

# MULTI-ASSET GROWTH STRATEGY FUND

## Money Manager and Russell Investments Overview



### Russell Investments' approach

Russell Investments uses a multi-asset approach to investing, combining asset allocation, manager selection and dynamic portfolio management in its investment portfolios. Using this approach as a framework for mutual fund construction, we research, monitor, hire and terminate (subject to Fund Board approval) money managers from around the world and strategically allocate fund assets to them. We oversee all investment advisory services to the Fund and manage assets not allocated to money managers.

### The Fund

The Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund seeks to provide long term total return with lower volatility than equity markets. In an effort to provide equity-like total return over a market cycle while mitigating downside risk and volatility relative to equities, Russell Investments allocates the Fund's assets across a broad range of instruments, asset classes and strategies.

The Fund's performance benchmark is the Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Composite Index, which consists of 20% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index; 20% ICE BofA Global High Yield Index; 55% MSCI ACWI Index; and 5% FTSE EPRA Nareit Global Index<sup>§</sup>. The Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Composite Index provides a means to compare the Fund's average annual returns to a benchmark that is more representative of the investment strategies pursued by the Fund.

### Russell Investments portfolio manager

Rob Balkema, Senior Director, Head of Multi-Asset, North America has primary responsibility for the management of the Fund. Mr. Balkema has managed the Fund since March 2017.

### The portfolio manager's role

The Russell Investments portfolio manager is responsible for identifying and selecting the strategies and money managers included in the Fund and determining the weight for each assignment. The portfolio manager manages the Fund on a daily basis to help keep it on track, constantly monitoring risk and return expectations at the total fund level and making changes when deemed appropriate and/or necessary. Multiple resources from across the firm are used to help determine what is believed to be the best combination of managers and strategies. Manager research and capital markets research are just some of the tools at the portfolio manager's disposal to help identify opportunities and manage risk.

Not a Deposit. Not FDIC Insured. May Lose Value. Not Bank Guaranteed. Not Insured by any Federal Government Agency.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Target Allocation of Fund Assets and Managers and Strategies Summary

The percentages below represent the target allocation of the Fund's assets to each money manager's strategy and Russell Investment Management, LLC's ("RIM") strategy. RIM may change a Fund's asset allocation at any time, including not allocating Fund assets to one or more money manager strategies.

FIRM NAME	TARGET ALLOCATION	INVESTMENT FOCUS	ROLE	DETAILS OF FUND ROLE
Berenberg Asset Management LLC*	4.0%	Berenberg's research driven process is based on pure, bottom-up fundamental stock selection.	European equity	Berenberg focuses on high quality businesses, structural growth drivers, single stock analysis and high conviction ideas. The emphasis does not vary over time, since the fund follows a disciplined execution of their demonstrated investment approach.
Boston Partners Global Investors, Inc.	3.6%	Uses fundamental research to identify small cap companies selling at attractive valuations with near-term revenue-based catalysts.	U.S. small cap equity	Boston Partners pursues small cap companies they believe are on the cusp of positive change at attractive valuations. The team seeks to exploit market anomalies through identifying what is believed to be under-appreciated companies and has the ability to mitigate opportunity cost by successfully identifying timely revenue-based catalysts and managing position sizes accordingly.
Calamos Advisors LLC*	2.0%	Seeks to identify companies it expects will have high earnings and revenue growth in the near term, experience positive earnings surprises and revisions, and experience positive market sentiment (momentum).	Small cap growth	Calamos brings dedicated earnings momentum and growth exposure to the Fund.
Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. <sup>1*</sup>	4.7%	Seeks company mis-pricings relative to net asset value and dividend discount model estimates.	Global real estate securities	Seeks company mis-pricings relative to net asset value and dividend discount model estimates.
First Sentier Investors (Australia) IM Ltd*	2.0%	Has a fundamental, bottom-up orientation. The firm uses a slight GARP (growth at a reasonable price) approach and possesses a more concentrated portfolio profile than many other global listed infrastructure managers.	Global listed infrastructure	First Sentier's strategy emphasizes bottom-up security selection, and the portfolio strikes a balance between concentration and exposure to the full range of infrastructure categories.
Hermes Investment Management Limited	9.50%	Combines top-down analysis and bottom-up security selection to identify sources of risk and opportunity in the global high yield market. They seek to identify relative value opportunities in capital structures with attractive credit risks.	High yield debt	Hermes strategy applies a global and flexible approach to seek relative value opportunities in the global high yield market. Unlike many global high yield managers who have a home country bias, Hermes takes an unbiased approach in regional allocation and considers emerging market investments as part of their investment opportunity set.
Intermede Investment Partners and Intermede Global Partners Inc.*	4.2%	Uses a growth-at-a-reasonable-price (GARP) strategy that focuses on stock selection and emphasizes attractively valued positions in high growth companies.	Global equity	Intermede focuses on stocks that are secular growers with some aspect of new innovation that the market has yet to price in, and looks for good top line growth and earnings growth, ideally with attractive return on equity, further margin expansion potential and strong free cash flow.
Kopernik Global Investors, LLC*	2.9%	Uses a bottom-up, deep fundamental analysis to gain a thorough, forward-looking understanding of a company's business and valuation.	Global equity	Kopernik is a long-term investment firm with differentiated insights that brings diverse sources of potential alpha from sectors and regions that are not heavily invested in by other managers in the Fund.

<sup>1</sup>Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. refers to Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc., Cohen & Steers UK Limited and Cohen & Steers Asia Limited.

\*Indicated managers are non-discretionary managers. RIM manages these portions of the fund's assets based upon model portfolios provided by the managers.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

