

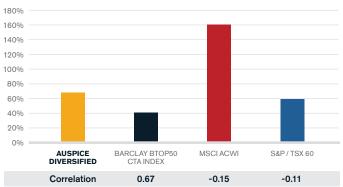
# DIVERSIFIED PROGRAM

COMMENTARY +
PORTFOLIO FACTS
MAY 2021

\*Cumulative perfor of the fund and is

#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**

(SINCE JANUARY 2007\*)



\*Cumulative performance from January 2007. This represents the first full year of the fund and is most representative of the current strategy and portfolio.

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#### **SUMMARY**

The Auspice Diversified Program was up 0.61% in May adding to an outperforming 2021, up 17.33% year-to-date. While lagging Auspice results by approximately 10% for the year, the sector benchmarks also performed: the Barclay BTOP50 CTA added 2.09% (per Table 1) alongside the SocGen CTA index gaining 1.88% (estimated) for 7.24% and 7.60% respectively.

Equity markets were mixed with positive results from global benchmarks while the US moderated. The S&P500 gained only 0.55% while the Nasdaq corrected 1.53%. The global benchmark MSCI ACWI added 1.56% and the Canadian TSX/S&P60 outperformed adding 3.63% partially on the back of energy sector gains.

Commodity benchmarks continued higher in May, extending gains as more sub-sectors participated yet some corrected. This is to be expected and considered part of the opportunity in this uniquely diverse asset class. The Bloomberg Commodity Index (BCOM) added 2.73% while the energy tilted GSCI gained a similar 2.52%. Energy and Metals were strong, some Ags including Grains corrected.

Bond markets fell before rallying back to be steady within the longer term down trend that was established in late 2020. The benchmark US 10-year note yield remained consistent at 1.62%. The US Dollar continued to fall, 1.40% in May yet still remains above the lows hit to end 2020.

#### **OUTLOOK**

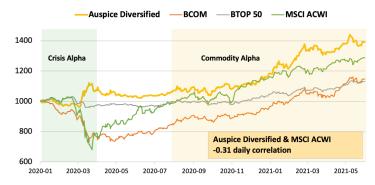
Is this inflation "transitory"?

It's been about a year since interest rates and commodities bottomed. Inflation has risen steadily (see Chart 2), yet the word of the day remains "transitory". While we understand some of the logic regarding pent up demand and logistic challenges, we also recognize that certain things are anything but transitory.

Is there going to be a rush of lumber or copper that comes to market in response to demand? No, this infrastructure and supply takes years, sometimes decades to build. Are food prices and rents going to level off, or even drop? It's certainly possible, but we don't see a catalyst.

2020 led to structural changes in the way we live, the way we work, and the way we produce goods Some things will revert back to normal, others will not. In our lifetimes we have lived through a number of shocks. In all of these we can't recall a time in which inflation or deflation have been transitory or perhaps said differently, "short-lived".

# Chart 1 COMMODITY & CRISIS ALPHA



### Table 1 ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE

	Auspice Diversified	Barclay BTOP50 CTA Index	MSCI ACWI	TSX 60
1 Month	0.61%	2.09%	1.56%	3.63%
2021 YTD	17.33%	7.24%	10.84%	14.05%
1 yr (Jun 20)	34.63%	15.25%	41.85%	28.67%
3 yr (Jun 18)	34.24%	19.73%	47.61%	24.17%
5 yr (Jun 16)	23.95%	10.36%	94.02%	43.73%
10 yr (Jun 11)	9.33%	17.28%	149.67%	49.55%
14 yr (Jun 07)	77.81%	37.12%	135.89%	46.70%
Annualized (Jan 07)				
Return	3.66%1/4.90%2	2.45%	6.85%	3.26%
Std Deviation	11.87%	6.62%	16.50%	13.43%
Sharpe Ratio	0.40	0.39	0.53	0.33
MAR Ratio	0.14	0.15	0.13	0.07
Worst Drawdown	-26.04%	-16.11%	-54.92%	-44.27%

 Auspice Diversified Net represents the performance for Auspice Managed Futures LP Series 1 (2% mgmt, 20% performance) including and ending November 2019. From this point, returns represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust Class X (1% mgmt 15% performance).

