

# **Alpha Australian Small Companies Fund**

August 2016

# **Alpha Australian Small Companies - Snapshot**

Morningstar Category

Australia OE Equity Australia Mid/Small Blend

2/04/2007 Inception Date

#### **Fund and Market Commentary**

The S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index fell 1.56% in August while the Alpha Small Companies Fund lagged. The best sector performance came from Information Technology and Energy, while Utilities and Telecoms underperformed. Since inception, the Fund has consistently outperformed its benchmark.

The Standard and Poors rating agency has put Australia's triple A credit rating 'on watch', with a negative outlook due to "growing fiscal vulnerabilities". While the Coalition has won the election it is now even more difficult to pass legislation to address the budget deficit, with the Senate having the largest cross-bench in history.

The Australian annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate expanded 0.2% from last quarter to 3.3% based on the latest data release. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has reported the unemployment rate decreased by 0.1% to 5.7%. ABS retail turnover grew 0.1% month on month bringing the total annualised increase to 2.7%.

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) decided to lower the cash rate by 0.25% to a new record low of 1.50% during its meeting on the 2nd of August. The Australian Dollar (AUD) fell 1.09% ending the month at 0.7518 United States (US) cents.

In structuring the Alpha Small Companies Fund, Alpha Fund Managers seek to select managers demonstrating a proven track record in managing risk and generating longterm outperformance. Alpha Fund Managers blend these managers to create portfolios that can achieve consistent, absolute and relative performances, irrespective of where we are in the market cycle.

# Top 10 Holdings - August 2016

Stock Name	Sector
Pilbara Minerals Ltd	Basic Materials
Yowie Group Ltd	Industrials
Skydive the Beach Group Ltd	Consumer Cyclical
BSA Ltd	Consumer Cyclical
Migme Ltd	Basic Materials
Pacific Brands Ltd	Consumer Cyclical
Highfield Resources Ltd	Basic Materials
QMS Media Ltd	Consumer Cyclical
Impedimed Ltd	Healthcare
Cash & Cash Equivalents	Not Applicable

#### **Risk Matrix**

Time Period: 1/09/2011 to 31/08/2016		
Alpha	S&P/ASX	
Small	Small	
Companies	Ord	
5.70	0.00	
14.67	15.95	
0.08	-0.17	
0.11	-0.22	
	Small Companies 5.70 14.67 0.08	

### **Investment Growth (net of fees) versus Benchmark**



#### Returns (net of fees) versus Benchmark

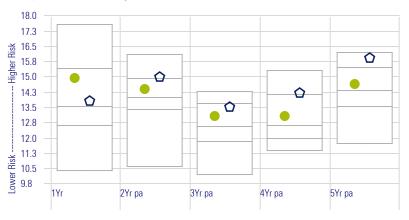
As of Date: 31/08/2016 Data Point: Return

Month Quarter 6 Mth 1Yr 2Yr pa 3Yr pa 4Yr pa 5Yr pa

Alpha Australian Small Companies -2.09 4.84 19.31 30.72 13.87 12.82 12.37

S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries TR AUD -1.56 5.47 19.30 26.55 6.95 7.13 6.36

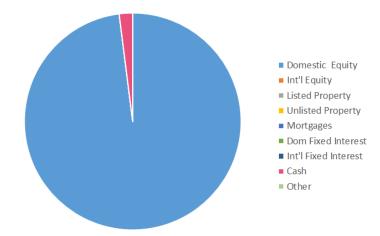
## Risk (i.e. Return Volatility) versus Benchmark



Alpha Australian Small Companies

◆ S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries TR AUD

#### **Asset Allocation**



#### **Investment Objective**

The Alpha Australian Small Companies Fund may exhibit a relatively 'benchmark unaware' process in pursuit of superior returns, i.e. the fund may not invest into stocks just because they are in the benchmark, thus the composition and returns of the portfolio may deviate significantly from that of the benchmark.

Alpha Fund Managers seek to achieve this objective in each of the Alpha Funds by the blending of a small number of high conviction investment managers, each with a different investment process. This is done so in a complementary manner, so as to produce consistent outperformance with similar or less risk than the benchmark.

Fund Style: Actively Managed Australian Equity Small Capitalisation Portfolio

#### **Current Manager Line-up**

**Eight Investment Partners ('8IP')** is a boutique investment manager, dedicated to the analysis of listed small companies in Australia. It combines a highly experienced and diverse team supported by a strong analytical, business and risk framework. The investment philosophy targets three types of companies being stars, turnarounds and under researched issues which form part of an active portfolio of between 40-60 stocks.

Manager Style: High Conviction Australian Small Cap

**Ophir Asset Management** is a boutique investment firm which invests within the Australian small cap universe specifically outside the top 150 stocks. The co-founders have deep experience in this space having run similar small/microcap strategies which, combined with a nimble investment process, enables them to quickly capitalise on opportunities to maximise alpha. They are also co-investors in the fund.

Manager Style: High Conviction Australian Small Cap

#### **About Alpha Fund Managers**

Alpha Fund Managers' investment philosophy is based on the premise that there are particular investment managers that have the ability to consistently generate "alpha" over the medium to long-term, and through all financial market cycles irrespective of any style bias (growth vs. value, large cap vs. small cap, etc.). "Alpha" in this context is defined as an investment manager's unique ability to select a portfolio of securities that differs from and outperforms its benchmark on a risk-adjusted basis. In other words, it is an investment manager's ability to beat the index. Alpha Fund Managers' investment process is based on a balanced approach to quantitative and qualitative research and analysis techniques to assess and select the underlying investment managers in each Alpha Fund Series fund. Alpha Fund Managers seek to add value by selecting investment managers who demonstrate a high-level of investment conviction, unique investment processes and a proven record in managing risk and generating long-term "alpha" over full market cycles. Alpha Fund Managers then blend these managers to create portfolios that can achieve consistent, absolute and relative performances, irrespective of where we are in the market cycle.

#### **Investment Details**

APIR Code	ETL0092AU
Ticker	15577
Net Assets (\$Mil)	24
Month End Price Date	31/08/2016
Month End Price	0.8245

## **Purchase Information**

Minimum Initial Investment	\$25,000
Minimum Balance	\$25,000
Minimum Additional Investment/Withdrawal	\$10,000
Buy-sell Spread	0.35%
Income Distribution	Half Yearly
Valuation/Unit Pricing	Daily
Management Fee	1.358%
Performance Fee	Applicable - refer to PDS on Website

# Manager Info

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# **General Advice Warning and Disclosure**

This document was prepared by Alpha Fund Managers Pty Limited (Alpha) (ABN 37 124 085 883) Corporate Authorised Representative of Infocus Securities Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 47 097 797 049) AFSL No 236523 as Investment Manager of the Alpha Australian Small Companies Fund. This information is general advice only. It is not intended to take the place of professional advice and you should not take action on specific issues in reliance on this information. In preparing this information, we did not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. You should consider the appropriateness of this information with regards to your objectives, financial situation and needs. We encourage you to read the Fund's product disclosure statement in full before making an investment decision. Past performance is not indicative of future performance.