# Optimized SMID Cap Core

Q4 2023



			1	3	5	7	10	Since
	QTD	YTD	Year	Years	Years	Years	Years	Inception <sup>1</sup>
Gross of fees	12.97	26.43	26.43	15.86	17.21	14.08	12.40	11.16
Net of fees	12.84	25.78	25.78	15.22	16.59	13.54	11.92	10.76
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	13.35	17.42	17.42	4.24	11.67	8.98	8.36	8.10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Inception Date: October 31, 2007 <sup>2</sup> Benchmark: Russell 2500

Characteristics	Portfolio Weight	Benchmark Weight	
Excess return (gross since inception)	3.06%	-	
Excess return (net since inception)	2.66%	-	
Information ratio (gross since inception)	0.70	-	
Information ratio (net since inception)	0.62	-	
Holdings	77	2,468	
P/E using FY1 est	12.2	15.8	
P/E using FY2 est	11.0	14.8	
Dividend yield	1.8%	1.5%	
Historical 3 year EPS growth	42.6%	26.6%	
Weighted average market cap	\$7,245.70mm	\$6,921.15mm	

Sector Weights (%)	Portfolio Weight	Benchmark Weight	
Communication Services	1.73	2.60	
Consumer Discretionary	11.60	12.87	
Consumer Staples		3.18	
Energy	5.19	4.85	
Financials	12.62	16.62	
Health Care	15.73	12.16	
Industrials	20.36	19.76	
Information Technology	16.37	12.69	
Materials	7.80	5.43	
Real Estate	3.22	7.24	
Utilities	5.39	2.59	

Top Ten Holdings (%)	Portfolio Weight
Builders FirstSource, Inc.	2.72
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc	2.52
GMS, Inc.	2.46
Constellium SE Class A	2.43
Universal Health Services, Inc. Class B	2.36
Clearway Energy, Inc. Class C	2.36
WESCO International, Inc.	2.36
Amkor Technology, Inc.	2.34
Exelixis, Inc.	2.32
Civitas Resources, Inc.	2.29

acts
10/31/2007
\$6.0mm
Russell 2500
3% to 5% vs. b/m
<100
B/m ±4%
100%
\$5mm
Separately managed

Total product assets shown above may include accounts that are not reflected in the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®)\* report below. Portfolio characteristics are subject to change, and current holdings may differ. Past performance is not an indication of future results. Returns are presented gross and net of management fees and include the reinvestment of all income. A GIPS report is found at the end of this presentation. Statistics shown above are supplemental information to the GIPS report at the end of this presentation. Results represent preliminary data which is subject to change. For further performance data, please see the Xponance® Optimized SMID Cap Core disclosures below.

\*GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.



December 31, 2023

## **Portfolio Management**



Sumali Sanyal, CFA
Managing Director, Senior
Portfolio Manager, Systematic
Global Equities



**Cameron F. McLennan, CFA** Director, Portfolio Manager, Systematic Global Equities

# **About Xponance®**

Xponance® is a multi-strategy investment firm offering strategies across equity and fixed income. We are independent and employee owned by women and diverse professionals, whose common passion is to do the right thing for our clients and each other. Xponance® is the successor firm representing the integration of two great legacy firms, FIS Group, Inc. and Piedmont Investment Advisors, LLC.

#### **Investment Philosophy & Process**

Our investment philosophy focuses on striking an appropriate balance between risk and return in our management of clients' portfolios while taking ESG factors into consideration. The elements of this philosophy include - emphasis on security selection, quantification of major sources of risk, diversification as a means of managing common factor risk without reducing expected returns and controlling tracking error. We utilize internally developed quantitative models for stock selection. These models are built using factors that reflect and measure fundamental drivers of growth, value, and momentum, and have also been shown to be consistent and predictive drivers of longterm excess returns. Our portfolio construction methods focus on maximizing exposure to these factors while controlling both ESG risk and portfolio active risk.

#### **Distinguishing Attributes**

- · Proven quantitative stock selection models
- Focused on achieving optimal risk-return tradeoffs
- ESG factors taken into consideration
- Structured and disciplined investment process
- · Experienced investment team
- Corporate culture built on client service and diversity

#### **Optimized SMID Cap Core**



# Trailing period performance as of 12/31/2023<sup>1</sup>

			1-	3-	5-	10-	Since	Inception
(%)	QTD	CYTD	Year	Years	Years	Years	Inception	Date
Composite Gross	12.97	26.43	26.43	15.86	17.21	12.40	11.16	10/31/07
Composite Net	12.84	25.78	25.78	15.22	16.59	11.92	10.76	
Index	13.35	17.42	17.42	4.24	11.67	8.36	8.10	

<sup>1</sup>Benchmark: Russell 2500

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Periods greater than 1 year are annualized. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance.

Gross of fee returns are presented before management fees, but after custodial fees and transaction costs and include the reinvestment of all income. Since August 1, 2018, net of fee returns reflects a model annual management fee of 0.60%, applied monthly. Net of fee returns are calculated by deducting the model management fee from the monthly gross of fee returns. Performance-based fees are not applicable. Prior to August 1, 2018, net of fee returns reflects the deduction of actual management fees (including performance-based fees if applicable) from the monthly gross of fee returns. Actual management fees incurred by clients may vary. The composite include zero commission accounts.

