

# DIVERSIFIED TRUST

# COMMENTARY + FUND PROFILE

**JANUARY 2024** 

All performance data, portfolio information and pricing contained herein is as of January 31st, 2024.

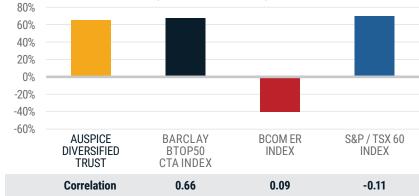
### **AUSPICE** Capital Advisors

SUITE 510 - 1000 7TH AVE SW CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA T2P 5L5



#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**

(SINCE JANUARY 1ST 2007\*)



Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. \*The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Returns represent the performance for Auspice Diversified Trust, Series X. Prior to December 2019, the returns were from Auspice Managed Futures LP, Series 1. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index. \*Correlation is a statistical measure that calculates the degree to which two portfolios or securities move in relation to one and the other, and can range between -1.0 and +1.0. A 0 correlation would indicate 0 similarity, a 1.0 correlation would indicate 100% correlation.

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Prior to February 28, 2023, this Fund was offered via offering memorandum only and this Fund was not a reporting issuer during such prior period. The expenses of the Fund would have been higher during such prior period had the Fund been subject to the additional regulatory requirements applicable to a reporting issuer. Auspice obtained exemptive relief on behalf of the Fund to permit the disclosure of the prior performance data for the Fund for the time period prior to it becoming a reporting issuer.

#### **SUMMARY**

Source of data is Bloomberg unless otherwise indicated.

After outperforming commodity, CTA and global equity benchmarks since 2020 as depicted in Chart 1, the Auspice Diversified Trust (ADT) started the year down 1.2% per Table 1. As illustrated, the result is ahead of the benchmarks including BTOP 50, Bloomberg Commodity index (BCOM) and on par with the global equity benchmark, MSCI ACWI – notably with good hedging characteristics, performing well when equity is weak. This useful inverse relationship has reduced risk (volatility) and pullback (drawdown) versus benchmarks.

After softening broadly since mid 2022, commodities found a base and footing for select market increases. WTI Crude rose 5.8% alongside a strong energy sector. Sugar gained leading Soft Commodities while Grains and Metals mostly softened although Copper made gains. We believe this most diverse asset class will begin to provide new opportunities, both up and down, as 2024 develops. The long-only commodity benchmarks were mixed to start the year with the Bloomberg Commodity Index (BCOM ER) down 0.09% while the energy tilted Goldman Sachs Commodity Index (GSCI ER) added 3.9%.

Global stock indices started the year by breaking a nine-week streak of gains only to rally again and finish the month strong. S&P500 and Nasdaq added 1.6% and 1.0% respectively while Asia remains weak with Hang Seng falling 9.2% and the China FTSE A50 off 3.9%. As we look away from the tech dominated US benchmarks, the returns are more moderate. Canada's TSX60 was up 0.3% while global benchmark MSCI ACWI gained 0.6%.

Optimism and media narratives of central bank cuts became muted as US year-over-year inflation as measured by CPI jumped higher to 3.4% (for the December reading see Chart 2) and the month ended with the Fed holding rates steady a fourth time.

After bottoming to close 2023, rates rose slightly in January with the benchmark US 10-year Note moving from 3.88% to 3.91%. The US Dollar rallied 2% vis-à-vis global currencies with the Yen falling 4.1% while Aussie Dollar and Euro fell 3.3% and 1.9% respectively.

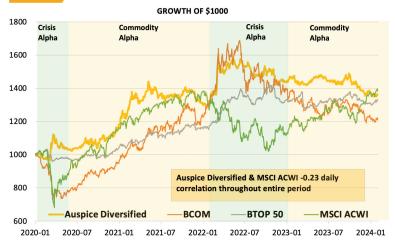
#### **OUTLOOK**

See this month's Blog. The number of wars and global conflicts are at the highest levels since WWII. For people under 80 - a large majority of the world's population - we have never lived in a world with so many different conflicts between countries and amongst non state groups such as terrorist cells and drug cartels.

