# **European Enhanced Absolute Return Fund**

#### Investment manager:

Dalton Capital (Guernsey) Limited

# **Countries of registration:**

Luxembourg, UK, France, Germany, Italy (qualified investors), Spain

Fund size: US\$ 83.3m
Base currency: Euros

Share classes: Euro, GBP, USD (all non-Euro share classes

are hedged)

# Fees:

I shares 2.00%

Performance fee: 20% of return in excess of 1 month Euribor on the I shares. Half of the performance fee is deferred and retained in the fund for a period of two years.

# Minimum investment:

1 Stidies	\$250,000 (equivalent)
Legal status:	Luxembourg SICAV with UCITS status
Fund dealing:	Daily
Dealing cut off:	14:00 CET
Benchmark:	N/A
Fund launch:	17 <sup>th</sup> December 2013

Share class:	ISIN	SEDOL
I1 EUR	LU1001509212	-
I2 USD	LU1001509485	-
I7 GBP	LU1001509568	BHFJOT9

# **Current prices/NAVs:**

I1 EUR	149.24 (€)
I2 USD	150.00 (\$)
I7 GBP	152.29 (£)

Monthly	/ returns, i	net of fee	s (EUR)*										
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2.9	-2.9
2014	3.9	2.2	-0.9	-1.2	1.8	-1.4	1.0	1.8	1.8	1.2	-2.5	2.4	10.2

%	1 month	3 months	YTD	1 year	3 years	5 years	inception
Fund	2.43	1.04	10.22	10.22	-	-	6.99
<b>%*</b>			31.12.14 31.12.13	31.12.13 31.12.12	31.12.12 31.12.11	31.12.11 31.12.10	31.12.10 31.12.09
Fund			10.2	-	-	-	-

Source: Morningstar Direct. Performance to 31 December 2014.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns; the growth rate is sensitive to currency fluctuations in EUR. Performance has been provided net of fees for the I1-EUR share class. All performance data is in Euros, the fund's base-currency.

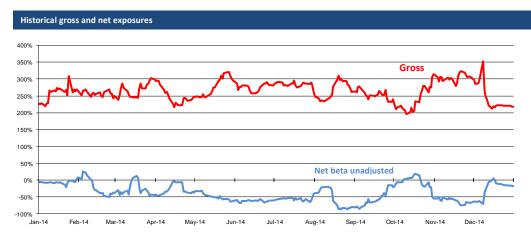
\*The standardised past performance information is updated on a quarterly basis. As the I1-EUR share class was launched less than five years ago, data is not available for all periods.

Sector exposure	Long %	Short %	Gross %	Net %	Country exposure	Long %	Short %	Gross %	Net %
Consumer Disc.	22.2	-23.3	45.5	-1.2	Britain	33.5	-28.0	61.5	5.5
Consumer Staples	10.7	-17.0	27.7	-6.3	Denmark	8.9	0.0	8.9	8.9
Energy	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	Finland	0.0	-9.3	9.3	-9.3
Financials	19.1	-16.0	35.1	3.1	France	10.7	-14.3	25.1	-3.6
Futures	0.0	-5.9	5.9	-5.9	Germany	18.5	-17.3	35.8	1.2
Healthcare	5.6	-3.9	9.5	1.7	Ireland	9.5	0.0	9.5	9.5
Industrials	18.4	-31.4	49.9	-13.0	Italy	5.6	0.0	5.6	5.6
Materials	17.2	-10.5	27.7	6.6	Luxembourg	0.0	-3.1	3.1	-3.1
Tech	3.5	-7.5	11.0	-3.9	Norway	0.0	-10.9	10.9	-10.9
Utilities	1.5	-2.6	4.1	-1.0	Spain	5.8	0.0	5.8	5.8
					Sweden	3.2	-8.2	11.4	-5.0
					Switzerland	4.5	-21.1	25.7	-16.6
					US	0.0	-5.9	5.9	-5.9
Totals	100.2	-118.1	218.3	-17.9	Totals	100.2	-118.1	218.3	-17.9

Source: Dalton Strategic Partnership LLP, as at 31 December 2014. Month-end data. "Country exposure" includes the effect of futures contracts relating to each country.

Top 10 holdings (long portfolio)	Exposure	Market cap exposure	Long	Short	Gross	Net	
Top 10 Holdings (long portions)	%	iviai ket cap exposure	%	%	%	%	
PANDORA A/S	8.9	Large (> €5bn)	71.9	-75.7	147.6	-3.8	
LINDE AG	6.8	Mid (€1bn - €5bn)	28.3	-42.5	70.8	-14.1	
KERRY GROUP PLC-A	6.5	Small (€0.2bn - €1bn)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
FINECOBANK SPA	5.6	Micro (< €0.2bn) 0.0			0.0	0.0	
BABCOCK INTL GROUP PLC	4.7	Portfolio exposure					
CLARIANT AG-REG	4.5	Portiono exposure					
BARCLAYS PLC	4.2	Largest single equity long (%)					
RECKITT BENCKISER GROUP PLC	4.2	No. of long positions		28			
DIXONS CARPHONE PLC	4.2	Largest single equity sho		-8.49			
EURONEXT NV - W/I	3.9	No. of short positions				33	

Source: Dalton Strategic Partnership, as at 31 December 2014. Month-end data.