The standard management fee schedule for the composite is as follows: First \$50mm: 65 bps; Next \$50mm: 55 bps; Over \$100mm: 45 bps. Fees are charged to clients on a quarterly basis. Fees are calculated as a percentage of assets under management and vary based upon the type of product and the total amount of assets under management. The percentage fee is expressed terms of basis points ("BPS") for our products. One hundred basis points equal 1%. All fees are negotiable.

Xponance claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). To obtain GIPS-compliant performance information for the firm's strategies and products, please contact info@xponance.com.

The firm maintains a complete list and description of composites and limited distribution pooled fund(s) which is available upon request. Please refer to the GIPS® report for additional performance information which is included on the next page of this presentation.

GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

## **Optimized SMID Cap Core**



#### **Annual Disclosure Presentation**

	Performance Results (%)				lized Ex-Post Deviation (%)			
	Composite							
Year	Gross	Composite Net		Composite		Number of	Composite	Total Firm
End	TWR	TWR	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	Gross	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	Portfolios	Assets (\$mm)	Assets (\$mm)
2022	-8.57	-9.08	-18.37	25.30	25.16	Five or fewer	0.73	13,512
2021	34.52	33.76	18.18	22.09	22.48	Five or fewer	0.80	14,866
2020	4.12	3.53	19.99	24.18	24.21	Five or fewer	0.60	12,493
2019	36.63	36.03	27.77	15.71	14.58	Five or fewer	0.57	5,411
2018	-7.99	-8.22	-10.00	14.84	14.10	Five or fewer	0.14	4,026
2017	23.51	23.01	16.81	12.05	12.13	Five or fewer	100	6,817
2016	17.46	17.04	17.59	13.07	13.67	Five or fewer	36	6,249
2015	-2.02	-2.33	-2.90	12.17	12.42	Five or fewer	0.1	5,577
2014	11.25	10.87	7.07	11.62	11.67	Five or fewer	0.1	2,542
2013	39.09	38.62	36.80	15.75	15.63	Five or fewer	0.2	2,731

Composite inception date:: October 31, 2007.

Performance presented prior to December 15, 2010 occurred while the Portfolio Management Team was affiliated with a prior firm and the Portfolio Management Team members were the only individual(s) responsible for selecting the securities to buy and sell. Piedmont Investment Advisors maintains all of the books and records to support the historical performance.

Xponance, "Inc. ("Xponance") claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS") and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Xponance has been independently verified for the periods from November 1, 1998 through December 31, 2022. The verification report is available upon request.

A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

On August 31, 2018, FIS Group, Inc. ("FIS Group") acquired Piedmont Investment Advisors, Inc.'s ("PIA") predecessor, Piedmont Investment Advisors, LLC. Xponance®, Inc. ("Xponance®") is an independent, registered investment adviser and is the successor registrant under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act") to both FIS Group and its wholly-owned subsidiary, PIA. Pursuant to a corporate rebranding and consolidation strategy, Xponance® was established effective April 1, 2020, to leverage the long histories of its predecessor entities in providing customized investment management products to institutional clients. FIS Group (through its former subsidiaries, Fiduciary Investment Solutions, Inc. and FIS Funds Management, Inc.) managed assets since 1996 and PIA (through its former affiliate Piedmont Investment Advisors, LLC) began managing assets in 2000. The firm maintains a list of composite descriptions and limited distribution pool fund(s) descriptions, which is available upon request.

Total firm assets presented through, and including, Calendar Year 2019 represent total firm assets for PIA, prior to April 1, 2020, this composite was managed by legacy firm PIA. Total firm assets presented post April 1, 2020 represent the total firm assets of. Xponance®

Optimized SMID Cap Core Composite contains fully discretionary SMID core equity accounts and for comparison purposes is measured against the Russell 2500 Index. The product typically has fewer than 100 holdings and a predicted tracking error target range of 5% - 8% vs. Russell 2500. The Optimized SMID Core Composite was created on December 15, 2010. The Optimized SMID Core Composite's inception date is 10/31/07. This composite was renamed on September 30, 2012 to better reflect the true strategy of the product. Formerly, the composite was named "Optimized Mid Cap Core vs. S&P Midcap Composite". This composite changed its benchmark on September 30, 2012 from the S&P Midcap to the Russell 2500 because the latter benchmark better represents the investable universe of the product.

Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management. Accounts that are no longer with the firm are included through the last full measurement period such accounts were managed in the composite's style. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance.

Gross of fee returns are presented before management fees, but after custodial fees and transaction costs and include the reinvestment of all income. Since August 1, 2018, net of fee returns reflects a model annual management fee of 0.60%, applied monthly. Net of fee returns are calculated by deducting the model management fee from the monthly gross of fee returns. Performance-based fees are not applicable. Prior to August 1, 2018, net of fee returns reflects the deduction of actual management fees (including performance-based fees if applicable) from the monthly gross of fee returns. Actual management fees incurred by clients may vary. The composite include zero commission accounts.

The standard management fee schedule for the composite is as follows: First \$50mm: 65 bps; Next \$50mm: 55 bps; Over \$100mm: 45 bps. Fees are charged to clients on a quarterly basis. Fees are calculated as a percentage of assets under management and vary based upon the type of product and the total amount of assets under management. The percentage fee is expressed terms of basis points ("BPS") for our products. One hundred basis points equal 1%. All fees are negotiable.

The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

Internal dispersion presented is an equal-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of those portfolios that were in the composite for the entire year. For those years when less than six portfolios were included in the composite for the full year, no dispersion measure is presented.

Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Benchmark: Russell 2500