EQUITY ALPHA PLUS FUND



PERFORMANCE NET (%)	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	1 YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	SI* P.A.
Equity Alpha Plus Fund	5.72	8.19	20.84	17.18	18.76	15.29
S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index	3.10	7.03	14.74	13.04	12.32	8.82
Excess Return	2.62	1.16	6.10	4.14	6.44	6.47

*since Inception date (SI) - 12 July 2019

Past performance of the Fund is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The value of an investment in the Fund may rise or fall. Returns are not guaranteed by any person. Fund returns are calculated before tax, after ongoing management costs and any accrued performance fees, and assumes the reinvestment of distributions. Returns greater than 1 year are annualised.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund aims to outperform the S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index (after fees and before taxes) over the long term.

LEAD PORTFOLIO MANAGER

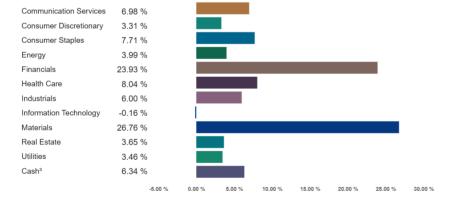
Tom Richardson

FUND OVERVIEW

This Fund uses a detailed fundamental research process to invest in stocks that are well placed for the future (longs) and takes advantage of stocks we believe have cyclical and structural headwinds (shorts). The Long/Short investment style is designed to enhance returns and manage downside risks.

MARKET EXPOSURES	
Long	120.50
Short	-26.84
Net	93.66

SECTOR ALLOCATION



KEY DETAILS	
Number of Holdings	93
Portfolio Dividend Yield	3.16%
Fund Size (AUD)	\$ 243M
Redemption Price	\$1.6212

TOP 10 POSITIONS	WEIGHT %
BHP Group Ltd.	11.11
Macquarie Group, Ltd.	5.94
Seek Ltd.	5.46
Treasury Wine Estates Ltd.	5.09
Alcoa Corporation	4.40
Brambles Ltd.	4.11
Xero Ltd.	3.91
Newmont Corporation	3.85
National Australia Bank Ltd.	3.84
GPT Group	3.70

FUND DETAILS	
APIR Code	ETL8096AU
Distribution Frequency	Semi-Annually
Management Fee ¹	0.99% p.a.
Performance Fee ²	15% p.a.
Buy Sell Spread	+/- 0.30%
Minimum Investment	\$20,000
Stock Range	Long 20-60, Short 0-50
Cash Range	0-20%

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PERFORMANCE

The Fund rose 5.72% in August outperforming the Index which rallied 3.10%. Our long book outperformed in the month rising nearly 6%. A large underweight position in CSL was the largest contributor to the Fund with the stock falling 21%. We have been cautious on the outlook for CSL for some time with increasing competitive pressures across multiple products. We have maintained our underweight despite the share price fall. Lynas Rare Earths and Seek were also key contributors. Lynas continued to rally as further evidence emerged of bifurcated rare earth pricing between China and the rest of world. Late in the month, the company announced a capital raising which positions them for multiple growth options. Seek announced a strong result, surpassing expectations for both their domestic and Asian businesses. After multiple years of heavy investment, the company is well placed to drive yield growth and sustainably increase earnings. A nil holding in Westpac was the largest detractor to returns. While disappointing, it shows we managed our long portfolio very well through a volatile reporting season. The short book narrowly outperformed in the month, detracting from Fund performance. It was a mixed bag for the short book through reporting season, with some highly successful positions offset by a handful of small caps that reported better results.

MARKET WRAP

The S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index continued to strengthen, up by 3.1% over August 2025. The S&P500 Total Return Index meanwhile rose 2.0% (in USD) during the month. Gold stocks were some of the best performers. Growing expectation that the Fed would ease policy, the weaker US Dollar (-2.2%), plus concerns about growing fiscal deficits have continued to support the gold price. Within the ASX200, Materials (+9.2%) and Consumer Discretionary (+7.6%) led sector gains. Healthcare was (again) the worst performer, with a fall of 13.2%. There were some very strong factor moves over reporting season, with Small Caps outperforming Large by +5.3%.¹ A domestic rate cutting cycle could continue to bolster earnings of small cap industrials and support this rotation.

LOOKING FORWARD

We are moderately cautious markets short-term on poor seasonality and extended positioning in equities. Recent moves in the long end of the yield curve and gold prices also portend some level of risk off / aversion may be pending. However, growing expectations of rate cuts in the US could support a continuation of the equities rally. In Australia the economic picture is relatively more resilient with signs of the domestic consumer emerging in good shape from an 18-month period of cost-of-living increases. We are seeing signs of job ad declines moderating and consumer discretionary spending increasing which all point to a consumer in reasonable shape. We expect more domestic interest rate cuts will also support an acceleration in economic growth.

1. This is the one month performance of the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Total Return Index versus the S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index in August 2025.

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