### Australian Companies Fund



31 AUGUST 2018

# Monthly Update

#### **Fund commentary**

## FY18 earnings season was beneficial for the Fund, with a majority of companies held announcing in-line or better than expected results.

A majority of the stocks in the Fund reported their earnings during the month. There were no negative surprises from our holdings, with Brambles (+11.0%), EML (+5.9%) and Latam Autos (+17.9%) the standout performers.

Brambles' results showed the new management team's strategy of focussing on cash flow return on equity is beginning to bear fruit. From a divisional perspective, both the European and Australian divisions were the biggest sources of positive performance, while the US business remains the laggard. However, the margins of the US business appear to have stabilised and profitability improving. We believe continued improvement in the US business will be the biggest driver of earnings surprises going forward.

The biggest detractors from performance were the European banks, in particular ING (-10.1%) which was sold off on fears of its exposure to Turkey. However, ING's direct exposure to Turkey represents roughly 1.5% of its total loan book. We believe any losses arising from this book can be reasonably managed. Following the sell-off we took the opportunity to increase our ING exposure.

Fund performance <sup>1</sup> (net of fees)	Inception Date	Exit Price (\$, cum)	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years pa	5 Years pa	7 Years pa	10 Years pa	Since Inception pa	Since inception - total
Australian Companies Fund	1/2000	2.0009	0.5%	6.3%	3.9%	5.1%	8.2%	<b>8.7</b> %	11.8%	9.1%	10.4%	533.1%
S&P / ASX 200 Accumulation Index			1.4%	6.2%	7.3%	15.4%	11.5%	8.9%	10.5%	6.8%	8.3%	344.6%
Outperformance by the Fund			-0.9%	0.1%	-3.4%	-10.3%	-3.3%	-0.2%	1.3%	2.3%	2.1%	188.5%

Portfolio investments	Weighting
Domestic Banks	14.5%
International Banks	14.4%
Non Bank Financials	14.7%
Internet	8.9%
Industrials	7.3%
Technology	6.7%
Property	5.6%
Resources	0.0%
Other	1.6%
Long Equities Position	73.7%
Short Equities Position	-1.0%
Net Invested Equities	72.7%

Current stock exampl	e
ANZ	
Bank of America	
EML	
iCar	
Brambles	
NextDC	
Centuria Industrial	

Currency exposure*	
AUD	83.2%
EUR	8.9%
USD	7.9%
Total exposure	100.0%

\*Stated at effective value



PM Capital Limited, founded in 1998, is a globally-focussed fund manager that invests money on behalf of private clients, the clients of financial advisers and institutions. PM Capital's goal is to build long term wealth by investing in global markets with patience and conviction.

#### **Investment philosophy**

We aim to build long term wealth together with our co-investors by finding and exploiting investment anomalies. Using a focused, patient and considered approach to finding simple investment ideas produces the best environment for creating that long term wealth.

Our experience has shown us that while the market is largely efficient, it can, and regularly does, misprice a small proportion of companies. Our unique process is based on scanning the world for those companies (hence the radar in our logo), discovering the associated valuation anomalies and extracting value from them. We buy good businesses at a good price; businesses that we believe are being valued differently to their long term intrinsic value, but will return to their correct value over time.

#### Who manages the investment?

Uday Cheruvu is the Portfolio Manager, who has over 14 years' industry experience and is supported by a team of investment analysts. The investment team is led by founder and CIO Paul Moore who has over 31 years' experience in successfully managing investment funds.

We believe in being a patient investor, one that has conviction, one that finds opportunities where others can only see risk. We only invest in what we know, deeply, via our fundamental research.

#### Why the Australian **Companies Fund?**

Focused: The Fund's process has been shown to be effective, based on a philosophy developed by Paul Moore, over 31 years. This has produced attractive long term capital growth.

Unrestricted: The concentration of the Australian equities market means many managers cannot add significant value. We have an authentic investment process where our exposure to industry sectors or market capitalisation is determined solely by our conviction in the risk/ reward opportunities that we identify within portfolio guidelines. No conviction = no investment.

Opportunistic and focused: The Fund is not built around a general market benchmark or index - it is highly focused based on our fundamental, bottom-up investment process. As a guide, the Fund holds around 15 - 25 deeply researched stocks that we believe give the best opportunity to produce strong long term returns.

#### **Global Expertise and value add:**

Through this portfolio construction method used by the Fund directly benefits from PM Capital's global investment research that underlies the award winning PM Capital Global Companies Fund. This works in two ways - the Fund can invest up to 20% of the portfolio in international opportunities identified by the investment team. The Portfolio Manager can also take the market anomalies found globally and use the insights to identify similar opportunities in the Australian market.

Co-investment: Our co-investors receive access to a unique subset of opportunities which they may otherwise find difficult to access. The management team have significant investments in the Fund - they invest for and with you.

Outperformance: The Fund has outperformed the relevant market index by 189% since inception. The Fund is managed from an Australian investor's perspective with consideration for tax and currency outcomes.

#### **Key Fund Details**

#### Fund category

Australian equities

Investment style

Fundamental, bottom-up research intensive approach

Inception date

20 January 2000

Fund size \$38.2 Million

Strategy size \$38.2 Million

Number of stocks As a guide, 15-25 stocks

Minimum direct investment \$20,000

**Recommended investment time** Seven years plus

Fees (pa)

Management fee: 1.09% Performance fee: 20% of net excess above RBA Cash Rate (subject to a high water mark).

Buy / sell spread

0.5% (Round trip)

#### Investor profile

The Fund may be appropriate for investors seeking capital appreciation over a seven plus year investment horizon

#### **Important Notice**

This Report is issued by PM Capital Limited ABN 69 083 644 731 AFSL 230222 as responsible entity for the PM Capital Australian Companies Fund (ARSN 092 434 467, the 'Fund'). It contains summary information only to provide an insight into how we make our investment decisions. This information does not constitute advice or recommendations, and is subject to change without notice. It does not take into account the objectives, financial situation or needs of any investor which should be considered before investing. Investors should consider a copy of the current Product Disclosure Statement which available from us, and seek their own financial advice prior to investing. The PDS explains how the Fund's Net Asset Value is calculated. Past performance is not a reliable quide to future performance and the capital and income of any investment may go down as well as up due to various market forces. The investment objective is not a forecast, and is only an indication of what the investment strategy aims to achieve over the medium to long term.

1. Returns are calculated from exit price to exit price assuming the reinvestment of distributions for the period as stated and represent the combined income and capital return. The Index is the S&P / ASX 200 Accumulation Index. See www.asx.com.au for further information on the Index.

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**Further Information** 

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