Two billion people, a quarter of the world's population, live in places affected by conflict. This follows an all-time record year (2023) for global food insecurity. Additionally, more than 50 countries representing over 50% of the world's population heads to the polls in 2024 adding to uncertainty<sup>1</sup>.

#### (CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

#### CHART 1 COMMODITY & CRISIS ALPHA



Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index.

#### TABLE 1 AUSPICE DIVERSIFIED TRUST PERFORMANCE

	Auspice Diversified Trust	Barclay BTOP50 CTA Index	BCOM ER INDEX	TSX 60 INDEX
1 Month	-1.18%	1.30%	-0.09%	0.26%
2024 YTD	-1.18%	1.30%	-0.09%	0.26%
1 yr (Feb 23)	-7.89%	-0.28%	-11.84%	1.33%
3 yr (Feb 21)	11.68%	27.28%	23.05%	23.53%
5 yr (Feb 19)	32.16%	43.57%	22.09%	36.47%
10 yr (Feb 14)	42.06%	43.38%	-21.85%	61.44%
15 yr (Feb 09)	17.93%	35.95%	-11.15%	142.35%
Ann. Return (Jan 07)	2.93%1/3.95%2	3.03%	-3.02%	3.18%
Std Deviation	11.52%	6.94%	16.47%	13.50%
Sharpe Ratio	0.33	0.47	-0.10	0.32
MAR Ratio	0.11	0.19	-0.04	0.07
Worst Drawdown	-26.04%	-16.11%	-73.87%	-44.27%

Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index. 1/3/5/10/15 year is cumulative performance.

- 1. The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Returns represent 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 Series X (1% mgmt, 15% performance) which started on July 1st, 2014.
- 2. "Auspice Diversified 1 and 15" is provided for indicative purposes to illustrate full cycle net returns with the current lower fee structure (Series X). Auspice Diversified 1 and 15 is based on the realized gross returns of Auspice Managed Futures LP Series 1 (2% mgmt, 20% performance) through November 30th 2019, adjusted with the current lower (1 and 15) fee structure (Series X). December 1st, 2019 forward Auspice Diversified 1 and 15 represents the realized net returns from Auspice Diversified Series X.



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

Going forward the risks, in our opinion, are highly skewed to the upside. Inflation has failed to continue downward, and commodity prices, as represented by the Goldman Sachs Commodity ("GSCI TR") benchmark, have found support - prices resumed upwards in January, with the December lows higher than the May 2023 lows. Now may be an opportune time to add commodity or valuable non-correlated CTA exposure. See this month's Auspice Blog for more.

#### ATTRIBUTIONS AND TRADES

Despite the volatility up and down across the diverse portfolio, the general direction of our positioning was largely unchanged.

Per Chart 3, more sectors experienced small negative attributions versus gains in both financial and commodity markets. While Grains and Equities added value, they did not offset Metals, Softs, Currencies and Rates.

In financial markets, our tilt to long Equities was profitable while interest rates rising pushed against our modest long bond position. Similarly in Currencies, the US Dollar bounced higher vis-à-vis long global currencies exposures. While long equity exposures generally led gains, short Hang Seng added value given weak Asian markets.

Commodity markets remain volatile with strong moves in both directions pointing to a possible more broad inflection. While Energies rallied against our net short exposure, we had select long exposures that offset the loss. In Metals, broad weakness against select long exposures was acerbated by strength where we remained short and risk was reduced. Grains provided a positive attribution as we are net short and risk was added. Overall, we reduced commodity shorts.

#### **BY SECTOR**

**Energies:** Petroleum energies were strong and positions were held both long and short while reducing the short in Natural Gas.