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FIRM NAME	TARGET ALLOCATION	INVESTMENT FOCUS	ROLE	DETAILS OF FUND ROLE
Man Investments Australia Limited*	3.7%	The team uses a combination of top down and bottom up concentrated risk-taking with the stated objective of alpha or excess return through the economic cycle. Most of the risk relative to the MSCI AC Asia (ex-Japan) index and the majority of returns is expected to be achieved through idiosyncratic, stock specific risk-taking.	Asia ex Japan	Man AU's objective is to provide capital growth (net of fees) over the medium to long-term (3 to 5 year rolling periods). The strategy is unconstrained, flexible, and broadly style agnostic. Strategy's lead portfolio manager brings wealth of experience combining both macro as well as bottom-up views to deliver alpha; This distinctive proposition brings low correlations existing line-up of active managers.
Marathon Asset Management, L.P.	5.0%	Marathon provides an emerging market benchmark aware product that seeks to generate excess returns through off-index credit selection.	Emerging market bond	Marathon specializes in hard currency emerging market debt including corporates, sovereigns and quasi-sovereign issues.
MFS Institutional Advisors Inc.*	4.4%	Has a diversified approach to value investing targeting three types of value: out-of-favor compounders, turnarounds, and deep value.	Global equity	MFS' investment strategy is a diversified approach to value investing targeting three types of value: out-of-favor compounders, turnarounds, and deep value. The strategy will hold a diverse set of contrarian value opportunities including restructuring stories, out-of-favor compounders, and deep value cyclicals.
Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC	10.0%	Oaktree brings a distinctive, niche high yield convertible debt strategy with a "buy low, sell high" mentality—seeking to identify convertible debt securities that are trading below their investment value yet still offer potential equity upside.	High Income	Oaktree brings a high yield convertibles strategy to the Fund with a focus on 'busted convertibles', which are issues that trade below par because of a short-term headwind for the company or their market. The strategy seeks to deliver excess returns relative to the high yield markets, especially in down markets.
Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC*	3.3%	Oaktree uses a bottom-up, research-based investing approach for this mandate. The focus is on identifying undervalued companies across the universe without a persistent bias to either quality companies or cyclical turnaround stocks. A strong sense for market dynamics provides an added element to the stock driven process.	Emerging Markets	Oaktree's emerging markets approach gives them flexibility to invest in stocks that look attractive in a relative sense at any given point in the market cycle, without being constrained by a stated investment style, bringing a market-oriented, emerging markets exposure to the Fund.
RWC Asset Advisors (US) LLC*	2.3%	Has a growth-seeking, valuation-sensitive strategy that combines both thematic top-down investment research and strong bottom-up security selection.	Emerging markets	RWC's emerging markets strategy follows both a top-down and bottom-up analysis process, allowing the team to identify broad themes that are followed through with stock selection. RWC invests in quality growth companies that it expects will benefit from a sustainable, advantageous market positioning and strong balance sheets.
Sompo Asset Management Co., Ltd*	3.0%	Uses bottom-up fundamental analysis to seek to identify and capture price anomalies created by a market that often overreacts to short-term events.	Japan equity	Sompo's valuation bias will give the Fund access to Japan equity—which Russell Investments believes is an inefficient area of the market relative to other markets like U.S. large cap.
PineStone Asset Management Inc.* <sup>2</sup>	4.4%	Focuses on identifying growth companies with high returns and supportive intrinsic valuations seeking to identify companies that have a strong and sustainable competitive advantage in industries with high barriers to entry.	Global equity	PineStone's quality bias will give the Fund access to stable growth equities with limited earnings variability and supportive intrinsic valuations. Investments are based on company-specific research insights, with an aim to invest in companies with minimal probability of capital impairment.

\*Indicated managers are non-discretionary managers. RIM manages these portions of the fund's assets based upon model portfolios provided by the managers.

<sup>2</sup>Formerly StonePine Asset Management Inc.

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The percentages below represent the target allocation of the Fund’s assets to each money manager’s strategy and Russell Investment Management, LLC’s (“RIM”) strategy. RIM may change a Fund’s asset allocation at any time, including not allocating Fund assets to one or more money manager strategies.

FIRM NAME	TARGET ALLOCATION	INVESTMENT FOCUS	ROLE	DETAILS OF FUND ROLE
Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM)**	31.0%	The active positioning strategy in this Fund allows the Russell Investments Portfolio Manager to express views across multiple factors and risk exposures simultaneously while regularly adapting to changing markets and manager allocations. The strategy is used to target desired total portfolio positioning and can be adjusted as needed by the Portfolio Manager.	Positioning Strategies and Cash Reserves	RIM oversees all investment advisory services to the Fund and manages assets not allocated to money managers. This includes the Fund’s positioning strategies, which help the Fund to achieve its desired risk/return profile. RIM also manages the Fund’s liquidity reserve.

\*\*RIM manages Fund assets not allocated to money manager strategies by utilizing quantitative and/or rules-based processes and qualitative analysis to assess Fund characteristics and invest in securities and instruments, which provide the desired overall Fund exposures. RIM also manages the Fund’s cash balances and cash reserves. RIM generally seeks to obtain market exposure for this cash that corresponds to the Fund’s benchmark exposures, but RIM may also reduce the Fund’s market exposure and/or utilize the Fund’s liquidity reserve to manage overall Fund exposures.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Berenberg Asset Management LLC

### Firm background

Berenberg Asset Management LLC (Berenberg) is part of Berenberg Bank, the world's oldest merchant bank based in Hamburg. Berenberg provides quantitative investment strategies to institutional investors like insurers, pension funds, banks and foundations.

**Headquarters:** Hamburg, Germany

**Founded:** 1590

**Lead manager:** Matthias Born

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**Asset class:** European equity

**Number of holdings:** Approximately 50

### Manager profile

Berenberg Asset Management LLC was added to the Fund in June of 2020. The strategy is led by Matthias Born who is the lead portfolio manager and decision-maker.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Berenberg provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Berenberg's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Berenberg, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Berenberg.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Berenberg brings a European all-cap equity strategy to the Fund. They believe that inefficiencies exist in our universe and can be exploited by concentrating on long term fundamental investing with a disciplined approach. Their strategy follows a quality-growth approach predicated upon fundamentally selecting companies whose competitive advantages are expected to allow them to compound growth for longer and at higher rates than average market participants expect. They focus on quality companies with strong balance sheets and solid business models.

### Investment process

Fundamental single stock selection ("bottom-up approach") is at the center of their investment process. Top-down trends are considered when estimating the attractiveness of single stocks but are not a decision criterion by itself. Berenberg's management uses proprietary, independent research with close contact to top management and is independent from any benchmark.

This historically results in a high active share. With a long-term investment horizon, the management aims to identify structural and sustainable growth drivers. Berenberg believes that fundamental criteria explain stock returns significantly better over a long-time horizon. Berenberg focuses on high-quality businesses, structural growth drivers, single stock analysis and high conviction ideas. The emphasis does not vary over time, since the strategy follows a disciplined execution of their demonstrated investment approach.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments believes that Berenberg's portfolio is impeccably crafted for up and down markets because their investment mix is made not only of defensive businesses, but also quality cyclicals and high growers. The strategy takes a long-term investment horizon, remaining true to style ("Quality Growth") throughout all market conditions. The strategy seeks to benefit from the long-term rewards of compounding, when growth firms reinvest their cash flows in their business at high returns.

Russell Investments views Matthias Born as an experienced investor with incredible knowledge and insights. At Berenberg, he is the sole decision maker and possesses final say both on portfolio construction and research. The team has a well-established set of investment beliefs and a process that has demonstrated efficacy.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Boston Partners Global Investors, Inc.

### Firm background

Boston Partners Global Investors, Inc. is an SEC-registered investment adviser consisting of three investment divisions: Boston Partners, Weiss, Peck & Greer, and Redwood, each offering distinctive investment capabilities.