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2. Auspice Diversified 1 and 15 is provided for indicative purposes, and thus hypothetical, to illustrate full cycle net returns with the current lower fee structure (Class X).

# Chart 2 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) YOY % CHANGE 5.0 4.0 2.0

2020-11

2020-05

2020-07

2020-09



2021-01

2021-03

#### **OUTLOOK** (CONTINUED)

All inflation is transitory to some degree. Inflation depends on how you measure it and who it affects. Regardless, inflation is and always remains a transient factor in economies, but it depends on how quickly an economy returns to a more normal sub 2% growth. Is it in a year, two, or ten?

We are now entering year two in rising inflation. While the rally since 2020 has been significant, if you look at the Chart 3, it is potentially just the start of a new breakout in a much longer-term bull market in inflation sensitive assets like commodities.

#### ATTRIBUTIONS AND TRADES

Per Chart 4, commodities again led the gains versus financials with Metals and Softs providing the largest attributions. This provided exceptional opportunities from some lesser expected areas Auspice has exposure to.

While Grains have recently been very profitable and most markets corrected, Canola bucked the trend for a welcome offset. Within the lesser-known Softs sub-sector, a caffeine induced rally in Coffee was topped by a rally in Sugar. Metals also had a strong month as the headline leading Copper market was supported by a rally in Zinc. Note we have shifted to a net long exposure in Gold.

While Energies were pulled back by short-term (non-trend) trades, the trend following strategies worked well, again led by Heating Oil, uncharacteristically strong for the season.

In the financial markets, Currencies added value led by a strong Canadian dollar benefitting from commodity markets. Equities were near neutral as gains in the Canadian TSX60 were offset by a loss in the tech heavy US Nasdaq which was exited. We remain short bond futures despite the counter-trend uptick of late.

**Return Drivers:** Trend-following strategies performed while the non-correlated short-term (non-trend) strategies lost ground (see Chart 5).

#### **POSITION HIGHLIGHTS**

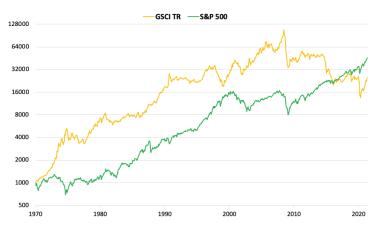
#### **GAINS**

- Coffee was the largest attribution on the back of an 14.8% rally.
- Copper and Zinc led the Metals gain.
- Canola bucked the Grains correction adding 2.5%.

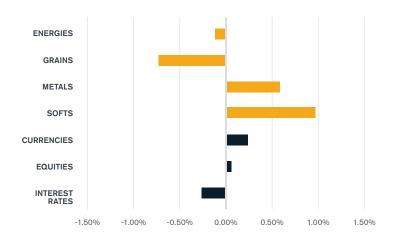
#### LOSSES

- Corn corrected by 2.5%, remain long.
- Natural Gas moved against short-term strategy positions.
- Nasdag corrected against long exposure and was exited.

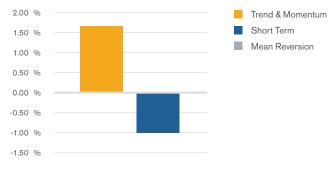
# Chart 3 COMMODITIES VERSUS EQUITIES



### Chart 4 SECTOR PNL AND MONTHLY ATTRIBUTION



# Chart 5 STRATEGY (RETURN DRIVER) ATTRIBUTION



\* Strategy Attribution excludes all fees.



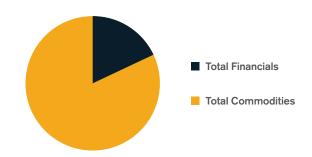
#### **EXPOSURE AND RISK ALLOCATION**

Commodity to Financial exposure changed slightly adding additional commodity exposure to be tilted 82:18 from 81:19 last month per Chart 6.