Metals: Broad weakness in base and precious metals had us reduce exposure, exiting positions in Iron Ore (profit taking) and Platinum. Copper bucked the sector trend and moved up.

**Grains:** Positive attribution from weakness in the sector including a profitable shift from long to short Soybeans as this market led Grain weakness.

**Softs:** Gains from a strong Coffee market rallying over 3% helped offset the negative result from rallies against shorts in Sugar and Cotton.

**Equities:** Strongest market sector led positive attributions while we reduced exposure in Europe which demonstrated early weakness against the trend.

Rates: Sector loss as bonds sold off from recent trend and positions were reduced in European markets.

Currencies: Negative attribution from short US Dollar and long exposures in Swiss Franc and Canadian dollar. Long exposure in Aussie dollars reduced.

#### **RETURN DRIVERS:**

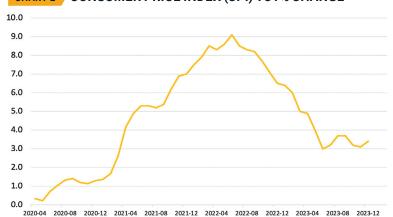
Losses were dominated by trend-following strategies while the Auspice non-correlated short-term (non-trend) strategies were also slightly negative. We continue to earn on significant cash positions. See Chart 4.

#### TABLE 2 AUSPICE DIVERSIFIED TRUST PERFORMANCE

Auspice Diversified Trust		NAVPU			
Series	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	CAD\$
Series X	-7.89%	3.75%	5.77%	n/a	13.7958
Series A	-8.85%	2.59%	5.04%	2.98%	10.9776
Series F	-7.88%	3.22%	5.27%	3.34%	11.7711
Series I	-6.89%	6.24%	8.16%	5.60%	16.2140

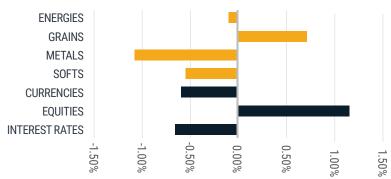
Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Inception dates: Series X, July 1st, 2014; Series A, October 1st, 2009; Series F, October 1st, 2009; Series I, January 1st, 2013.

#### CHART 2 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) YOY% CHANGE



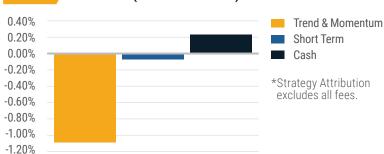
Source: Bloomberg and Auspice Investment Operations. See definitions at end for more.

## CHART 3 SECTOR PROFIT/LOSS AND MONTHLY ATTRIBUTION



Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

#### **CHART 4** STRATEGY (RETURN DRIVER) ATTRIBUTION



Source: Auspice Investment Operations.



#### **POSITION HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **GAINS**

- Short Carbon Emissions as market fell 20% and long Heating Oil rallying over 12% led energy gains.
- Equity performance was led by S&P500, Nasdaq and the Japanese Nikkei index which rallied 8.4%.
- Short Corn and Soybeans in Grains falling 5% plus.

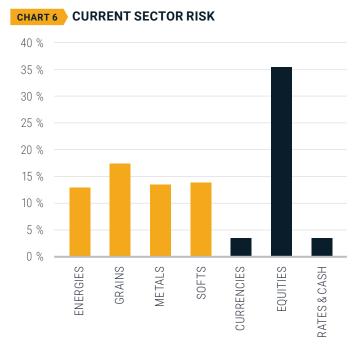
#### LOSSES

- Natural Gas rallied sharply on cold weather early in month and we reduced short exposure.
- European benchmark DJ Eurostoxx 50 was trimmed on weakness.
- Sugar rallied over 17% against shorts.

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

Commodity to Financial exposure increased slightly to 58:42 from 55:45 and remains below average per Chart 5. Overall portfolio risk remains low and as measured by the Margin to Equity ratio, has dropped to 5.3% from 7.0% last month and is below the historical average level of 6.6% (see Chart 7 next page).

