

FUNDS PRESENTATION

June 2024

Morningstar Rating™ ★★★★





ASCENDER CAPITALOVERVIEW

Hong Kong based boutique investing in Asian equities since 2012

Led by former entrepreneurs and business operators

Single strategy tailored to access mispriced, high-quality businesses, not accessible through passive or larger funds, with management teams we can trust

On-the ground presence allowing us to exploit inefficiencies across Asian equity markets while avoiding the numerous pitfalls that can be found in the region



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ONE STRATEGY – TWO FUNDS

NEW OUTPERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE BUILT ON TRACK RECORD OF CAPITAL PRESERVATION

AsiaHedge

ASCENDER GLOBAL VALUE FUND (AGVF)

Asian equities

Absolute return

Inception: Dec 2012

Annualised net return: 7.2%

Delivered positive returns every single year except 2022



ASCENDER ASIA FUND (AAF)

Asian equities

Long only – Fully invested Inception: Dec 2021

Annualised net return* since 2012: 10.0%

Gross return* compounded at 13.4%, ~ twice the regional index returns

*AAF Estimate calculated by removing cash and short positions from AGVF. Performance shown assumes investment of 95% in AGVF Long-Only and 5% in cash. Calculated after proposed fund's costs and fees



ASCENDER ASIA FUND

REPEATABLE INVESTMENT PROCESS DRIVES OUTPERFORMANCE

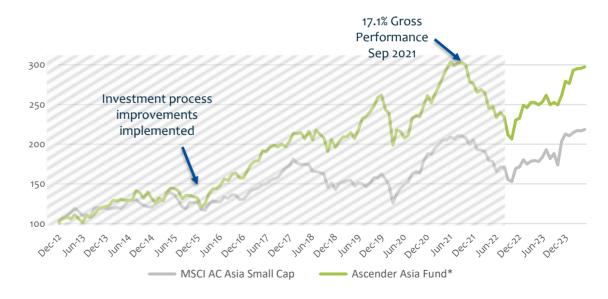
Index **outperformance** generated by:

- Higher quality investments acquired at temporary discount

Ongoing cash flow generation

Systematic process and size of opportunity pool make it highly **repeatable**

	Annualized Performance						
	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Launch		
Ascender Asia Fund* (Gross)	7.7%	22.3%	2.8%	10.8%	13.4%		
Ascender Asia Fund* (Net)	6 . 5%	19.2%	0.3%	7.5%	10.0%		
MSCI AC Asia Small Cap	2.7%	16.1%	0.2%	7.1%	6.5%		



^{*}Note the shaded area reflects performance estimates (see slide 3 for additional details) , net of costs & fees up to 1-Dec 2021



ASCENDER ASIA FUND

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE

Volatility and Performance Analysis since December 2012									
	Monthly Volatility	Annual Volatility	Upside Capture	Downside Capture	Max. Drawdown	Duration of Max. Drawdown	Sharpe Ratio	Beta	Alpha
Ascender Asia Fund (After Costs & Fees)*	4.4%	15.1%	93%	62%	-32.0%	35 months	0.6	0.8	4.2%