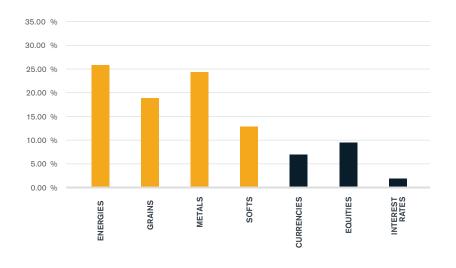
In commodities, risk was added primarily in Soft Commodities and Metals while Grains exposure was reduced. Financial exposure was reduced in Rates with a small gain in Currencies and Equity Indices. Per Chart 7 the commodity tilt is obvious.

While the portfolio continued to tilt to commodity risk, overall portfolio exposure, as measured by the Margin to Equity ratio, was reduced from 8.9% to 6.7%, which moves the ratio close to the historical average level of 6.9% (see Chart 8 next page).

# Chart 6 COMMODITIES VS. FINANCIAL EXPOSURE



# Chart 7 CURRENT SECTOR RISK



# \* Risk is expressed as the maximum expected loss in a position or sector divided by the total portfolio risk across all positions.

### **CURRENT RISK BY SECTOR**

ENERGIES	25.62%	
Largest Holdings	Position	% of Risk
Heating Oil	Long	8.32%
RBOB Gasoline	Long	7.76%
WTI Crude Oil	Long	4.00%

GRAINS		19.05%	
Largest Holdings	Position	% of Risk	
Corn	Long	8.80%	
Soybeans	Long	7.83%	
Wheat	Long	1.27%	

METALS		24.42%
Largest Holdings	Position	% of Risk
Copper	Long	9.67%
Zinc	Long	9.06%
Gold	Long	4.11%

	12.98%
Position	% of Risk
Long	7.19%
Long	5.10%
Long	0.70%
	Long

CURRENCIES		6.82%	
Largest Holdings	Position	% of Risk	
Canadian Dollar	Long	4.81%	
Japanese Yen	Short	1.21%	
British Pound	Long	0.34%	

EQUITIES		9.39%	
Largest Holdings	Position	% of Risk	
TSX/S&P60 (Canada)	Long	2.99%	
DJ Eurostoxx	Long	2.60%	
S&P500	Long	2.14%	

1.71%	
Position	% of Risk
Short	0.61%
Short	0.50%
Short	0.31%
	Short Short



#### STRATEGY DESCRIPTION

Auspice Diversified is our flagship strategy. It is a rules-based multi-strategy investment program designed to deliver superior, non-correlated returns at critical times. It represents the culmination of the ongoing research and experience of the Auspice Portfolio Management and Research teams.

The strategy draws from all of Auspice's current research (the Auspice Building Blocks). The strategy is rooted in trend following but is our most active and evolving multi-strategy quantitative approach pulling together other complementary strategies and wrapping them in a rigorous risk and capital allocation model. The strategy is designed to be agile and resilient as we believe these traits are necessary in order to generate performance long term.

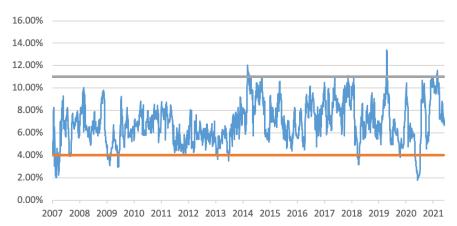
With a long-term correlation of -0.15 to the MSCI ACWI (see front page), and a modest 0.76 correlation (and positive skew) to the SG CTA Index (1 year basis - daily returns), this demonstrates the combined performance and non-correlation to equity and other CTAs is accretive and valuable.

# THE MAIN POINTS OF DIFFERENTIATION INCLUDE:

- Higher allocation to commodities relative to our peers,
- Negative correlation to equity, no correlation to commodity,
- Low risk (margin to equity average <7.0%) makes it scalable, low round turns per million.
- Portfolio Management team with experience trading in volatile environments.
- Positive skew: Auspice Diversified has outperformed at critical times of crisis, recovery, and volatility expansion.