In Commodities, risk was increased in Grains while decreased in Metals. Financial exposure was increased in Equities but reduced in Rates and Currencies for a net financial reduction See Chart 6.



Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

\*Sector and individual market risk is expressed relative to the overall portfolio VAR/risk. Risk based on 1-day VaR.



#### **CURRENT RISK BY SECTOR**

Largest Holdings	Aggregate Position	% of Risk
ENERGIES		13.0%
Natural Gas (HH)	Short	3.8%
Crude Oil (WTI)	Short	2.5%
Gasoline (RBOB)	Short	2.5%
GRAINS		17.3%
Soybean	Short	7.7%
Corn	Short	4.9%
Wheat	Short	2.4%
METALS		13.6%
Gold	Long	8.0%
Copper	Short	2.9%
Silver	Long	2.5%
SOFTS		14.0%
Coffee	Long	9.1%
Cotton	Short	3.1%
Sugar	Short	1.9%
CURRENCIES		3.2%
Canadian Dollar	Long	0.6%
Euro	Short	0.6%
US Dollar Index	Short	0.5%
EQUITIES		35.5%
S&P 500	Long	7.8%
Nasdaq 100	Long	7.3%
DJ EuroStoxx 50	Long	6.0%
RATES & CASH		3.3%
Treasury Bond/30 yr (USA)	Long	0.6%
Treasury Notes/10 yr (USA)	Long	0.6%
Treasury Notes/5 yr (USA)	Long	0.6%

Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

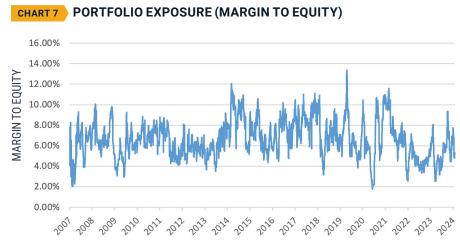


#### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The Fund seeks to generate returns on investment in, trading in or exposure to commodity and financial interests. Using a disciplined rules-based investment process, the fund captures dominant trends long and short, agnostic to market direction and popular consensus. Risk management and capital allocation is systematic to preserve capital as the strategy's core objective along with

providing returns that are non-correlated to traditional equity, fixed income and most alternative strategies. A core goal is to provide performance and crisis alpha in times of significant equity correction.

#### **FUND DETAILS**



Source: Auspice Investment Operations.

Fund Details (Jan 2007)		Trade Statistics	
Annualized Return	2.93%1/3.95%2	Avg Monthly Gain	2.89%
Annualized Std Dev	11.52%	Avg Monthly Loss	-2.09%
Largest Drawdown	-26.04%	Daily Std Dev	0.69%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.33	Daily VAR (sim w/99% conf)	-0.85%
MAR Index <sup>4</sup>	0.11	Round Turns per \$million	800
Sortino	0.59	Margin to Equity ratio	6.6
Upside/Downside Deviation	0.14 / 0.05	Average Hold Period (Days)	70
Correlation to MSCI ACWI	-0.17	% Profitable	39%
Correlation to TSX60	-0.11	\$Win/\$Loss	1.54
Correlation to BCOM ER	0.09	Skew	0.96

Source: Auspice Investment Operations.
Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Auspice Diversified Trust	Fundserv Code	Management Fee	Performance Fee	Minimum
Series X	ACA778X	1%	15%	\$1mm
Series A	ACA718A	2%	20%	\$1,000
Series F	ACA728F	1%	20%	\$1,000
Series I	ACA738I	Negotiated	Negotiated	\$25mm

Source: Auspice Investment Operations. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

#### **KEY ATTRIBUTES**

- Higher allocation to commodities relative to our peers,
- Negative correlation to equity, no correlation to commodity,
- Low margin to equity (average <7.0%) makes it scalable and cash efficient
- Portfolio Management team with experience trading in volatile environments.
- Positive skew: Auspice Diversified Trust has outperformed at critical times of crisis, recovery, and volatility expansion.
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- 3. Assumes Risk free rate of 0%.
- 4. MAR is the annualized return divided by the largest drawdown.

