 holdings and is expected to result in high annual turnover. The strategy is suitable for clients seeking an aggressive approach to generating capital appreciation.

### Strategy Commentary

The Value Opportunities strategy was up 4.4% in the fourth quarter of 2019, finishing the year up 28.6% (both gross of fees). By comparison, the S&P 500 was up 9.1% in the fourth quarter and returned 31.5% for the year. The portfolio and index had strong returns in 2019, which was a surprise for the index given relatively flat earnings growth in 2019. *(The strategy was up 3.6% QTD and 24.7% YTD (net of fees). Net of fees calculated using the highest applicable annual bundled fee of 3.00%. See performance disclosures on p.2 for fee description; actual investment advisory fees may vary.)*

The strategy had outperformed the S&P 500 prior to the index's strong rally in the fourth quarter, but the relative underperformance during the fourth quarter was primarily driven by the Financials sector, where our insurance holdings sat out the bank rally, no exposure to the Health Care sector, and weak performance from our Materials sector holdings.

The stock market rallied in the fourth quarter after a "trade truce" was announced in early October prior to the next round of tariff increases. Rising investor sentiment was further aided by accommodative monetary policy that helped unwind the inverted yield curve as well as continued strong employment and wages. The upcoming year is sure to bring more ups and downs with a contentious U.S. presidential election, ongoing trade negotiations with China and a lot of capital searching for returns in a low interest rate environment. 2019 was yet another reminder that the economic cycle and markets are nearly impossible to predict and time, so in the meantime we continue to stay focused on buying good companies with capable management teams that are trading at discounts to our estimate of intrinsic value.

Several changes were made to the portfolio during the quarter. We further concentrated our position within the DowDupont spinoffs by selling down Dow (a global, cyclical chemical business) to fill out Corteva (an agricultural seed and chemical business). Corteva trades at an attractive valuation and has a potential catalyst from an eventual rebound in ag markets coupled with tighter focus as a standalone company.

We also purchased Berkshire Hathaway and sold AIG during the quarter. AIG was sold around breakeven from our initial purchase in mid-2015 as the turnaround catalyst from management culling premiums and the investment portfolio was offset by flat book value growth and a weak ROE. Berkshire is a company we know well, and this is not the first time we have opportunistically purchased the stock in this portfolio. With an attractive valuation and ample cash, Berkshire is well-positioned to add value over the next few years.

The top-performing and worst-performing positions during the quarter were as follows:

Security	Avg Weight	Contribution
<b>Top 5</b>		
Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.	7.83	1.68
NXP Semiconductors N.V.	9.39	1.52
Black Knight, Inc.	12.97	0.74
MSC Industrial Direct Co., Inc.	6.96	0.63
Dow Inc.	3.69	0.62
<b>Bottom 5</b>		
Berkshire Hathaway Inc. (Class B)	1.23	(0.02)
Frontdoor, Inc.	13.36	(0.32)
Markel Corporation	11.00	(0.41)
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	4.05	(0.44)
American International Group, Inc.	7.04	(0.61)

*(Contribution data shown from a sample account)*

### ABOUT CONFLUENCE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC

Confluence Investment Management is an independent Registered Investment Advisor located in St. Louis, Missouri, that provides professional portfolio management and advisory services to institutional and individual clients. Confluence's investment philosophy is based upon independent, fundamental research that integrates evaluation of market cycles, macroeconomics and geopolitical analysis with the firm's value-driven, company-specific approach. The portfolio management philosophy begins by assessing risk and follows through by positioning clients to achieve their income and growth objectives.

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## 5 Largest Holdings (as of 12/31/19)

Company	Market Capitalization (\$ billions)	Portfolio Weight
Frontdoor, Inc.	4.0	12.7%
Black Knight, Inc.	9.6	12.2%
NXP Semiconductors N.V.	35.6	9.7%
Markel Corporation	15.8	9.6%
Berkshire Hathaway Inc. (Class B)	553.8	9.5%

The listing of "5 Largest Holdings" is not a complete list of all stocks in the portfolio or which Confluence may be currently recommending. Application of the investment strategy as of a later date will likely result in changes to the listing. Sector weightings and holdings of individual client portfolios in the program may differ, sometimes significantly, from these listings. Contact Confluence for a complete list of holdings.

All investments carry a certain degree of risk, including possible loss of principal. It is important to review your investment objectives, risk tolerance and liquidity needs before choosing an investment style or manager. Equity securities are subject to market risk and may decline in value due to adverse company, industry or general economic conditions.