#### **FUND FACTS**

# Chart 8 PORTFOLIO EXPOSURE (MARGIN TO EQUITY)



Auspice Diversified Trust			
	MTD	YTD	
11.6126	0.50%	17.77%	
12.1416	0.57%	16.29%	
11.3301	0.50%	17.74%	
15.8884	0.81%	21.36%	
14.1158	0.61%	17.33%	
	11.6126 12.1416 11.3301 15.8884	MTD  11.6126	

Program Statistics (from Jan 2007)		Trade Statistics	
Annualized Return	3.66%1 / 4.90%2	Avg Monthly Gain	2.97%
Annualized Std Dev	11.87%	Avg Monthly Loss	-2.11%
Largest Drawdown	-26.04%	Daily Std Dev	0.70%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.40	Daily VAR (sim w/99% conf)	-1.98%
MAR Index <sup>4</sup>	0.14	Round Turns per \$million	800
Sortino	0.72	Margin to Equity ratio	6.9
Upside/Downside Deviation	0.15 / 0.05	Average Hold Period (Days)	67
Correlation to MSCI ACWI	-0.15	% Profitable	40%
Correlation to TSX60	-0.11	\$Win / \$Loss	1.72
Correlation to BCOM ER	0.06	Skew	0.96

Program Details		
Structure	Unit Trust / LP / Mngd Account / Offshore	
Mgmt Fee	Series X 1%	
Incentive Fee	15% w/High-Water Mark	
Liquidity	Monthly (no lockup)	
Firm Assets	\$450MM	
Min. Investment	Accredited Investor / QEP	
Unit Pricing	\$CAD or \$USD	

- Auspice Diversified Net represents the performance for Auspice Managed Futures LP Series 1 (2% mgmt, 20% performance) including and ending November 2019. From this point, returns represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust Class X (1% mgmt, 15% performance).
- Auspice Diversified 1 and 15 is provided for indicative purposes, and thus hypothetical, to illustrate full cycle net returns with the current lower fee structure (Class X).
- 3. Assumes Risk free rate of 0%
- 4. MAR is the annualized return divided by the largest drawdown.



# **FUND FACTS (CONT)**

# MONTHLY PERFORMANCE TABLE\*

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2021	2.67%	9.55%	-0.89%	4.61%	0.61%								17.33%
2020	-2.06%	-0.19%	9.72%	-3.16%	-0.47%	0.28%	3.36%	2.08%	-2.15%	0.99%	2.69%	6.73%	18.46%
2019	-4.14%	-0.47%	-0.65%	3.50%	-7.43%	-0.37%	0.52%	10.60%	-7.59%	-1.33%	1.42%	0.25%	-6.75%
2018	3.12%	-5.81%	-2.27%	-0.19%	1.41%	-1.48%	1.89%	3.57%	-0.84%	-4.75%	3.66%	1.64%	-0.61%
2017	-3.66%	-1.89%	-1.35%	-1.39%	-0.53%	-0.51%	-1.61%	2.76%	-2.53%	5.16%	-0.27%	0.67%	-5.31%
2016	-0.22%	3.12%	-4.93%	3.59%	-1.64%	0.56%	2.44%	-1.55%	-1.06%	-1.34%	2.68%	-0.13%	1.15%
2015	4.66%	-1.93%	0.47%	-0.98%	-2.03%	-1.84%	-4.36%	-2.14%	0.26%	-2.74%	2.56%	0.66%	-7.47%
2014	-2.02%	1.62%	-1.84%	3.25%	-3.11%	2.65%	-0.43%	3.92%	8.56%	-0.78%	7.05%	4.19%	24.76%
2013	0.40%	-2.23%	0.26%	0.99%	-0.90%	0.66%	-1.54%	-1.33%	-4.07%	2.01%	0.04%	-0.36%	-6.01%
2012	2.41%	-1.11%	-1.19%	0.60%	1.72%	-6.29%	1.17%	-0.70%	-3.64%	-1.80%	2.38%	-0.81%	-10.24%
2011	1.39%	2.97%	-1.16%	4.09%	-1.31%	-1.62%	2.16%	-1.09%	-2.60%	-3.82%	1.07%	-3.44%	-3.66%
2010	-3.26%	0.45%	0.61%	0.95%	0.01%	0.62%	-1.02%	1.07%	1.82%	6.98%	-2.51%	6.68%	12.53%
2009	-0.61%	1.08%	-2.27%	-3.32%	-0.58%	0.15%	-3.23%	0.75%	1.44%	-2.31%	4.84%	-3.83%	-7.93%
2008	5.60%	14.59%	-1.72%	-1.58%	0.71%	2.86%	-5.61%	-1.99%	6.86%	10.80%	5.77%	2.73%	44.30%
2007	-1.43%	-1.76%	-2.42%	-0.79%	0.71%	-1.32%	-3.16%	-3.07%	5.87%	4.53%	-2.13%	2.29%	-3.11%

