## Vontobel

# Vontobel US Equity Strategy 4Q 2024 Factsheet

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Experienced global investment firm
- Founded in 1984
- SEC-registered investment adviser
- AUM: \$23.9 bn as of December 31, 2024\*

#### **KEY PRINCIPLES**

- Concentrate on business analysis (bottom-up approach)
- Seek high quality growth at sensible prices
- High conviction portfolio
- Benchmark unconstrained
- Long-term focus

#### INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY

We believe long-term, stable and superior earnings growth drives long-term investment returns. We pursue this by seeking sensibly priced high-quality companies that can grow earnings faster than the market on a sustainable basis.

\*AUM represents discretionary and non-discretionary assets managed and are further described in form ADV Part 2A.

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

- To outperform the benchmark index over a full market cycle with lower-than-market volatility
- To generate investment results as consistent and predictable as the earnings of the underlying companies

TOP 10 HOLDINGS <sup>1</sup>	% OF PORTFOLIO
Alphabet Inc.	6.4
Microsoft Corporation	5.8
Coca-Cola Company	4.7
Mastercard Incorporated	4.4
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	4.2
RB Global, Inc.	4.1
CME Group Inc.	3.5
Becton, Dickinson and Company	3.4
Abbott Laboratories	3.3
Total	47.7

#### **COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE**

#### Organizational Experience and Stability

- 25 investment professionals averaging 22 years of industry experience
- Long-term talent retention

#### Disciplined

 Consistent implementation of investment philosophy of seeking high quality growth at sensible prices

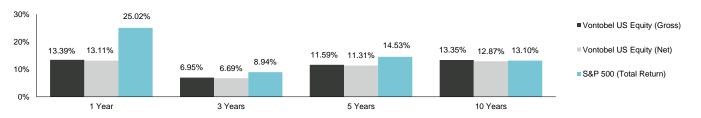
#### Focused

- Long-only global equity investing
- Bottom-up, fundamental approach
- Seeks competitive returns at reasonable risk levels



- ■20.4% Information Technology
- ■15.4% Health Care ■15.3% Financials
- 13.0% Consumer Staples11.4% Consumer Discretionary
- 9.6% Industrials
- 6.4% Communication Services
- 4.8% Materials
- 1.9% Real Estate
- 1.8% Cash & Cash Equivalents

#### ANNUALIZED RETURNS: US EQUITY COMPOSITE<sup>†</sup> AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024



Source: Vontobel; Expressed in U.S. dollar

<sup>†</sup> The composite's gross rates of return are presented before the deduction of investment management fees, other investment-related fees, and after the deduction of foreign withholding taxes, brokerage commissions and transaction costs. An investor's actual return will be reduced by investment advisory fees. The composite's net rates of return are presented after the deduction of investment management fees, brokerage commissions, transaction costs, other investment-related fees and foreign withholding taxes. Results portrayed reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. For additional information, please refer to the Composite Disclaimer and Important Information section of this communication.

There is no guarantee that investment objectives or targets will be achieved.



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#### STOCK SELECTION & PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

- We begin by creating an initial investment universe.
- The second step of our process reduces this universe to a sub-set of companies that exhibit profitability and reasonable earnings predictability.
- The third step of our process is to reduce the list further to companies whose earnings evidence sustainability.
- To be admitted to our portfolio, a company must pass our fourth step of the process which is price that should be below our estimate of its fundamental intrinsic value.
- The final step of our process is careful portfolio construction.
  We believe that investment risk is in the underlying business and, therefore, we limit portfolios to a concentrated list of companies that we have conducted in-depth research on.

CHARACTERISTICS	VONTOBEL U.S. <sup>1</sup>
Capitalization (US\$ bn), weighted avg	646.0
P/E - Forecast 12-month, weighted harmonic avg	23.9
Dividend Yield (%)	1.2
5 Yr Historical EPS Growth (%)	12.4
Return on Equity, weighted avg (%)	23.7

RISK STATISTICS (5 YEAR)	VONTOBEL U.S. <sup>2</sup>
Annualized Alpha	-1.3
Beta	0.9
Sharpe Ratio	0.5
Annualized Standard Deviation	16.9

#### **INVESTMENT PROCESS OVERVIEW3**

Screen & Idea Generation Analyze Past Results Analyze Future Opportunities

Determine a Sensible Price Build Portfolio & Manage Risk

~14,000 stocks

~200 stocks (investment universe)