**Headquarters:** Boston, MA

**Founded:** 1995

**Lead manager:** Eric Gandhi, CFA

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**Asset class:** U.S. equity

**Number of holdings:** 80-120

### Manager profile

Boston Partners Global Investors, Inc. (Boston Partners) was added as a non-discretionary manager to the Fund in December 2017. In this capacity, Boston Partners provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC representing its investment recommendations, based upon which Russell Investments purchases and sells securities for the Fund. Russell Investments may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Boston Partners for purposes of minimizing transaction costs, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Boston Partners. This strategy is primarily led by Eric Gandhi, who is backed by a skilled investment team whose members have worked together since 2012.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Boston Partners pursues small cap companies they believe are on the cusp of positive change at attractive valuations. The team seeks to exploit market anomalies through identifying what is believed to be under-appreciated companies. Russell Investments believes Boston Partners has the ability to mitigate opportunity cost by successfully identifying timely revenue-based catalysts and managing position sizes accordingly.

### Investment process

Boston Partners focuses on finding undervalued, quality companies in value sectors. Boston Partners believes that hands-on, proprietary fundamental research can uncover undervalued companies in value sectors to seek to achieve long-term returns. The team meets with 600+ companies each year to fully understand their business strategy, the strength of leadership, and the company's products, markets and customers.

Boston Partners seeks companies that are experiencing above-average and increasing levels of return on invested capital as well as those that are priced below normalized historical valuations. The team prefers to identify timely revenue-based catalysts, but will invest early given conviction in long term prospects, valuation, and potential for downside risk management. Idea generation is strong with a significant number of new ideas coming from company meetings and the team's existing network of industry contacts.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments believes a key driver of Boston Partners' success is attributable to the involvement of portfolio manager Eric Gandhi, who has demonstrated skill in identifying fundamental catalysts to capture the best ideas to drive stock selection in the portfolio. The Boston Partners team has cultivated an autonomous and performance-oriented culture that Russell Investments finds appealing.

Boston Partners' strategy is a deep value approach to picking small cap securities. This tends to have a contrarian flavor so market environments that favor higher momentum and growth stocks will tend to be a challenge for this manager. Boston Partners is expected to perform better in market environments that favor value stocks.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Calamos Advisors LLC

### Firm background

Calamos Advisors is a registered investment adviser offering a broad mix of investment strategies, including the Milwaukee-based Timpani team which is focused exclusively on small to midcap cap growth investing.

**Headquarters:** Naperville, IL

**Founded:** 1977

**Lead manager:** Brandon Nelson

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**Asset class:** Small Cap Growth

**Number of holdings:** Approximately 100

### Manager profile

Calamos Advisors LLC (Calamos) was added to the Fund in 2024. Brandon Nelson, co-founder of the predecessor firm Timpani Capital Management LLC, leads the strategy used in the Fund.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Calamos provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Calamos' investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Calamos, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Calamos.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Calamos has a differentiated small cap growth strategy and diverse approach, offering low correlation to other strategies in the Fund. Russell Investments believes Calamos provides diversification in the form of a more dynamic, small cap and momentum-based strategy.

### Investment process

Calamos seeks to identify companies it expects will have high earnings and revenue growth in the near term, experience positive earnings surprises and revisions, and experience positive market sentiment (momentum). The team seeks to take advantage of the behavioral inefficiencies created from overreactions by investors to changes in earnings. The process favors stocks with positive revisions to earnings, sales, and operating margins, and strong cash flow and limited debt to fund growth. We believe that the simplicity and objectivity of this approach is an advantage for Calamos. In addition, Nelson has considerable experience executing the process, providing him with a strong understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of high momentum investing.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Brandon Nelson managed a similar product at previous firms before his 2008 founding of Timpani, which was acquired by Calamos in 2019. Russell Investments has followed Nelson since 2005. The team dynamics are very collegial, and the entire team is committed to the investment philosophy and process, which is exclusively focused on small to midcap growth investing. Russell Investments views these attributes as highly conducive to investment team stability and a clear alignment of long-term performance incentives between the investment professionals and clients.

Russell Investments believes Calamos provides reliable earnings momentum exposure and its strategy is expected to benefit from environments rewarding high relative strength and forecasted growth. Calamos may struggle in markets led by dividend yield.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc.†

### Firm background

Founded by Martin Cohen and Robert Steers, Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. was the first U.S. investment advisor to specialize in listed real estate. Today, the firm is an independent asset manager listed on the New York Stock Exchange (ticker: CNS). Cohen & Steers serves institutional and individual clients around the world through a broad range of strategies and vehicles.

**Headquarters:** New York, NY

**Founded:** 1986

**Lead manager:** Jon Cheigh

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**Asset class:** Real estate securities

**Number of holdings:** 75-125

### Manager profile

Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. (Cohen & Steers) was added to the Fund at its launch in 2017. The mandate for this Fund is managed by Jon Cheigh.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Cohen & Steers provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Cohen & Steers' investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Cohen & Steers, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Cohen & Steers.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Cohen & Steers performs sophisticated qualitative and quantitative stock valuation and cash flow forecasts which drive stock selection decisions. This bottom-up stock selection is performed regionally and combined with top-down country/regional allocation decisions.

### Investment process

Cohen & Steers' global strategy invests in a portfolio of companies the firm believes are mispriced relative to their net asset value and dividend discount model estimates. When generating estimates, the firm utilizes standardized valuation methodologies in order to compare valuations across sectors and markets on a relative basis. Russell Investments believes the firm's process can potentially result in attractive and consistent long-term returns.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments believes Cohen & Steers can generate potential excess returns through a combination of bottom-up stock selection in each region and top-down country/regional allocation decisions.

The breadth and depth of the investment staff at Cohen & Steers is a key element of Russell Investments overall evaluation of the firm. Each analyst covers a relatively few number of companies and therefore is able to perform sophisticated qualitative and quantitative assessments that are synthesized into the valuation and cash flow forecasts that are critical to the stock selection decision.

†Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc. refers to Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc., Cohen & Steers UK Limited and Cohen & Steers Asia Limited.



# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## First Sentier Investors (Australia) IM Ltd.

### Firm background

First Sentier Investors (Australia) IM Ltd. (aka First Sentier) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

**Headquarters:** Sydney, Australia

**Founded:** 1988. Parent company, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, traces its history to 1871.

**Lead managers:** Peter Meany and Andrew Greenup

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**Asset class:** Listed infrastructure

**Number of holdings:** 30-70

### Manager profile

First Sentier Investors (Australia) IM Ltd. (aka First Sentier) was added to the Fund at its launch in 2017. The firm's infrastructure team was established in January 2007 with Peter Meany as Head of Global Listed Infrastructure. Andrew Greenup joined as Portfolio Manager in April 2007.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, First Sentier provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing First Sentier's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by First Sentier, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by First Sentier.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Russell Investments believes the key differentiator for First Sentier's strategy is the quality of the security selection process. The First Sentier listed infrastructure strategy invests in opportunities across a wide range of sectors and geographies. The strategy includes pure-play infrastructure sectors such as toll roads, airports, ports, energy, rail, communications and utilities.