Program Details	
Other Structures and Platforms	Managed Account, US Delaware LLC, Innocap
Auspice Diversified Trust Liquidity	Daily
Firm Assets	\$820M

Source: Auspice Investment Operations.
Past performance is not indicative of future results.



#### **MONTHLY PERFORMANCE TABLE\***

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2024	-1.18%												-1.18%
2023	2.15%	-3.64%	0.34%	2.92%	0.87%	-2.21%	-0.36%	-0.80%	3.37%	-3.36%	-3.35%	-0.49%	-4.79%
2022	2.20%	4.32%	7.95%	3.54%	-1.84%	0.55%	-2.90%	-0.17%	2.43%	-0.51%	-4.30%	0.00%	11.19%
2021	2.67%	9.55%	-0.89%	4.61%	0.61%	-1.50%	-1.77%	0.98%	0.49%	1.32%	-4.28%	-1.89%	9.62%
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%

Source: Auspice Investment Operations.
Past performance is not indicative of future results.

\*The returns for Auspice Diversified Trust ("ADT") are net of fees. Returns represent 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 Series X (1% mgmt, 15% performance) which started in July 1st, 2014. See Important Disclaimer and Notes for addition details."

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in share and/or unit value and reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any securityholder that would have reduced returns. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

#### **RISK RATING**

Auspice Capital Advisors Ltd. has rated the volatility of this fund as **medium.** 

This rating is based on how much the Fund's returns have changed from year to year. It does not tell you how volatile the Fund will be in the future. The rating can change over time. A fund with a low risk rating can still lose money.

LOW	LOW TO MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM TO HIGH	HIGH
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For more information about the risk rating and specific risks that can affect the Fund's returns, refer to the risk section of the Fund's simplified prospectus.



#### **BENCHMARK DESCRIPTIONS**

The BTOP50 seeks to replicate the overall composition of the managed futures industry with regard to trading style and overall market exposure. The largest investable trading advisor programs, as measured by assets under management, are selected for inclusion in the BTOP50. For 2022 there are 20 CTA funds in the Barclay BTOP50 Index. The BTOP 50 is the most comparable index for Auspice Diversified Trust, however there are significant differences, such as the average exposure to commodity futures (versus financial futures), and average trade length. Reference to the BTOP50 benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

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. Second to the BTOP50, the SG CTA is the most comparable index for Auspice Diversified Trust, however there are significant differences, such as the average exposure to commodity futures (versus financial futures), and average trade length. Reference to the SG CTA benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The Bloomberg Commodity Index Excess Return (BCOM ER) Index is a broadly diversified commodity price index that tracks prices of futures contracts on physical commodities on the commodity markets. Like Auspice Diversified Trust, the index is designed to minimize concentration in any one sector. No one commodity can compose more than 15% of the BCOM ER index, no one commodity and its derived commodities can compose more than 25% of the index, and no sector can represent more than 33% of the index. There are significant differences however, most importantly, that the BCOM ER index is passive, and 100% commodities, whereas Auspice Diversified Trust is active, and also trades financial futures. Reference to the BCOM ER benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Excess Return Index ("GSCI"), 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. Like Auspice Diversified, it provides exposure to a number of commodities. There are significant differences however. Importantly, the GSCI index is passive, concentrated in energy, and 100% commodities. Auspice Diversified Trust is active long and short, diversified equally across seven sectors, and also trades financial futures. Reference to the GSCI benchmark does not imply that Auspice Diversified Trust will achieve similar performance.