Source: Dalton Strategic Partnership LLP, as at 31 December 2014.

# **Melchior Selected Trust**

# **European Enhanced Absolute Return Fund**

# Results to 31 December 2014 www.daltonsp.com

#### Fund manager:



#### **Leonard Charlton**

Leonard Charlton, Partner, has experience in trading and investment dating back to 1998. He started his career as an equity trader for Goldman Sachs before moving to GLG in 2003, where he was Co-Manager of the GLG European Opportunity Fund. He joined Dalton Strategic Partnership in 2006 to launch the Melchior European Absolute Return Strategy.

Leonard holds a BSc in Management Science from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

#### Risk warning:

Investors should carefully consider the usual risks of investing and participating in listed and unlisted securities.

For more information please consult the current fund and share class specific Key Investor Information Document (KIID) and for a complete set of risks please refer to "VIII: General Risk

Considerations", which can be found on pages 21-27 of the current prospectus.

# Contact us:

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# Management company:

Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management, Luxembourg

# Administrator/custodian:

Edmond de Rothschild Europe, Luxembourg

# **Further information:**

Please refer to <a href="www.edmond-de-rothschild.eu">www.edmond-de-rothschild.eu</a> for application forms, prospectus, financial reports, Key Investor Information Documents and historical NAVs (under "NAV centre" look under "Melchior Selected Trust").

# Investment objective

The Fund is a pan-European all cap equity long / short fund which combines a fundamental approach to stock selection with an active trading overlay.

- The Fund is designed to achieve consistent positive absolute returns, irrespective of market conditions.
- The team pursues this objective by taking 40-60 long and short positions in listed European equities.
- The returns are intended to have a low correlation to equity, bond or cash markets.

# Strategy highlights

Anyone expecting the usual Santa rally into year-end was made to endure an uncomfortable December. The volatility that picked up in October returned in December across a number of asset classes and currencies. In Europe, equity markets fell by -8% in little more than a week before rallying to close with a decline of -1.9%. Meanwhile, crude continued to plunge, with Brent falling another US\$13 in the month to just over US\$57/barrel. This played havoc with petrodollar currencies, which weakened dramatically. At one point the Russian ruble lost a further 40% of its value against the US dollar, before the central bank raised interest rates to 17% to staunch the flow. Buoyed by data that showed the US grew at an annualised rate of +5% in the third quarter, the US dollar continued to strengthen on all fronts, having risen by +13% on a trade-weighted basis in the second half of the year.

While fears of financial instability in petrodollar economies was one source of volatility in European equities, renewed political instability closer to home in Greece was another. The failure of the Samaras government to secure the election of its presidential candidate triggered a general election which is scheduled for 25 January. With the left-wing opposition Syriza ahead in the polls and committed to re-negotiating with the Troika, Greek bond yields rose back towards 10%. However, contrary to the Greek showdown in 2012, the lack of contagion in eurozone government bond markets was notable. Bond yields in Spain and Italy continued to fall in December; remarkably, their respective 10-year bonds closed the year yielding 1.6% and 1.9%, having started 2014 well above 4%. Such is confidence in Mr Draghi, with sovereign bond QE widely expected as early as the first ECB meeting in January. The oil price is accelerating the eurozone's slide into deflation, with preliminary figures suggesting that headline inflation fell in December for the first time since 2009. Comments from a number of ECB board members did little to allay the prospect of full QE, even with the added uncertainty of the Greek election taking place only a few days after the ECB next meets.

The fund finished the month up 1.3% net of fees to finish the year up 5.5%. A number of pain points in the short book last month reversed to bolster monthly performance. Tactical movement in the fund's net position from a large net short position at the start of the month, as tail risk increased with the impending Greek election, to a neutral position in to month end also contributed.

As 2015 begins, we expect the year ahead to be classified by heightened volatility with divergent approaches by US and European central banks vis a vis withdrawing and initiating quantitative easing. Elections in the UK, Spain and Greece are also likely to heighten the risk environment.

In December there was supportive evidence for investment theses in the long book. Stock exchange Euronext (+60bps) reported strong monthly trading volumes, as it benefits from rising market volatility which will drive revenue at the same time that it is delivering on a large cost savings programme. Ryanair (+38bps) raised its full year profit guidance on the back of a stronger start to the Winter season; November capacity growth of 13% was accompanied by a load factor increase of 7% points, demonstrating the performance of new business routes and brand improvement. Dixons Carphone (+38bps) had a strong results release with a 26% beat to operating profit and notably strong like for like revenue performance in UK of 11% growth. The biggest detractor was oil company ENI (-42bps) which was under pressure due to its high sensitivity to the oil price.

The short book benefited from a collapse in merger talks in the oil services space (+121bps); we saw very little rationale for the deal given the high price and limited synergies. A short position in an internet stock (+50bps) gave back some of the prior month's gains and we think the valuation is still well above what is justified by fundamentals. A short position in an auto supplier (-63bps) held back performance on a positive order announcement, but with the share price move greater than the financial impact of the order and a risk to group margins, we continue to stay short.

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