### Investment process

First Sentier is a "pure-play" infrastructure manager with a slight GARP (growth at a reasonable price) approach, relative to other managers in the Fund. "Pure-play" refers to the firm's preference for stocks that fit a strict definition of infrastructure. These companies are expected to generate steady cash flows derived from long-lived assets with a high degree of regulation or monopolistic positioning. The firm has a fundamental, bottom-up orientation.

The process overlays a fundamental relative value philosophy with an extensive qualitative risk evaluation component, seeking to generate a portfolio of high-quality companies with attractive growth prospects. The process is founded primarily on bottom-up, fundamental company research.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

The firm's investment team has 10 dedicated professionals. Co-portfolio managers Peter Meany and Andrew Greenup have over 50 years combined industry experience, and the team's average investment experience is more than 10 years. The team has complementary backgrounds, including consulting, direct property and infrastructure, actuarial, regulatory, and global equities, in addition to buy and sell-side infrastructure securities.

While the strategy has performed well in different market environments due to a balanced process featuring quality, value, and growth considerations, Russell Investments believes it will fare best in periods in which regulated utilities and transportation companies outperform mega-cap diversified utilities and higher-beta energy companies. Russell Investments believes First Sentier's strategy may underperform in environments where value leads growth.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Hermes Investment Management Limited

### Firm background

Hermes Investment Management Limited offers actively managed public and private markets solutions to investors across the world—ranging from institutions to private investors. They are owned by BT Pension Scheme, one of UK's largest corporate pension schemes.

**Headquarters:** London, UK

**Founded:** 1983

**Lead manager:** Fraser Lundie

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**Asset class:** Fixed income

**Number of holdings:** 80-90

### Manager profile

Hermes Investment Management Limited (Hermes) was added as a discretionary manager to the Fund at its launch in 2017. The credit team at Hermes is co-headed by Fraser Lundie and Mitch Reznick. Fraser Lundie is the lead manager of the strategy, while Mitch Reznick heads up the credit research team.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Hermes' strategy applies a global and flexible approach to seek relative value opportunities in the global high yield market. Unlike many global high yield managers who have a home country bias, Hermes takes an unbiased approach in regional allocation and considers emerging market investments as part of their investment opportunity set. The strategy has a large cap bias with an emphasis in liquidity which allows the strategy to reflect the team's dynamic market view in a timely manner.

### Investment process

Hermes constructs its strategy using a combination of top-down analysis and bottom-up security selection. Through their top-down analysis, they seek to identify sources of risk and opportunity in the global high yield market. The result of this analysis is to come up with a risk appetite score and the return prospects for different regions and sectors. Their top-down analysis also helps establish thematic-based best ideas in geography, credit quality, sectors, credit curve, and interest rate. The findings direct their bottom-up research of companies, in which they seek to identify relative value opportunities in capital structures with attractive credit risks.

The team meets on a weekly basis to review their portfolio. When an analyst changes their fundamental view on a company, it is addressed with Lundie, who takes action in a timely manner. Risk management is a pillar to the team's investment process with a focus on strong downside risk management.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments believes Hermes' small team and fairly small asset base allows for nimble decision making. Lundie is considered to be an astute investor with a good sense of risk-adjusted return opportunities in the global high yield market, without much bias, and is willing to take active risk when it is viewed to be warranted.

Russell Investments believes their top-down approach bodes well with the increasingly macro-driven global high yield market and is a differentiator from many traditional fundamentally-driven high yield managers. The strategy takes a contrarian approach to seek to identify undervalued opportunities, while not chasing yield. With this balanced approach and with tight risk management, Russell Investments expects the strategy to produce incremental outperformance in both up and down markets. The strategy might lag in relative terms in an environment when low quality, high yielding securities rally strongly.

## Firm background

Intermede Investment Partners Limited and Intermede Global Partners Inc. is an independently owned, global equity investment management company. The firm is majority owned by its founding partners.

**Headquarters:** London, UK

**Founded:** 2013

**Lead manager:** Barry Dargan

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**Asset class:** Global equity

**Number of holdings:** 20-60

## Manager profile

Intermede Investment Partners Limited and Intermede Global Partners Inc. (Intermede) was added to the Fund in 2022. Barry Dargan is the lead manager of the strategy.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Intermede provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Intermede's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Intermede, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Intermede.

## What this manager brings to the Fund

Intermede focuses on stocks that are secular growers with some aspect of new innovation that the market has yet to price in, and looks for good top line growth and earnings growth, ideally with attractive return on equity, further margin expansion potential and strong free cash flow.

## Investment process

Intermede focuses on stocks that are secular growers with some aspect of new innovation that the market has yet to price in and looks for good top line growth and earnings growth, ideally with attractive return on equity, further margin expansion potential and strong free cash flow. Intermede also demands a greater discount on cyclical stocks which provides flexibility with an overall higher quality, lower volatility portfolio.

## Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments' view is that Intermede is currently at an attractive point in their lifecycle, with low assets, high quality ownership of the firm by the investment team and autonomy of its investment professionals. Russell Investments has high confidence in lead portfolio manager, Barry Dargan, and the team of sophisticated investment analysts. The strategy is expected to perform well when growth is being rewarded and be challenged in periods where higher risk stocks are rewarded or when value factors are rewarded.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Kopernik Global Investors, LLC

### Firm background

Kopernik Global Investors LLC is an employee-owned global equity investment management firm.

**Headquarters:** Tampa, FL

**Founded:** 2013

**Lead manager:** David Iben, CFA

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**Asset class:** Global equity

**Number of holdings:** 50-90

### Manager profile

Kopernik Global Investors LLC (Kopernik) was added to the Fund at its launch in 2017. The strategy is led by David Iben, founder and Chief Investment Officer of Kopernik.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Kopernik provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Kopernik's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Kopernik, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Kopernik.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Kopernik is a long-term investment firm with differentiated insights that brings diverse sources of potential alpha from sectors and regions that are not heavily invested in by existing managers in the fund (e.g., materials, Canada, Russia).

### Investment process

The Global Equity strategy at Kopernik is an all-cap, deep-value strategy that aims to add value by identifying securities that are trading at a discount to net asset value.

Kopernik's investment philosophy is centered on the belief that market inefficiencies present numerous opportunities to identify quality businesses at attractive prices. The firm utilizes bottom-up, deep fundamental analysis to gain a thorough, forward-looking understanding of a company's business and valuation. Kopernik's intensive research process includes proprietary screens, site visits, analysis of financial statements and competitor analysis.

The strategy primarily invests in equities (domestic common, foreign ordinary and depositary receipts) of companies located around the globe and of all market capitalizations.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Kopernik's investment team is led by Dave Iben, a talented investor who has had success throughout multiple investment cycles and is an adherent follower of his deep-value investment style. Prior to founding Kopernik, Iben worked at another investment firm where Russell Investments became familiar with his process. His absolute return philosophy has not changed and his application of economic principles as part of his process remains a compelling component of his investment ability.