The S&P/TSX 60 ("TSX 60") Index is a stock market index of 60 large companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Maintained by the Canadian S&P Index Committee, a unit of Standard & Poor's, it exposes the investor to 60 stocks in nine industry sectors. There is a low degree of similarity between the TSX 60 and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in Canada its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

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). There is a low degree of similarity between the S&P 500 and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in the US its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from US equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

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. There is a low degree of similarity between the MSCI ACWI and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for global equity performance its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from global equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The Nasdaq Composite Index is the market capitalization-weighted index of over 3,000 common equities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange. There is a low degree of similarity between the Nasdaq and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for technology stock performance its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from technology stocks, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The Hang Seng Index is a freefloat-adjusted market-capitalization-weighted equity market index in Hong Kong. It is used to record and monitor daily changes of the largest companies of the Hong Kong stock market and is the main indicator of the overall market performance in Hong Kong. Price Return data is used (not including dividends), which is not the same basis as the fund's return, which includes distributions. There is a low degree of similarity between the Hang Seng and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in Hong Kong its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.

The FTSE China A50 Index is a stock market index by the FTSE Group. The components were chosen from the Shanghai Stock Exchange and Shenzhen Stock Exchange, which issue A-shares. B-shares (shares for foreigners) are not included. Price Return data is used (not including dividends), which is not the same basis as the fund's return, which includes distributions. There is a low degree of similarity between the FTSE China A50 and Auspice Diversified Trust. As the main benchmark for equity performance in China its inclusion is typically used to illustrate how Auspice Diversified Trust is notably different from Chinese equities, an important consideration for portfolio managers and investors alike.



#### **GLOSSARY**

- 1. Commodity Trading Advisors (CTAs) are professional investment managers, similar to portfolio managers in mutual funds, who seek to profit from movements in the global financial, commodity and currency markets by investing in exchange traded futures, options, and OTC forward contracts.
- **2.** CPI The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change overtime in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. It is often referenced as a measure of inflation.
- 3. Value at risk (VaR) is a measure of the risk of loss for investments. It estimates how much a set of investments might lose (with a given probability), given normal market conditions, in a set time period such as a day.
- **4.** The Margin to Equity ratio represents the amount of trading capital that is being held as margin at any particular time. For example, if a CTA fund with \$100 million AUM executes trades requiring \$25 million in margin, the margin-to-equity ratio is 25%.
- **5.** Standard deviation is a measure of how much an investment's returns can vary from its average return. It is a measure of volatility and, in turn, risk.
- **6.** The Sharpe ratio measures the performance of an investment such as a security or portfolio compared to a risk-free asset, after adjusting for its risk. It is defined as the difference between the returns of the investment and the risk-free return, divided by the standard deviation of the investment returns.
- 7. The MAR Ratio is the annualized return divided by the largest drawdown.

- **8.** Skew is the degree to which returns are asymmetric around the mean. Why does skew matter? If portfolio returns are right, or positively, skewed, it implies numerous small negative returns and a few large positive returns. If portfolio returns are left, or negatively, skewed, it implies numerous small positive returns and few large negative returns.
- **9.** Worst Drawdown measures the maximum fall in the value of the investment, as given by the difference between the value of the lowest trough and that of the highest peak before the trough.
- 10. Alpha is a measure of the active return on an investment, the performance of that investment compared with a suitable market index. An alpha of 1% means the investment's return on investment over a selected period of time was 1% better than the market during that same period.
- 11. Crisis alpha means that an investment strategy generates positive return in periods of high financial stress. For example, if a manager is short the market when it crashes, that manager will generate positive returns when other investors lose money.
- 12. The DBIQ Diversified Agriculture Index Excess Return is a rules-based index composed of futures contracts on some of the most liquid and widely traded agricultural commodities.
- **13.** The UN Food and Agriculture World Food Price Index (FAO Food Price Index) is a food price index by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. It records the development of world market prices of 55 agricultural commodities and foodstuffs.

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