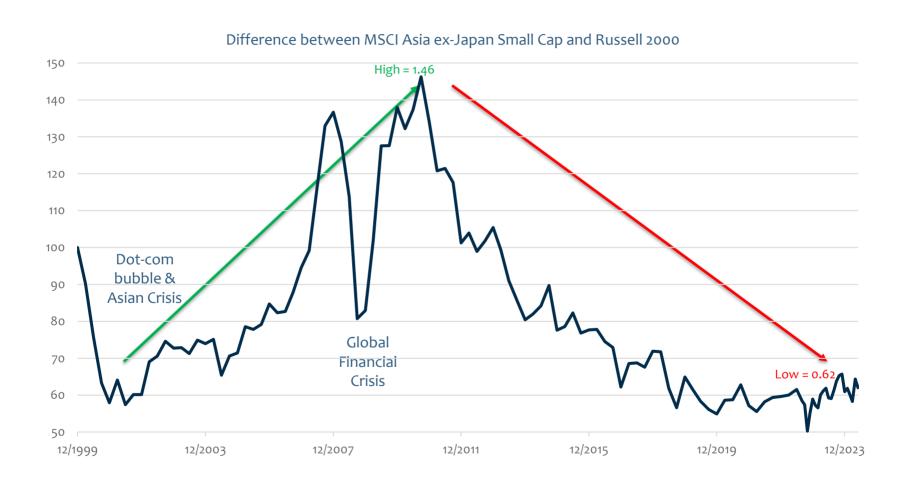
													Y	ſD
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	AAF	MSCI Asia SC
2024	-1.0%	5.9%	0.7%	0.2%	0.7%								6.5%	2.7%
2023	6.9%	(1.2%)	2.7%	0.0%	-1.2%	1.5%	3.3%	-4.6%	1.2%	-1.2%	4.7%	6.9%	20.0%	17.7%
2022	(3.8%)	1.2%	(1.5%)	(7.2%)	1.0%	(5.7%)	2.7%	(2.2%)	(9.8%)	(2.4%)	11.5%	1.1%	(15.6%)	(16.6%)
2021	(3.5%)	4.6%	3.5%	4.2%	3.7%	3.0%	(1.6%)	0.9%	0.4%	(1.0%)	(6.9%)	(1.2%)**	5.6%**	9.2%
2020	(7.0%)	(2.0%)	(16.7%)	9.5%	(0.7%)	(3.8%)	1.6%	10.1%	1.4%	(0.5%)	5.8%	5.2%	(0.2%)	15.5%
2019	3.9%	2.6%	0.3%	2.3%	(3.5%)	5.5%	6.3%	1.3%	2.2%	3.0%	4.4%	1.3%	33.6%	13.8%
2018	4.8%	0.0%	0.6%	(3.6%)	4.5%	(4.9%)	5.7%	(2.3%)	(2.1%)	(8.1%)	7.8%	(4.7%)	(3.6%)	(17.4%)
2017	5.6%	5.1%	2.1%	0.5%	7.0%	(0.6%)	3.4%	0.8%	(1.0%)	1.8%	(1.6%)	3.3%	29.3%	32.3%
2016	(8.6%)	3.6%	10.1%	4.2%	0.7%	2.7%	5.1%	(0.9%)	4.8%	1.2%	(4.0%)	0.0%	19.1%	2.7%
2015	(4.3%)	4.5%	(2.6%)	8.3%	4.0%	(0.6%)	(1.7%)	(7.2%)	3.1%	0.1%	(1.3%)	(1.2%)	0.1%	5.4%
2014	1.5%	4.9%	(0.5%)	1.8%	(1.0%)	(0.0%)	0.5%	8.9%	(2.0%)	(4.8%)	5.9%	(5.6%)	8.8%	0.9%
2013	2.8%	1.4%	(1.5%)	4.9%	(4.7%)	(4.5%)	8.3%	(1.5%)	3.0%	5.1%	2.9%	0.8%	17.3%	15.7%
2012												3.4%	3.4%	3.3%

^{*}Performance estimates, net of costs & fees (see Slide 3 for further details on calculation). Past returns not indicative of future performance
** Note, fund underinvested in first month. Existing estimate would be +2.7% and +9.5% for 2021

SMALL AND MID-CAP ASIA TRADING AT LARGEST DISCOUNT EVER TO US MARKET



YEARS OF CATCH-UP OVER-PERFORMANCE LAST TIME RATIO REACHED THAT LEVEL





ASCENDER ASIA FUND

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strategy	Portfolio of 30 high-quality businesses Acquired at temporary discount thanks to systematic exploitation of market mispricing common in Asia Outperforming returns generated by mean-reversion and cash flow generation
Geography	Pan-Asia including Japan
Objectives	Attractive risk-adjusted returns over full market cycle
Investment Process	Candidates sourced exclusively from our proprietary Quality Universe Automated process and tools developed specifically for Asia Qualitative due diligence and on-the-ground research by experienced team
Performance Estimates	Annualized net return* of 10.0% since strategy's inception (13.4% gross) Built on AGVF's successful 10 year track record (95% invested - no hedges)

^{*}Performance estimates (see slide 3 for additional details)