Kopernik's deep-value strategy is expected to perform best during periods that favor low price-to-book and low price-to-earnings securities. The strategy will tend to struggle in low growth, inflationary environments.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Man Investments Australia Limited

### Firm background

Man Investments Australia Limited (Man AU), founded in 1995 and acquired by Man Group in 2010, is a discretionary Fund manager that is active across alternative and long-only strategies, equity and credit.

**Headquarters:** Sydney, Australia

**Founded:** 1995

**Lead manager:** Andrew Swan

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**Asset class:** Equity

**Number of holdings:** 30-45

### Manager profile

Man Investments Australia Limited (Man AU) was added to the Fund in 2021. Andrew Swan, Head of Asia (ex-Japan) Equities at Man AU, manages the Fund and is supported by a team of four dedicated analysts.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Man AU provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Man AU's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Man AU, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Man AU.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Swan and his team believe that one of their key competitive strengths is that they assume risk based on their views of future earnings revisions potential and those views are based on both historical data and more discretionary forward-looking analysis. They are aiming to capture the turning points in earnings revisions where there has historically been the potential to generate significant alpha. The investment team also benefits from being part of Man AU's deep equity platform and the collaborative culture that sets the business apart. The teams are able to collaborate with a diverse group of highly experienced portfolio managers and sector specialists to develop investment ideas.

### Investment process

At the core of the team's approach to investing is relative earnings revisions. The key driver of beta in Asia (ex- Japan) over time has been earnings and markets in the region have consistently traded in-line with forward EPS. Alpha, on the other hand, tends to be driven by high cross-sectional single stock dispersion and relative earnings revisions. As such, the team's core focus is to capture turning points in companies that have high EPS revision potential.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Our favorable view is supported by a strong conviction in portfolio manager, Andrew Swan, an experienced and insightful Asian equity portfolio manager who has consistently implemented this dynamic growth philosophy throughout his career. We believe he displays both objectivity and pragmatism to continue implementing this approach. Swan's dynamic approach while incorporating top down factors is differentiated and further allows him to better capture inflection points in value and sentiment.

Man AU's investment style is flexible by design and will be driven by where improvement in earnings is expected from the bottom up. While this flexibility introduces complexity in terms of its repeatability, we believe the manager exhibits skill and objectivity in its implementation. The combination of comprehensive fundamental research, rigorous idea testing, and conviction-based portfolio construction make this a compelling offering. The strategy is supported by a small team of four dedicated analysts. We have a positive opinion of Alethea Leung and Anand Agarwal who worked under Swan at Blackrock and are aligned with the process. The others are new hires and while experienced, are still familiarizing themselves with the process and thus remain untested. Swan is a player coach remaining involved in generating ideas as well as guiding the analysts. Swan has the flexibility to manage the strategy on his own terms and there is direct alignment with the team's P&L which should ensure the team remains motivated and energized.

# Marathon Asset Management, L.P.

### Firm background

Marathon Asset Management, L.P. opportunistically invests in global corporate, emerging markets and structured credit markets for institutional clients. The firm is majority owned by the Partners of the Firm.

**Headquarters:** New York, NY

**Founded:** 1998

**Lead manager:** Andrew Szmulewicz

**Asset class:** Emerging Market Debt

**Number of holdings:** approx. 100-125

### Manager profile

Marathon Asset Management (“Marathon”) was added to the Fund in 2022. Gabriel “Gaby” Szpigel, the Head of Emerging Markets, manages the emerging markets team. Andrew Szmulewicz is the lead portfolio manager for the emerging market bond mandate.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Marathon provides an actively managed beta strategy that mirrors the characteristics of the hard currency emerging market debt index, while seeking to generate excess return.

### Investment process

Marathon’s innovative portfolio construction combines close beta replication with mitigation of unwanted risks by matching duration, country allocation, and average credit ratings.

The firm’s investment approach seeks to generate alpha through a few sources. Relative value opportunities are reviewed to ensure the portfolio is ideally positioned across index members viewed as “cheap” relative to peers. Bottom-up credit selection contributes with positioning in both on- and off-index securities. Russell Investments believes that Marathon’s comprehensive understanding of index technicals and market themes allow for optimal index arbitrage. Finally, Marathon’s deep franchise and extensive capital market relationships is expected to enable optimal sourcing of securities through the primary market.

**Russell Investments’ manager analysis**

Russell Investments sees Marathon’s extensive experience in fundamental research, focus on credit dislocations and familiarity with the EMD indexing environment as strengths relative to peers. Marathon’s Emerging Market Bond fund is an index aware product that is managed with a beta of close to 1. Marathon’s excess returns are driven by the off-index securities and therefore, excess returns are expected to be highly correlated to those off-index sectors.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## MFS Institutional Advisors Inc.

### Firm background

The sole purpose of MFS Institutional Advisors Inc. is to create long-term value responsibly. It offers fixed income, equity and quantitative solutions to financial advisors, intermediaries and institutional clients around the world.

**Headquarters:** Boston, MA

**Founded:** 1924

**Lead managers:** A.C. Farstad and Zahid Kassam

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**Asset class:** Equity

**Number of holdings:** approximately 40

### Manager profile

MFS Institutional Advisors Inc. (MFS) was added to the Fund in 2022. A.C. Farstad and Zahid Kassam are the co-lead managers of the strategy.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, MFS provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing MFS's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by MFS, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by MFS.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

MFS' investment strategy is a diversified approach to value investing targeting three types of value: out-of-favor compounders, turnarounds, and deep value. The strategy will hold a diverse set of contrarian value opportunities including restructuring stories, out-of-favor compounders, and deep value cyclicals.

### Investment process

The team executes a contrarian value philosophy that is supported by capital markets efficiency. The product design is appropriate to help maximize return while retaining diversification. We believe it targets multiple types of value including out-of-favor compounders, turnarounds and deep value. Valuation methods employed are appropriate to the type of opportunity, and MFS is disciplined in applying an asymmetric reward-risk ratio.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments believes Farstad is highly engaged and passionate about investing and considers her a well-rounded portfolio manager. In addition, Kassam's experience is credible and relevant for the strategy, and he demonstrates good alignment with Farstad's philosophy.

There is some flexibility in how value opportunities are found, and which ones are favored, but we believe Farstad conveys compelling clarity of thought around her process which should benefit execution. She and Kassam demonstrate strong emphasis on risk/reward asymmetry due to stock analysis, which drives both purchase and sale decisions. Though the portfolio is bottom-up, they are also cognizant of market trends and have rotated the portfolio to take advantage of attractive entry points. Today, the strategy is balanced between the three buckets of restructurings, deep value, and controversial quality compounders.

# Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC – High income convertibles strategy

## Firm background

Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC is a global investment management corporation, whose mission is to provide management with a primary emphasis on seeking risk control in a limited number of sophisticated investment specialties. Oaktree specializes in less efficient markets and alternative investments. Oaktree serves clients through offices located in 17 cities and 12 countries.

