# **Merrill Lynch MLCX Commodity Alpha Fund**

# Bank of America 🧼 **Merrill Lynch**

**UCITS Luxemborg Fund** 

Monthly Factsheets for Institutional Investors only - 29 Feb 2016

USD B-5 Strategy: Market Neutral Commodities Total Return

Launch Date: 09.09.2010

NAV per share1: \$122.41 Monthly Performance<sup>1</sup>: 3.13% Launch to Date1: 22,41%

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The MLCX Alpha F5 Total Return Index ("MLCXAF5 Index") was designed by BofA ML Commodity Research as a broad-based, UCITS IV compliant commodity index providing a market neutral exposure to commodity markets. The MLCX Alpha F5 Total Return Index is a Long - Short index replicating the outperformance of the MLCXA01 Index over the DJUBS Index on a five times leveraged basis. The MLCXAF5 Index is designed to meet the requirements set by the UCITS Directives. Under UCITS IV rules, investing in a commodity futures index is permitted as long as each sector component of the index does not exceed 20%, although one sector may represent up to 35% of the broad index.

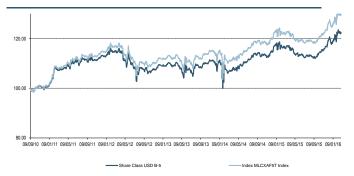
The MLCXAF5 Index is five times leveraged meaning that its level increases by five times the outperformance of the MLCXA01 Index compared to the DJUBS Index and increases by five times the underperformance of the MLCXA01 Index compared to the DJUBS Index. Certain share classes have reduced participation in the MLCXAF5 Index meaning that these share classes are less than five times exposed on a net basis to the MLCXA01 vs DJ UBS strategy. The Fund offers investment opportunities through three different share classes (Alpha 1, Alpha 3, Alpha 5), each tracking a Reference Index linked to the performance of MLCXAF5 strategy as follows:

Each of the Reference Indices is calculated on a "total return after costs" basis using : 1) the daily performance of the MLCXAF5 Long - Short strategy on an "excess return before cost" basis, 2) multiplied by the relevant Participation Level, 3) decreased of the relevant daily roll costs, 4) compounded by the daily interest rate

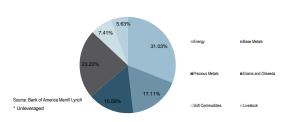
#### FUND DESCRIPTION

The MLCXAF5 Index is a rule-driven Long - Short commodity Index published on Bloomberg. The commodities and respective weights included in the long portfolio (MLCXA01 Index) are the same as the ones in the short portfolio (DJUBS Index). The MLCXA01 Index has been designed to optimise the rolling returns versus other commodity indices of the same type. Instead of rolling futures contracts in a conventional front to second or third month roll schedule over a five-day window, the MLCXA01 rolls with an enhanced mechanism that considers roll window and curve placement in order to produce alpha

### HISTORICAL DAILY PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH DATE



## INDEX COMPOSITION - MLCXAF 5 2016 TARGET WEIGHTS\*



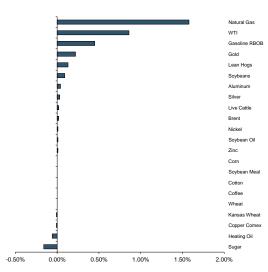
MONTHLY REVIEW MLCX Commodity Alpha per formed well in February (up by +3.23%) while the Bloomberg Commodities TR Index was down by -1.63%.

The good performance of the strategy was driven mainly by Natural Gas (which contributed 1.58% to the strategy) and WTI (+0.86% contribution). Very few commodities posted a negative curve alpha performance through the month as the only draggers were Sugar (-0.16%) and Heating Oil (-0.06%).

Natural Gas Curve Alpha was up with prices overall moving considerably lower through February (Natural Gas prices front month contract prices fell steadily by -25,54% through the month). As a consequence the contange in the front of the curve stepened which lead to the good performance of Natural Gas curve alpha (for example April to July contango moved from \$12e\$ to \$28e). Nat gas inventories now stand 2.8% above the 5 years maximum for the same period. So far in this winter we only had one draw that was bigger than the 5 year average as the weather turned warm and curbed heating demand virtually across the entire US, especially in December.