<sup>\*</sup> Returns represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust, Class X (1.0% management and 15% performance fee with hurdle rate). Prior to December 2019, the returns were from Auspice Managed Futures LP, Series 1 (2% management and 20% performance fee) and based in Canadian Dollars (CAD). See Important Disclaimer and Notes for addition details.



#### **COMPARABLE INDICES**

\*Returns for **Auspice Diversified Program ("ADP")** represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust, Class X (1.0% management and 15% performance fee with hurdle rate). Prior to December 2019, the returns were from Auspice Managed Futures LP, Series 1 (2% management and 20% performance fee) and based in Canadian Dollars (CAD).

The **Barclay BTOP50 CTA Index** seeks to replicate the overall composition of the managed futures industry with regard to trading style and overall market exposure. The BTOP50 employs a top-down approach in selecting its constituents. The largest investable trading advisor programs, as measured by assets under management, are selected for inclusion in the BTOP50.

The **SG CTA Index** provides the market with a reliable daily performance benchmark of major commodity trading advisors (CTAs). The SG CTA Index calculates the daily rate of return for a pool of CTAs selected from the larger managers that are open to new investment.

The CTA indexes do not encompass the whole universe of CTAs. The CTAs that comprise the indices have submitted their information voluntarily and the performance has not been verified by the index publisher.

The **S&P/TSX 60 Index** is designed to represent leading companies in leading industries. Its 60 stocks make it ideal for coverage of companies with large market capitalizations and a cost-efficient way to achieve Canadian equity exposure. Price Return data is used (not including dividends).

The **S&P 500** is an index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factors. The S&P 500 is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe. Price Return data is used (not including dividends).

The **(MSCI) World Index**, Morgan Stanley Capital International, is designed to measure equity market performance large and mid-cap equity performance across 23 developed markets countries, covering approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each. This index offers a broad global equity benchmark, without emerging markets exposure.

The **MSCI ACWI (Net) Index**, is designed to represent performance of the full opportunity set of large- and mid-cap stocks across 23 developed and 26 emerging markets.

The Bloomberg Commodity (Excess Return) Index (**BCOM ER**), is a broadly diversified index that allows investors to track 19 commodity futures through a single, simple measure.

Excess Return (ER) Indexes do not include collateral return.

The S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Excess Return Index **(S&P GSCI ER)**, is a composite index of commodity sector returns representing an unleveraged, long-only investment in commodity futures that is broadly diversified across the spectrum of commodities.

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#### **PERFORMANCE NOTES**

The Equity benchmarks used in this material are intended to reflect the general equity market performance. They are shown to illustrate the non-correlated attributes versus other assets such as the Barclay CTA Index and the Auspice Diversified Program. Adding non-correlated assets within a portfolio has the potential to reduce portfolio volatility and drawdowns.

#### **QUALIFIED INVESTORS**

For U.S. investors, any reference to the Auspice Diversified Strategy or Program, "ADP", is only available to Qualified Eligible Persons "QEP's" as defined by CFTC Regulation 4.7.

For Canadian investors, any reference to the Auspice Diversified Strategy or Program, "ADP", is only available to "Accredited Investors" as defined by CSA NI 45-106.

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