



Polen International Growth Strategy

Preliminary Strategy AUM as of March 31, 2024: \$2.22 billion*

Monthly Attribution – March 31, 2024

Performance statement

After staging a brief rally to start the month, international large cap growth equities were range-bound through the balance of March as investors confronted the realization that any rate cuts by the U.S. Federal Reserve were likely to be fewer in number and further away than expected, with the first cut now priced in, realistically, for July. Value equities, which had lagged year-to-date, outperformed their growth counterparts in March. Overall, regional markets posted solid total returns, with the U.K. the best performer and China the laggard as skepticism remains over that government's ability to stimulate domestic equity markets. Oil hit a high for the year on OPEC+ production cuts remaining in place alongside expectations for a stronger-than-expected U.S. economy.

For March 2024, the Polen Capital International Growth Portfolio (the "Portfolio") returned 1.09% gross of fees and 1.00% net of fees. The MSCI ACWI ex U.S. Index (the "Index") returned 3.13%.

Attribution Summary

The Portfolio underperformed the Index for the period driven by security selection. Negative security selection in Industrials and Technology was most notable. At a sector level, the allocation impact was also negative, primarily due to the portfolio's overweight to Health Care and zero weight in Materials.

*Asset figures include discretionary as well as nondiscretionary assets.

polencapital.com

Boca Raton | Boston | London | Hong Kong

Going beyond.



Top/bottom relative contributors/detractors (relative contribution to return)

- The top three relative performance contributors were Adidas, Aon, and Amadeus IT Group.
- The bottom three relative detractors were Teleperformance, Evolution AB, and Accenture.

Top/bottom absolute contributors/detractors (contribution to return)

- The top three absolute contributors to performance were ICON, Aon, and Adidas.
- The bottom three absolute detractors were Teleperformance, Evolution AB, and Globant.

Trades

- New Positions: none
- Additions: none
- Trims: none
- Sells: none

Quarterly Attribution – March 31, 2024

Performance statement

International growth equities had a strong first quarter of 2024. Rate expectations have continued to exert a marked influence over equity markets although by quarter-end expectations for U.S. Federal Reserve rate cuts had been pushed out to most likely July. Japan was the standout regional performer with the equity market appreciating by nearly 19% and hitting a landmark with the benchmark Nikkei 225 Index finally breaching its previous high of late 1989. Despite government intervention mid-period to strengthen domestic equity markets, China was the weakest performer at -2.1% and the only major market in negative territory. Oil appreciated by over US\$12 in the quarter with OPEC+ production cuts affecting supply and the resilient U.S. economy driving demand.

For the first quarter of 2024 the Polen Capital International Growth Portfolio (the "Portfolio") returned 4.86% gross of fees and 4.55% net of fees. The MSCI ACWI ex US Index (the "Index") returned 4.69%.

Attribution Summary

The Portfolio performed in line with the Index for the period, as positive impacts from sector positioning and currency effects offset related weakness from stock selection. As for stock selection,



the most negative impact occurred in Industrials, Financials, Technology, and Consumer Discretionary. However, this was largely offset by tailwinds from the Portfolio's overweight to Technology, underweight to Consumer Staples, and not being exposed to Materials and Utilities. While we do not actively manage currency exposure, our significant underweight to Japan meant that the weakening of the yen vs. the U.S. dollar provided a relative performance tailwind. At the stock level, top contributors to relative performance included ICON, SAP, and Aon, while bottom detractors included Teleperformance, Temenos, and HDFC Bank.

Top/bottom relative contributors/detractors (relative contribution to return)

- The top three relative contributors were ICON, SAP, and Aon.
- The bottom three detractors from relative returns were Teleperformance, Temenos, and HDFC Bank.

Top/bottom absolute contributors/detractors (contribution to return)

- The top three absolute contributors were ICON, SAP, and ASML.
- The bottom three absolute detractors were Teleperformance, Temenos, and HDFC Bank.

Trades

- New Positions: none
- Additions: none
- Trims: MercadoLibre
- Sells: none

Outlook

The Portfolio holds what we believe are competitively advantaged businesses whose weighted average earnings are expected to grow at a mid-teens rate over time. In our view, a portfolio of well-positioned businesses further suggests that short-term disruptions are merely speedbumps on the road to long-term success.



DISCLOSURES

Past performance does not guarantee future results and profitable results cannot be guaranteed. Returns are presented gross and net of management fees and have been calculated after the deduction of all transaction costs and commissions, and include the reinvestment of all income. Net of fee performance was calculated using actual management fees.

This information is being provided at your specific request, is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell any particular security. There is no assurance that any securities discussed herein will remain in the portfolio or that the securities sold will not be repurchased. Holdings are subject to change without notice. The securities discussed do not represent the entire portfolio. It should not be assumed that any of the securities, transactions or holdings discussed will prove to be profitable, or that the investment recommendations or decisions we make in the future will be profitable or will equal the investment performance of the securities discussed herein. A complete list of our past specific recommendations for the last year is available upon request. Asset figures include discretionary as well as nondiscretionary assets.

Opinions and views expressed constitute the judgment of Polen Capital as of the date listed, may involve a number of assumptions and estimates which are not guaranteed, and are subject to change without notice. Although the information and any opinions or views given have been obtained from or based on sources believed to be reliable, no warranty or representation is made as to their correctness, completeness or accuracy. Opinions, estimates, forecasts, and statements of financial market trends that are based on current market conditions constitute our judgment and are subject to change without notice, including any forward-looking estimates or statements which are based on certain expectations and assumptions. This document does not identify all the risks (direct or indirect) or other considerations which might be material when entering any financial transaction.

The volatility and other material characteristics of the index referenced may be materially different from the performance achieved by an individual investor. In addition, an investor's holdings may be materially different from those within the index. Indices are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index is a market capitalization weighted equity index that measures the performance of large and mid-cap segments across developed and emerging market countries (excluding the U.S). The index is maintained by Morgan Stanley Capital International.

Contribution to relative return is a measure of a security's contribution to the relative return of a portfolio versus its benchmark index. The calculation can be approximated by the below formula, taking into account purchases and sales of the security over the measurement period. Please note this calculation does not take into account transactional costs and dividends of the benchmark, as it does for the portfolio. Contribution to relative return of Stock A = (Stock A portfolio weight (%) - Stock A benchmark weight (%)) x (Stock A return (%) - Aggregate benchmark return (%)).

Sources: Bloomberg and Polen Capital.