**Headquarters:** Los Angeles, CA

**Founded:** 1995

**Lead manager:** Craig Borcharding

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**Asset class:** Fixed income

**Number of holdings:** Approximately 100

## Manager profile

Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC (Oaktree) was added to the Fund as a manager for the high income convertibles strategy in June 2017. Craig Borcharding is the portfolio manager of the strategy.

## What this manager brings to the Fund

Oaktree brings a niche high yield convertibles strategy to the Fund with a focus on “busted convertibles”, which are issues that trade below par because of a short-term headwind for the company or their market. The strategy seeks to deliver excess returns relative to the high yield markets, especially in down markets.

The busted convertible market can offer potential for:

- Yields that are equivalent to that of non-convertible debt
- Equity upside

## Investment process

Oaktree applies a “buy low, sell high” mentality—seeking to identify convertible debt securities that are trading below their investment value yet still offer potential equity upside. They also seek convertible securities that have high credit sensitivity and yield characteristics with low sensitivity to equity markets.

Oaktree also offers a strong sell discipline. They focus on holding securities during the time whereby they offer value and seek to exit positions when they become more sensitive to equities.

## Russell Investments’ manager analysis

Russell Investments believes Oaktree offers a dynamic high yield convertibles strategy with a nimble approach and willingness to exit positions quickly if they believe the downside risk is material. The strategy is considered a “niche within a niche” which provides the potential for attractive returns by going where other managers in the marketplace do not. Oaktree’s credit risk emphasis, combined with their quick sell discipline, may help the portfolio minimize credit losses. The strategy expected to perform well in spread-widening environments but might lag in periods of high yield rally and when duration rallies as the strategy maintains a fairly short duration.

Craig Borcharding joined Oaktree Fund Advisors in 2007 and has been the day-to-day portfolio manager on the high income convertibles strategy since 2018. Although the dedicated investment professionals for the strategy are limited, the team leverages Oaktree’s broader resources, including the extended convertibles team, which Russell Investments believes is additive to the strategy.



## Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC – Emerging markets strategy

### Firm background

Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC is a global investment management corporation, whose mission is to provide management with a primary emphasis on seeking risk control in a limited number of sophisticated investment specialties. Oaktree specializes in less efficient markets and alternative investments. Oaktree serves clients through offices located in 17 cities and 12 countries.

**Headquarters:** Los Angeles

**Founded:** 1995

**Lead managers:** Frank Carroll and Janet Wang

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**Asset class:** Emerging market equity

**Number of holdings:** Approximately 65

### Manager profile

In March 2022, Oaktree Fund Advisors, LLC (Oaktree) was added as a non-discretionary manager for the Emerging Markets strategy. Frank Carroll and Janet Wang are the lead portfolio managers of the strategy, and have worked together at Oaktree since 2002.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Oaktree provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Oaktree's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Oaktree, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Oaktree.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

Oaktree uses a bottom-up, research-based investing approach. The investment horizon is long-term and is not tied to any specific market cycle. The investment team focuses on stock selection and, although its process includes valuation, Oaktree focuses primarily on companies with sustainable growth opportunities. Oaktree believes that the long-term investment opportunities in emerging markets are favorable compared to those available in more developed markets.

### Investment process

Oaktree regularly monitors the countries in which the strategy's investments are located for signals of what lies ahead. It uses a combination of government releases, independent economic data releases and its own company analysis to determine country allocations. The firm's method of sourcing and processing information is distinguished by its system of concentrated research, which involves eight analysts closely following about 400 emerging markets companies.

Oaktree recommends what it determines to be the most undervalued stocks within broad industry and country exposure parameters it identifies. The portfolio is then monitored and frequently reevaluated to seek to capture what Oaktree believes to be the best investment ideas. The strategy's investment style is opportunistic, fundamentally-driven stock selection. The firm is always in search of value, whether it is found in fast growing, high P/E stocks, or in low growth, cyclical stocks that trade at levels below market prices. The team conducts its own in-depth fundamental research and combines it with research provided by brokers and independent sources of information.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

The firm has an experienced team of portfolio managers, analysts, traders and operations staff. Oaktree has a consistent, long standing track record investing in emerging markets.

Oaktree's performance is generally expected to be driven by the success of individual stock picks rather than by persistent style biases since the firm invests across a broad range of stocks. Oaktree aims to avoid less liquid names and could underperform if a lot of money is going into this area of the market. The portfolio is typically broadly diversified across countries and sectors so could underperform in a period of narrow market leadership or markets driven by fundamentals.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## RWC Asset Advisors (US) LLC

### Firm background

RWC Asset Advisors (US) LLC is an independent investment manager providing services primarily to institutional clients. It launches and manages equity, fixed income, and hedge funds for its clients.

**Headquarters:** Miami, FL

**Founded:** 2000

**Lead manager:** John Malloy

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**Asset class:** Emerging markets equity

**Number of holdings:** 60-80

### Manager profile

RWC Asset Advisors (US) LLC (RWC) was added to the Fund in 2022. John Malloy is the lead manager of the strategy. As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, RWC provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing RWC's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by RWC, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by RWC.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

RWC's emerging markets strategy follows both a top-down and bottom-up analysis process, allowing the team to identify broad themes that are followed through with stock selection. RWC invests in quality growth companies that it expects will benefit from a sustainable, advantageous market positioning and strong balance sheets.

### Investment process

RWC applies strong, bottom-up research capabilities focused on identifying companies that trade at attractive valuations but with solid growth prospects and all within their thematic framework. RWC is an early lifecycle manager that opportunistically pursues capital appreciation across a global investment spectrum and exploits secular and cyclical trends, growth opportunities, valuation inefficiencies and themes that are misunderstood or otherwise out of favor in emerging and frontier markets. RWC's stock selection reflects the team's macro economic views, which Russell Investments believes are solid and differentiated versus peer managers.

### Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments has a high regard for the investment professionals at RWC whom Russell Investments believes to be of above average quality relative to their peers. Russell Investments has a particularly high opinion of John Malloy and James Johnstone who are the key members of the team and are responsible for all decision making.

The process is such that it combines both a top-down and bottom-up analysis allowing the team to identify broad themes that are followed through with stock selection. The team has demonstrated good insight and skill in implementing such an approach. The team has worked together for a long time due to their time together at a previous firm, and are highly motivated given recent organization changes, which have allowed them to be more aligned with the profitability of the business.

# Sompo Asset Management Co., Ltd.

## Firm background

Sompo Asset Management Co., Ltd. is a leading intrinsic value asset manager of Japanese assets and is part of Sompo Holdings Group.

**Headquarters:** Tokyo, Japan

**Founded:** 1986

**Lead manager:** Kenji Ueno

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**Asset class:** Japan equity

**Number of holdings:** 60-80

## Manager profile

Sompo Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Sompo) was added to the Fund in September 2018. Kenji Ueno is the lead manager for Sompo's Japan equity strategy.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, Sompo provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing Sompo's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by Sompo, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by Sompo.

