

Appian Small Companies Opportunities Fund

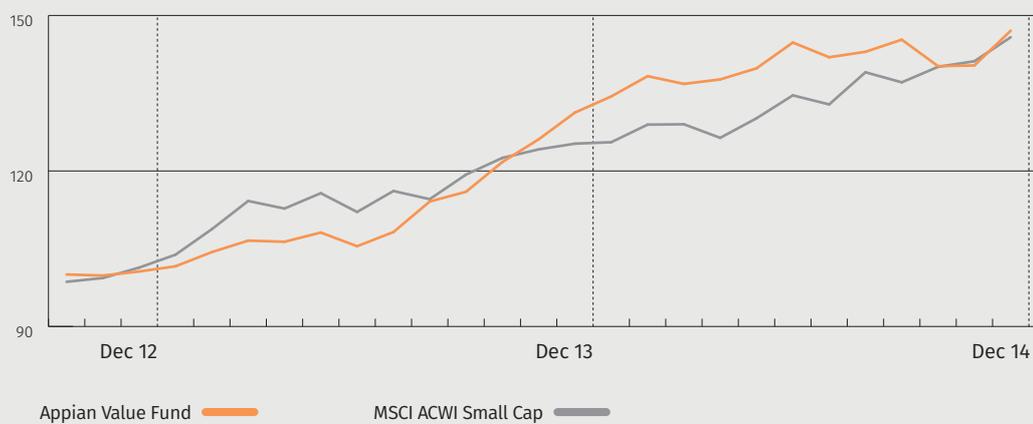
Fact Sheet

DECEMBER 2014

About Appian Asset Management

Appian is an independent Irish owned asset management company. Since our establishment in 2003 our investment philosophy has been to achieve solid investment growth with the minimum of risk and volatility. Our objective is to preserve and grow capital through value investing on a sustainable, risk adjusted basis. We ignore investment fashions and do not leverage any of our investments.

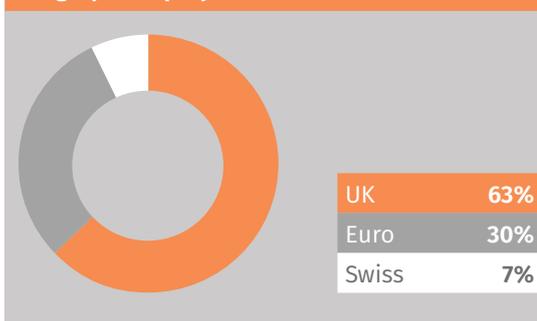
Performance of Appian Small Companies Opportunities Fund



Appian Small Companies Opportunities Fund Performance 02.01.2015

Period	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013	2013	2014
Fund Return	5.91%	-1.00%	9.96%	13.18%	30.50%	12.04%

Geographic Equity Distribution



Investment Team

Patrick J Lawless

John Mattimoe

Pat Kilduff

Frank O'Brien

Eugene Kiernan

Key Features

- Concentrated stock selection
- We meet and engage with management
- No entry, exit or performance fees
- Typically invest in lowly geared companies
- All stocks are publicly quoted
- Independent Trustee Custodian and Administrator

Portfolio Comment for Q4 2014

The ASCOF posted a Q4 return of 1.19% resulting in a full-year gain of 12.04% over 2014. The final quarter, like much of 2014, was quite volatile with equity markets experiencing two short-lived, but pronounced dips, one in mid-October and the second in early December. This volatility, over both the quarter and the year, reflected a myriad of issues which investors had to deal with. Among the supportive factors were very accommodative central bank policies, positive corporate profit growth and further economic recovery in the US. The challenges included deflationary fears in the Eurozone, geopolitical events in the Ukraine and Middle East, slowing economic trends in China and Emerging Markets, worries over the timescale of possible interest rate increases in the US, volatile currency exchange rates and weakness in oil and other commodity prices. Against this backdrop small and mid-cap equities in general lagged the performance of large cap stocks, but the ASCOF continues to benefit from focusing on a small number of companies (25-30) which are well established, well run and attractively valued.

Although we did not add any new stocks to the portfolio in Q4, we took advantage of the volatility during the quarter to increase our weighting in a number of our preferred stocks as attractive entry points were presented. In most of these cases we also had positive meetings with the management of these companies during the quarter. Three of these stocks were the best performing companies over the quarter which also allowed good returns on our incremental investment. Patisserie Holdings rose by 38% over the quarter as its first results announcement following its IPO provided further confidence that significant growth opportunities exist in the UK alone for its patisserie chain concept. Catlin, the specialist insurer, gained 28% over Q4 due to a bid approach from XL Group – potentially making it the sixth company within the Fund to be acquired since the start of 2013. The share price of Jungheinrich, the German producer of forklifts and warehouse management equipment, rose by nearly 19% in Q4 as it continued to deliver good growth in its order book despite the sluggish Eurozone economy.

During the quarter we sold a number of our smaller positions in the Fund, including Barco, Brinks and AG Barr. The valuations of these companies were not sufficiently compelling to justify increasing our weighting so the proceeds were recycled into adding to our investments in our preferred stocks where we believe the prospects for longer-term returns are better.

Top 5 Holdings 02.01.2015

Name	Country	Sector	%
Playtech	UK	Technology	5.80%
Powerflute	UK	Packaging	5.00%
Patisserie	UK	Foodservice	4.90%
Jungheinrich	Eurozone	Machinery	4.80%
Swiss Life	Switzerland	Financial Services	4.50%

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Fund Facts

LAUNCH DATE

October 2012

NAME

**Appian Small Companies
Opportunities Fund**

FUND SIZE

€22 million

PRICING FREQUENCY

Monthly

PRICING BASIS

Single Price

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE

1.5% p.a.

FUND CUSTODIAN

**BNP Paribas
Securities Services**

STRUCTURE

**Retail Investor Alternative
Investment Fund**

WARNING The value of your investment may go down as well as up. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. These investments may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.