## Performance Composite Returns For Periods Ending 12/31/19

	Pure Gross-of-Fees <sup>1</sup>	Net-of-Fees <sup>2</sup>	S&P 500	R3000 Value	Calendar Year	Pure Gross-of-Fees <sup>1</sup>	Net-of-Fees <sup>2</sup>	S&P 500	R3000 Value	Difference (Gross-S&P500)	# of Portfolios	Composite Assets (000s)	Total Firm Assets (000s)	Composite 3yr Std Dev	S&P 500 3yr Std Dev	R3000V 3yr Std Dev	Composite Dispersion
Since Inception**	11.4%	8.2%	6.0%	7.3%	2000**	43.6%	40.7%	(11.1%)	7.3%	54.8%	1	\$74		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
					2001	1.1%	(1.7%)	(11.9%)	(4.3%)	13.0%	79	\$7,097		N/A	N/A	N/A	0.4%
15-Year*	10.7%	7.5%	9.0%	7.6%	2002	(14.8%)	(17.1%)	(22.1%)	(15.2%)	7.3%	107	\$7,786		N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9%
					2003	40.4%	36.5%	28.7%	31.1%	11.7%	126	\$23,976		25.2%	18.1%	16.0%	0.9%
10-Year*	12.7%	9.4%	13.6%	11.7%	2004	4.8%	2.0%	10.9%	16.9%	(6.1%)	189	\$25,252		20.1%	14.9%	14.8%	1.0%
					2005	4.4%	1.6%	4.9%	6.9%	(0.5%)	179	\$23,399		11.7%	9.0%	9.7%	0.8%
5-Year*	7.1%	4.0%	11.7%	8.2%	2006	27.0%	23.6%	15.8%	22.3%	11.3%	171	\$19,132		7.6%	6.8%	7.0%	1.7%
					2007	2.1%	(0.7%)	5.5%	(1.0%)	(3.4%)	197	\$20,510		8.4%	7.7%	8.3%	0.7%
3-Year*	6.2%	3.0%	15.3%	9.3%	2008	(22.3%)	(24.5%)	(37.0%)	(36.2%)	14.7%	29	\$8,299	\$291,644	18.6%	15.1%	15.5%	N/A
					2009	31.5%	27.6%	26.5%	19.8%	5.0%	37	\$14,001	\$533,832	25.2%	19.6%	21.3%	2.0%
1-Year	28.6%	24.7%	31.5%	26.2%	2010	6.9%	3.7%	15.1%	16.3%	(8.2%)	51	\$7,429	\$751,909	27.9%	21.9%	23.5%	0.7%
YTD	28.6%	24.7%	31.5%	26.2%	2011	(1.7%)	(4.6%)	2.1%	(0.1%)	(3.8%)	53	\$7,694	\$937,487	23.7%	18.7%	21.0%	0.6%
QTD	4.4%	3.6%	9.1%	7.5%	2012	28.5%	24.7%	16.0%	17.6%	12.5%	53	\$9,576	\$1,272,265	18.3%	15.1%	15.8%	0.9%
					2013	32.3%	28.3%	32.4%	32.7%	(0.1%)	76	\$18,299	\$1,955,915	13.5%	11.9%	12.9%	0.4%
					2014	31.6%	27.7%	13.7%	12.7%	17.9%	110	\$31,040	\$2,589,024	11.4%	9.0%	9.4%	0.9%
					2015	2.3%	(0.7%)	1.4%	(4.1%)	1.0%	554	\$113,587	\$3,175,419	10.8%	10.5%	10.7%	0.3%
					2016	15.4%	12.0%	12.0%	18.4%	3.4%	959	\$207,565	\$4,413,659	10.9%	10.6%	11.0%	0.5%
					2017	14.5%	11.1%	21.8%	13.2%	(7.3%)	1,737	\$359,636	\$5,944,479	9.8%	9.9%	10.3%	0.8%
					2018	(18.8%)	(21.2%)	(4.4%)	(8.6%)	(14.4%)	1,494	\$236,097	\$5,486,737	11.9%	10.8%	11.1%	0.8%
					2019	28.6%	24.7%	31.5%	26.2%	(2.9%)	1,129	\$230,991	\$7,044,708	13.6%	11.9%	12.0%	0.7%

\*Average annualized returns

\*\*Inception is 4/1/2000

### Portfolio Benchmarks

**S&P 500 Index** – A capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks. The Index is designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

**Russell 3000® Value Index** – A capitalization-weighted index designed to measure performance of those Russell 3000® Index companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values.

(Source: Bloomberg)

Confluence claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Confluence has been independently verified for the periods of 8/1/2008 through 12/31/2018. A copy of the verification report is available upon request. Verification assesses whether: 1. the firm has complied with all the composite construction requirements of the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis, and 2. the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation. The Value Opportunities Strategy was inception on April 1, 2000 and the current Value Opportunities Composite was created on August 1, 2008. Performance presented prior to August 1, 2008 occurred while the Portfolio Management Team was affiliated with a prior firm and the Portfolio Management Team members were the primary individuals responsible for selecting the securities to buy and sell. 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>1</sup> Pure gross returns are shown as supplemental information to the disclosures required by the GIPS® standards.

<sup>2</sup> Net of fee performance was calculated using the highest applicable annual bundled fee of 3.00% applied quarterly (2.75% prior to 7/1/08). This fee includes brokerage commissions, portfolio management, consulting services and custodial services. The Confluence fee schedule for this composite is as follows: 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 100% 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.

A complete list of composite descriptions is available upon request. Additional information regarding policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request. The annual composite dispersion is an equal-weighted standard deviation calculated for accounts in the composite for the entire year. The Value Opportunities Composite contains fully discretionary Value Opportunities wrap accounts. Value Opportunities is a concentrated, value-based, bottom-up portfolio that utilizes stocks from all market capitalizations with a focus on a near-term catalyst. Catalysts include reorganizations, turnarounds and other unique situations that are anticipated to come to fruition in approximately six to 18 months. This short-term investment time frame often leads to high turnover. Because of the concentrated positions, the portfolio is more susceptible to movements of any one holding. \*\*Results shown for the year 2000 represent partial period performance from April 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. 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.

Individual holding performance and contribution methodology as well as a list of every holding's contribution to the strategy can be obtained by contacting Confluence. Material is published solely for informational purposes and is not an offer to buy or sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any security or investment product. Holdings identified do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended. Information is presented as supplemental information to the disclosures required by GIPS® standards. Opinions and estimates are as of a certain date and subject to change without notice. Investment or investment services mentioned may not be suitable to an investor and the investor should seek advice from an investment professional, if applicable. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. 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. Indices: The S&P 500 Index and Russell 3000 Value Index are shown as additional information. These indices are unmanaged. 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 returns do not include any expenses, fees or sales charges, which would lower performance.