## What this manager brings to the Fund

Sompo provides the Fund with exposure to the Japan equity market—specifically within the value space.

## Investment process

Sompo uses bottom-up fundamental analysis to seek to identify undervalued stocks that are trading at a discount to their intrinsic value from some short-term events or one-off causes. A stock's intrinsic value is calculated through Sompo's dividend discount model. They believe that every stock has an intrinsic value which the market price tends towards over time. They seek to create value by exploiting this tendency with a disciplined approach that seeks to purchase undervalued stocks and liquidate overvalued stocks. Their model allows them to incorporate their views on risks such as sustainability and credit.

## Russell Investments' manager analysis

Russell Investments believes Sompo's valuation bias will give the Fund access to an inefficient area of the market relative to other markets like U.S. large cap. Russell Investments has high conviction in Sompo's active management approach that looks to identify and capture price anomalies created by a market that often overreacts to short-term events.

Russell Investments believes Sompo's strategy will perform well when the value factor is in favor and may struggle in growth-driven markets.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## PineStone Asset Management Inc.<sup>2</sup>

### Firm background

PineStone Asset Management Inc. is an independent investment manager focused on providing long-only equity strategies to institutional clients.

**Headquarters:** Montreal, Quebec, Canada

**Founded:** 2021

**Lead manager:** Nadim Rizk

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**Asset class:** Global equity

**Number of holdings:** 25–35

### Manager profile

PineStone Asset Management Inc. (PineStone) was added to the Fund in March 2023. Nadim Rizk is the CEO, CIO, and lead manager for PineStone Asset Management Inc.

As a non-discretionary manager to the Fund, PineStone provides a model portfolio to Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) representing PineStone's investment recommendations, based upon which RIM purchases and sells securities for the Fund. RIM may deviate from the model portfolio provided by PineStone, but generally intends to implement the portfolio provided by PineStone.

### What this manager brings to the Fund

PineStone provides the Fund with exposure to quality, growth-oriented equities with high return potential and supportive intrinsic valuations. The manager seeks to identify companies that have a strong and sustainable competitive advantage in industries with high barriers to entry. Investments are based on company-specific research insights, with an aim to invest in companies with minimal probability of capital impairment.

### Investment process

PineStone uses a fundamental, bottom-up research approach when it comes to identifying companies with attractive growth and value propositions. Although the portfolios trade at a premium relative to the market, PineStone believes—from an enterprise value lens—the premium gap is smaller as their companies generally have less leverage than the market. PineStone maintains a wish list of 20 stocks, with 15–20 new ideas per year with a target of 50/50 non-U.S./U.S. exposure. During the internal investment research process, PineStone uses a “bad-cop” approach when pitching a potential stock for product inclusion to the team. Similar to a “devil’s advocate” approach, an analyst is assigned to come up with substantial counter-arguments based on a deep-dive analysis of the company in question in order to bring certain overlooked aspects of the business to light during discussions. Russell Investments believes this role adds rigor and depth to the research process.

### Russell Investments’ manager analysis

Russell Investments has a high regard for Nadim Rizk and the investment team and believes that the organizational environment is attractive for motivating and retaining talent. Russell Investments moderates its expectations around organizational stability out of an abundance of caution, as the manager recently transitioned out from under the Fiera Capital Corporation; the new company is currently operationally separate.

PineStone’s “bad-cop” process adds sophistication to their internal discussions, and Russell Investments believes the manager’s research depth is a strength of their investment process. Performance has been strong relative to peers and respective benchmarks. Russell Investments expects the product to perform strongly when differentials in fundamental company performance is recognized by the market and environments where companies with strong operating and financial performance is preferred. The product will do less well in rising markets but is expected to perform well in down markets.

<sup>2</sup>Formerly StonePine Asset Management Inc.

# Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund

## Russell Investment Management, LLC

### Firm background

Russell Investment Management, LLC (RIM) is the advisor to Russell Investment Company (RIC) Funds. Russell Investments' ownership is composed of a majority stake held by funds managed by TA Associates Management, L.P. with minority stakes held by funds managed by Reverence Capital Partners, L.P., certain of Russell Investments' employees, and Hamilton Lane Advisors, LLC. Russell Investments provides asset management and investment services to institutional and individual investors around the world.

**Headquarters:** Seattle, WA

**Founded:** 1936

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### POSITIONING STRATEGIES & CASH RESERVES

**Number of holdings:** 350

RIM oversees all investment advisory services to the Fund and manages assets not allocated to managers.

### Manager and strategy oversight

RIM's portfolio managers seek to ensure that Fund outcomes are consistent with Fund objectives. The portfolio manager and analysts track the effectiveness of every money manager and strategy in the Fund. Occasionally, adjustments may be necessary due to reasons such as a change in control at a money manager, the opportunity to select another manager or strategy the portfolio manager believes offers an investment proposition that would help improve the fund, or changes in market dynamics.

Any significant Fund changes must be validated through an internal governance process to ensure all key considerations were addressed by the portfolio manager. Money manager changes are also subject to approval by the Fund's Board of Trustees.

### Investment management

RIM manages a portion of the Fund's assets internally to seek to precisely manage the Fund's exposures and achieve the desired risk/return profile for the Fund. During the portfolio construction and management process, Portfolio Managers may identify an investment need and seek to address that need with a positioning strategy. Positioning strategies are customized portfolios directly managed for use within the total portfolio. Portfolio Managers use positioning strategies, including tactical tilts, to seek excess return and manage portfolio risks by targeting specific exposures. These strategies are used in conjunction with allocations to third-party active managers to reflect Russell Investments' strategic and dynamic insights with integrated liquidity and risk management. Physical securities or derivative-based strategies such as options, currency forwards, and futures may be used to help eliminate unintended risks and gain concentrated exposures when desired. These positioning strategies allow the Russell Investments Portfolio Managers to gain exposure to high-conviction investment opportunities or manage downside risk in a timely manner. Positioning strategies may change at any time as market conditions and needs of the Fund change. Some of the specific positioning strategies that will be used in the Fund include:

1. **Currency:** The currency overlay utilizes currency forward contracts to take long and short positions in global foreign exchange markets, which may result in gains or losses for the fund based on the movements of relative exchange rates. Russell Investments believes that a currency overlay strategy serves as a diversifier and another potential source of return in multi-asset portfolios, especially in periods where the medium-term return outlook is more challenging for credit, duration and equity returns than it has been in the past;
2. **Small cap:** RIM will implement a strategy using the Russell 1000® Index and Russell 2000® Index futures to manage small cap exposure in the Fund;
3. **Duration:** RIM expects, from time to time, to manage duration in the portfolio to diversify the Fund through the use of interest rate futures;
4. **Commodities Backwardation:** This strategy follows a rules-based quantitative approach that selects and assigns weights to individual commodities using a methodology that is designed to evaluate commodities' forward looking return prospects;
5. **Global Adjusted Real Yield ("GARY"):** RIM believes that bonds issued by sovereign countries with higher real yields have a greater likelihood of outperforming those with low real yields. Using futures, RIM will take long positions in high quality government bonds whose yield, net of forward-looking inflation, are relatively high and short interest rate risk where that real, net-of-inflation yield is expected to be relatively low. This strategy has historically low correlations to credit risk;

6. Completion Portfolio & Tactical Trading Account: RIM will manage a portfolio of global equity securities designed to complement the portfolios of the equity money managers and result in a total equity portfolio that targets Russell Investment's preferred positioning within desired risk parameters.