~30-50 positions

Passing high hurdle rates

Understanding the business and quality of earnings

Replicate and exceed past success

**Sensible Price** 

Benchmark unconstrained

Profitable & stable

Predictable, sustainable growth at a sensible price

**High conviction** 

#### **US EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**



Matthew Benkendorf CIO Quality Growth Portfolio Manager 27 years in industry 25 years with Vontobel



Edwin Walczak Managing Director Portfolio Manager 46 years in industry 36 years with Vontobel



Chul Chang, CFA Executive Director Portfolio Manager 24 years in industry 15 years with Vontobel

- <sup>1</sup> Based on a representative portfolio. The basis upon which the representative portfolio was selected is this is the account we believe most closely reflects current portfolio management style for the strategy. Portfolio holdings and characteristics subject to change and may differ from those associated with your account.
- <sup>2</sup> Based on gross performance of the U.S. Equity Composite. The composite's gross rates of return are presented before the deduction of investment management fees, other investment-related fees, and after the deduction of foreign withholding taxes, brokerage commissions and transaction costs. An investor's actual return will be reduced by investment advisory fees.
- <sup>3</sup> The approximate number of companies is provided as of the date of this presentation and is not necessarily indicative of the approximate number of companies on any other date.

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#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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Strategy holdings and characteristics subject to change and your portfolio may not have the same characteristics and allocations. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index generally representative of the performance of large companies in the U.S. stock market. Index comparisons provided for informational purposes only and should not be used as the basis for making an investment decision. Further, the performance of the representative portfolio, composite and the Index may not be comparable. There are significant differences including, but not limited to, risk profile, liquidity, volatility and asset composition. Indices are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

Where noted, portfolio characteristics and investments discussed herein are based on the strategy's composite and/or representative portfolio. There is no assurance that Vontobel will make any investments with the same or similar characteristics as the representative portfolio presented. The representative portfolio is presented for discussion purposes only and basis for the selection is that the portfolio is the account which we believe most closely reflects current portfolio management style for the strategy. Performance was not a consideration in the selection of the representative account. Further, the reader should not assume that any investments identified were or will be profitable or that any investment recommendations or that investment decisions we make in the future will be profitable.

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Past performance is not a guarantee or indication of future results. There can be no assurance that investment objectives or targets will be achieved. Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. Value and income received are not guaranteed and one may get back less than originally invested.

Please refer to Form ADV Part 2A for additional information on the strategy which includes Vontobel's investment advisory fees.

**Investment risks** include, but are not limited to, the following: Investments in US equity securities include but are not limited to, the following: equity market risk, small and mid-cap company risk, profitability investment risk, value investment risk, and operational risk.

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### Vontobel US Equity Strategy Composite Disclaimer

## Composite description

The U.S. Equity Composite includes all discretionary accounts that invest at least 65% of its assets in the securities of U.S. companies. For the purpose of this policy, U.S. companies are companies of any size (without regard to stock market capitalization) organized in the United States and whose securities are principally traded on a U.S. exchange or that are quoted on an established U.S. over-the-counter market. The minimum account size for this composite is \$1 million. The composite was created and incepted on May 1, 1990.

## Benchmark description

Results of the composite are shown compared to the Standard and Poor's 500 Total Return Index (S&P 500). The benchmark is used for comparative purposes only and generally reflects the risk or investment style of the investments in the composite.

## Claim of compliance

Vontobel Asset Management, Inc. claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®).

#### Firm definition

Vontobel Asset Management, Inc. is an investment advisory firm registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and a subsidiary of Vontobel Holding AG, Zurich, Switzerland. For GIPS Compliance purposes, Vontobel Asset Management, Inc. is defined to include all institutional accounts managed by the Quality Growth boutique, excluding wrap accounts and private client assets managed in previous years.

## List of composites and how to obtain a GIPS Report

To receive additional information regarding Vontobel Asset Management, Inc. including a GIPS Composite Report for the strategy presented in this advertisement and a list of all composite descriptions managed by the firm, contact the GIPS Compliance Office at gips@vontobel.com or write Vontobel Asset Management AG, GIPS Compliance Office (G27 611), Gotthardstrasse 43, 8022 Zurich, Switzerland.

#### Fee schedule

The standard annual management fees charged by Vontobel for the Composite are: 0.75% on the first \$100 million, 0.65% over \$100 million. Certain accounts may have negotiated management fees, which may be higher or lower than the standard fee schedule. Investment advisory fees are further described in Part 2 of its Form ADV.

## Past performance and investment risk

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. Value and income received are not guaranteed and one may get back less than originally invested.

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