Similar story on the WTI side. Even if prices overall moved higher through the month, the intense built in inventories through the month led the contango in the front of the curve to sleepen. Focusing on inventories, the Department of Energy (DOE) reported that Crude stocks built +3% from a month ago levels ( total 15.2 mm bibs built this month vs total expectations of 11 mm bib) and stand at +17% above year ago levels. Cushing stocks also built significantly at the end of the month, standing now at a new record high of 66.3 mn bbls (+30.5% above the 5 years maximum level for the same period and +3.2% higher than a month ago levels). We believe inventory levels at Cushing are only few million barrels away from maximum capacity.

#### Performance Attribution



1. The performance figures contained here in are net of fees. The returns shown are based on the USD B-5 Class's monthly returns as a whole and not the returns experienced by any particular investor (which are affected by a number of factors, including the timing of subscriptions and redemptions and the fee management applicable to a particular investor).

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USD B-5 Strategy: Market Neutral Commodities Total Return  Launch Date: 0  SHARE CLASS VALUATION				aunch Date: 09.09.2010 NAV		NAV per share <sup>1</sup> : \$122.41 M		onthly Performance <sup>1</sup> : 3.13%		Launch to Date <sup>1</sup> : 22.41%			
							Institutional Class	es	ISIN	В	3G	SEDOL	NAV
							EUR B-5 (Alpha 5)		LU1057468578	MLMC	A04 LX	BLRZXV6	121.13
							USD B-5 (Alpha 5)		LU1057469113	MLMC	A06 LX	BLRZXW7	122.41
							GBP B-5 (Alpha 5)		LU1057468909	MLMC	A05 LX	BLRZXX8	123.61
HISTORIC	CAL MONTHL	Y RETURN <sup>1 -</sup> I	USD B-5 (Alp	ha 5)			EUR E-5 (Alpha 5)		LU1362390079	MLMC		0	100.24
	Annual Return	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	3.32%	0.19%	3.13%										
2015	0.92%	-0.02%	-0.88%	0.76%	-2.58%	-1.27%	0.24%	0.12%	-0.36%	0.04%	2.18%	1.42%	1.34%
2014	6.69%	-4.84%	1.27%	1.10%	-0.05%	1.64%	1.26%	2.05%	0.79%	-0.34%	0.05%	0.79%	2.98%

-5.11%

1.60%

0.98% Source: Bank of America Merrill Lynch

-4.61%

11.88%

1.58%

-0.18%

3.72%

1.35%

-0.10%

-4.20%

0.84%

3.17%

1.35%

2013 2012

2011

2010

## **FUND CHARACTERISTICS**

	ALPHA 5	
Base Currency	USD	
Total Fund Size	\$ 21,611,072.83	
Subscription / Redemption Frequency	Daily	
Subscription / Redemption Notice	T-1, 17:00 Luxembourg Time	
NAV Publication	Daily	
Minimum Investment Size <sup>2</sup>	\$ 1,000,000	
Initial Sales Charge <sup>2</sup>	None	
Investment Management Fee <sup>2</sup>	0.85% p.a.	
Administrative and Operating Fee <sup>2</sup>	0.15% p.a.	
Total Expense Ratio <sup>2</sup>	1.00% p.a.	
Listing	None	

### STATISTICS1

	Alpha 5	MLCXAF5T	
Volatility	7.36%	7.38%	
Alpha 5 Correlation to		99.93%	

Since Launch Date, Source: Bank of America Merrill Lynch refers to USD B-5 share class

0.75%

-2.83%

0.38%

0.34%

1.86%

0.80%

1.36%

-0.59%

0.61%

-1.30%

0.60%

0.16%

-0.66%

1.11%

0.58%

0.07%

-0.83%

0.59%

0.70%

0.53%

## **FUND MANAGEMENT**

. 0.12 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.				
Investment Manager	CM Investment Soultions Limited			
Sponsor	Merrill Lynch International			
Auditor	PricewaterhouseCoopers			
Custodian	State Street Bank Luxembourg S.C.A			
Administrator	State Street Bank Luxembourg S.C.A			
Transfer Agent	State Street Bank Luxembourg S.C.A			

1. The performance figures contained here in are net of fees. The returns shown are based on the USD B-5 Class's monthly returns as a whole and not the returns experienced by any particular investor (which are affected by a number of factors, including the timing of 2. Refers to Institutional share classes.

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