

# PROFILE | THIRD QUARTER 2021 INTERNATIONAL SMALL CAP STRATEGY

#### **INTERNATIONAL SMALL CAP**

Style: Small Cap

Approach: Active; Bottom Up

Benchmark: MSCI World ex USA

Small Cap Index

Inception: 1/1/2015

Strategy Assets: \$212 MM

#### **INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY**

We believe that a company's ability to generate consistent, sustainable earnings growth will drive stock price performance over time. Leveraging our proprietary fundamental research process we seek to identify quality non-U.S. small cap companies trading at attractive prices, that are often under-researched or under-owned by other institutional investors, and that possess characteristics of one or more of our targeted growth categories. Applying our strong valuation discipline helps us to discern which companies have the potential to grow earnings or recognize value over the long term.

#### **ABOUT OUR FIRM**

GW&K is a dynamic investment management firm that offers active equity and fixed income investment solutions to meet the needs of a diverse client base. At our core is an entrepreneurial spirit of innovation, a desire to help educate our clients and a level of service that is hard to come by. Our founding principles of applying rigorous fundamental research, focusing on quality and maintaining a long-term view still guide our investment process today.

- Founded in 1974
- \$55 Billion Under Management
- Individually Managed Accounts
- Serving Individuals and Institutions

All data as of September 30, 2021

#### STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

# INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

Seek stocks meeting our growth, quality and valuation criteria, including selective investments in emerging markets

PROPRIETARY
FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

Our bottom-up process seeks to discover well-managed growing businesses that are unrecognized or undervalued by the market

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

Focus on quality companies at attractive prices that can grow earnings or recognize value over the long term

#### **INVESTMENT PROCESS**

# **International Small Cap Universe**

6,400 Stocks

MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index - 2,400 Stocks

# **Idea Generation**

- Independent Research
- Management Meetings
- On Site Visits
- Sell Side Research Regional Brokers

#### Focused Fundamental Research



International Small Cap Equity Portfolio 50 – 100 Stocks

# FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

#### **COMPANY MANAGEMENT**

- Visionary leadership, high-quality management
- Committed to long-term enhancement of shareholder value

#### **GROWTH PROFILE**

- Business models that deliver consistent long-term growth
- Resilient through economic cycles
- Building Blocks of Growth

#### **MARKET POSITIONING**

 Leading companies in attractive and defensible niche markets

#### **FINANCIAL STABILITY**

- Strong financial characteristics
- Strong cash flow
- Prudent use of debt

#### **VALUATION**

Attractive relative and absolute valuation

#### **BUILDING BLOCKS OF GROWTH**

# Stable Growth

#### 40-60%

Stable and visible earnings or cash flow growth with a high-quality business franchise

### Growth at Value Prices

#### 20-40%

Under-appreciated growth potential trading at a discounted valuation

# Contingent Growth

#### 0-30%

Attractive assets with possible catalysts to unlock embedded value

# High Explosive Growth

#### 0-30%

Potential for rapid growth utilizing a longer-term investment horizon to recognize underlying value



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#### **INVESTMENT TEAM**

#### **REID GALAS, CFA**

Partner Portfolio Manager Investment Professional Since 2008 Joined GW&K 2014 BS, Cornell University MBA, University of Michigan

#### KARL M. KYRISS, CFA

Partner Portfolio Manager Investment Professional Since 1999 Joined GW&K 2014 BS, University of Scranton MBA, University of Michigan

#### **DANIEL L. MILLER, CFA**

Partner Director, Equities Investment Professional Since 1979 Joined GW&K 2008 BS, University of California, Berkeley MBA, Stanford University

8 International Small Cap Equity Investment Professionals Averaging 24 Years Experience

## A DISCIPLINED APPROACH TO PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

DIVERSIFICATION

By region

- Across currencies
- By growth profile

By sector

High active share

MARKET CAP RANGE

At time of purchase, company will have a market cap of < \$5 billion or within the market cap range of the MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index

**POSITION SIZE** 

Target: 1% – 3%

Maximum: 5%

**GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS** 

Focused on developed markets

Opportunistic investment in emerging markets of less than 20%

SECTOR WEIGHTINGS

Benchmark aware; Bottom-up process drives sector allocation

**CASH POSITION** 

Portfolios are fully invested

Typically 0% - 5%

**CURRENCY** 

Maintain unhedged foreign currency exposure

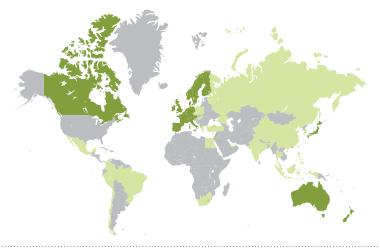
Exposure managed through investment process

QUANTITATIVE RISK ANALYSIS

- Portfolio Risk Characteristics beta, absolute risk, tracking error
- Fundamental factor exposure
- Geographic exposure
- Sector exposure
- Stock specific risk

### **INTERNATIONAL FOCUS**

We view our investment universe as including all developed markets excluding the U.S., but we may invest in companies located in emerging markets if we identify opportunities that meet our quality and risk management standards. Our objective is to build diversified portfolios that will generate attractive returns over the long run.



#### DEVELOPED MARKETS

Australia Austria Belgium Canada Finland Denmark France Germany Hong Kong Ireland Israel Italy Netherlands Japan New Zealand Norway Portugal Singapore Spain Sweden Switzerland

EMERGING MARKETS