#### **Managing the liquidity reserve**

Every RIC mutual fund maintains cash reserves, which is cash awaiting investment or held to meet redemption requests or to pay expenses. The Fund may expose all or a portion of its cash to the performance of certain markets by purchasing equity securities, fixed income securities and/or derivatives (also known as "equitization"), which typically include index futures contracts or fixed income futures contracts. With respect to cash that is not equitized, RIM may sell equity index put options to seek gains from premiums (cash) received from their sale. RIM invests any remaining cash in (1) short-term investments, including the U.S. Cash Management Fund, an unregistered fund advised by RIM whose investment objective is to seek to preserve principal and provide liquidity and current income, and (2) fixed income securities with a typical average portfolio duration of one year and individual effective maturities of up to five years, which may include U.S. and non-U.S. corporate debt securities, asset-backed securities (which may include, among others, credit card and automobile loan receivables) and money market securities similar to those invested in by the U.S. Cash Management Fund.

**For more information on Russell Investment Company Funds, contact your investment professional or plan administrator for assistance.**

## **IMPORTANT RISK DISCLOSURES**

Mutual Fund investing involves risks, principal loss is possible.

Money managers listed are current as of May 22, 2024. Subject to the Fund's Board approval, Russell Investments has the right to engage or terminate a money manager at any time and without a shareholder vote, based on an exemptive order from the Securities and Exchange Commission. Investments in the Funds are not deposits with or other liabilities of any of the money managers and are subject to investment risk, including loss of income and principal invested and possible delays in payment of redemption proceeds. The money managers do not guarantee the performance of any Fund or any particular rate of return.

Non-U.S. markets, which may include developed, emerging, and frontier markets, entail different risks than those typically associated with U.S. markets, including currency fluctuations, political and economic instability, accounting changes and foreign taxation. Non-U.S. securities may be less liquid and more volatile than U.S. securities. The risks associated with non-U.S. securities may be amplified for emerging markets securities. Because frontier markets are among the smallest, least developed, least liquid, and most volatile of the emerging markets, investments in frontier markets are generally subject to a greater risk of loss than investments in developed or traditional emerging markets.

Specific sector investing such as real estate can be subject to different and greater risks than more diversified investments. Declines in the value of real estate, economic conditions, property taxes, tax laws and interest rates all present potential risk to real estate investments. Fund investments in non-U.S. markets can involve risks of currency fluctuation, political and economic instability, different accounting standards and foreign taxation.

Bond investors should carefully consider risks such as interest rate, credit, default and duration risks. Greater risk, such as increased volatility, limited liquidity, prepayment, non-payment and increased default risk, is inherent in portfolios that invest in high yield ("junk") bonds or mortgage-backed securities, especially mortgage-backed securities with exposure to sub-prime mortgages. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall. Interest rates in the United States are at, or near, historic lows, which may increase a Fund's exposure to risks associated with rising rates. Investment in non-U.S. and emerging market securities is subject to the risk of currency fluctuations and to economic and political risks associated with foreign countries. Emerging markets debt has higher default and repayment risk than traditional bond markets.

The Fund may invest in derivatives, including futures, options, forwards and swaps. Investments in derivatives may cause the Fund's losses to be greater than if it invests only in conventional securities and can cause the Fund to be more volatile. Derivatives involve risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with other investments. The Fund's use of derivatives may cause the Fund's investment returns to be impacted by the performance of securities the Fund does not own and result in the Fund's total investment exposure exceeding the value of its portfolio.

Investments in infrastructure-related companies have greater exposure to the potential adverse economic, regulatory, political and other changes affecting such entities. Investment in infrastructure related companies are subject to various risks including governmental regulations, high interest costs associated with capital construction programs, costs associated with compliance and changes in environmental regulation, economic slowdown and surplus capacity, competition from other providers of services and other factors. Investment in non-U.S. and emerging market securities is subject to the risk of currency fluctuations and to economic and political risks associated with such foreign countries.

Please remember that all investments carry some level of risk, including the potential loss of principal invested. They do not typically grow at an even rate of return and may experience negative growth. As with any type of portfolio structuring, attempting to reduce risk and increase return could, at certain times, unintentionally reduce returns.

**Fund objectives, risks, charges and expenses should be carefully considered before investing. A summary prospectus, if available, or a prospectus containing this, and other important information can be obtained by calling 800-787-7354 or by visiting [russellinvestments.com](http://russellinvestments.com). Please read a prospectus carefully before investing.**

The investment styles employed by a Fund's money managers may not be complementary. This concentration may be beneficial or detrimental to a Fund's performance depending upon the performance of those securities and the overall economic environment. The multi-manager approach could increase a Fund's portfolio turnover rates which may result in higher levels of realized capital gains or losses with respect to a Fund's portfolio securities, higher brokerage commissions and other transaction costs.

Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities, particularly if the investments involve leverage. The value of commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates or sectors affecting a particular industry or commodity & international economic, political and regulatory developments. The use of leveraged commodity-linked derivatives creates an opportunity for increased return, but also creates the possibility for a greater loss.

The Fund invests directly, or indirectly through a wholly-owned subsidiary, in commodity-linked securities that provide exposure to the performance of the collateralized commodity futures market, and in other debt instruments.

Diversification and strategic asset allocation do not assure profit or protect against loss in declining markets.

<sup>§</sup>Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested in directly. The benchmark shown represents the Fund's performance benchmark, which may be different from the Fund's regulatory benchmark included in the Fund's Prospectus and Annual Reports.

- The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is an index, with income reinvested, generally representative of intermediate-term government bonds, investment-grade corporate debt securities and mortgage-backed securities.
- The ICE BofA Global High Yield Index tracks the performance of USD, CAD, GBP and EUR denominated below investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the major domestic or Eurobond markets.
- The MSCI AC World Index captures large and mid cap representation across 23 Developed Markets and 24 Emerging Markets countries.
- The FTSE EPRA Nareit Global Index is designed to track the performance of listed real estate companies and REITS in both developed and emerging markets.

Russell Investments' ownership is composed of a majority stake held by funds managed by TA Associates Management, L.P., with a significant minority stake held by funds managed by Reverence Capital Partners, L.P. Certain of Russell Investments' employees and Hamilton Lane Advisors, LLC also hold minority, non-controlling, ownership stakes.

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**Russell Investments / Multi-Asset Growth Strategy Fund**

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