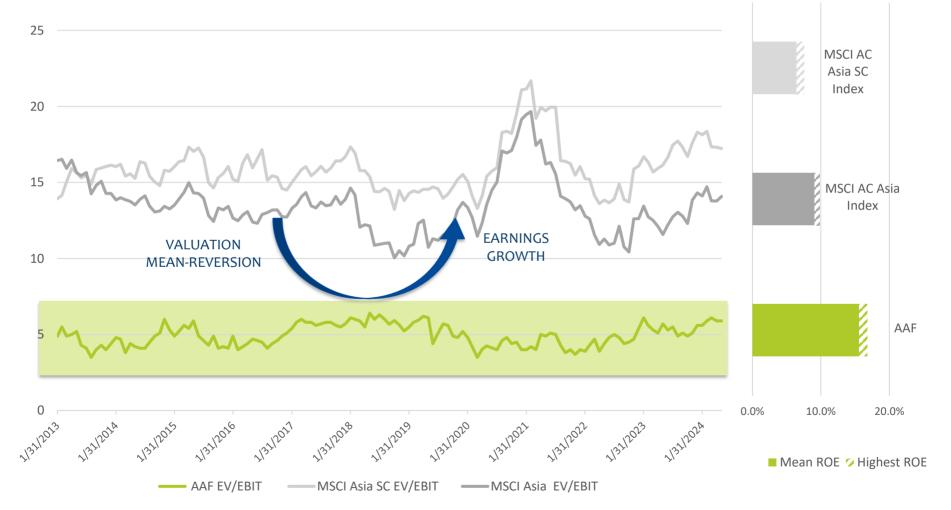
PROCESS OVERVIEW



SYSTEMATICALLY ACQUIRING HIGHER QUALITY BUSINESSES AT A TEMPORARY DISCOUNT

PERFORMANCE GENERATED BY CASH FLOW GENERATION AND MEAN-REVERSION



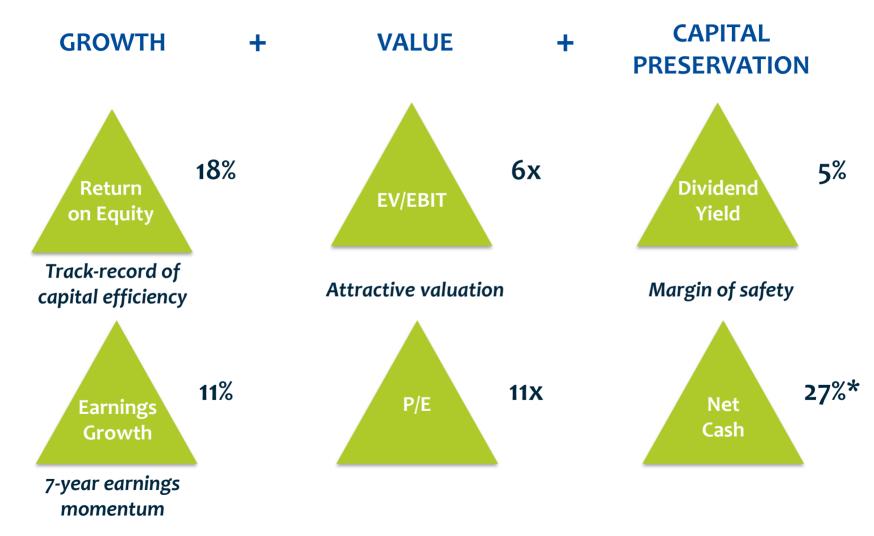


EV/EBIT



PORTFOLIO OF HIGHER QUALITY BUSINESSES

NO COMPROMISE ON QUALITY VS VALUE NOT REPLICABLE IN OTHER GEOGRAPHIES



^{*} As a % of market capitalization



DEFINING A TYPICAL ASCENDER STOCK

DIVERSE PORTFOLIO SHARES COMMON CHARACTERISTICS

IN BUSINESS OR CONSUMER SERVICES

Capital-efficient and cash flow generative

STRONG AND STABLE MARKET SHARE

• Clear evidence of competitive moat or superior execution

PROFITABILITY OFTEN PROTECTED FROM MARKET CYCLES

• Even when servicing a cyclical sector

PERSISTENT EARNINGS MOMENTUM

• 11% earnings growth over trailing 7-years



PROCESS MIXES QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE PHASES

SYSTEMATIC DISCOVERY AND FORCE-RANKING ENABLE TEAM TO FOCUS ON VALUE-ADDING ANALYSIS

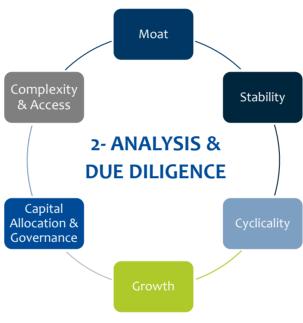
1- DISCOVERY



TOP 200 TOOL

- Automatically generates list of new entrants to Top 200
- Performance factors drives prioritization of candidates

"Target list" weekly meeting on Tuesday

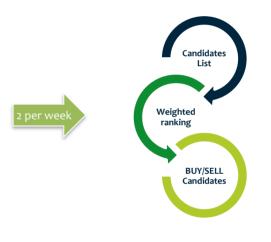


INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

- Draws on collective experience and engagement with management
- · Reviews and approves quality rating
- 4 well-defined stages of research to become a portfolio candidate

IC weekly meeting on Monday

3- FORCE-RANKING



PORTFOLIO CANDIDATES TOOL

- Ranked according to quality rating and valuation
- Informs current investments vs portfolio candidates rebalancing

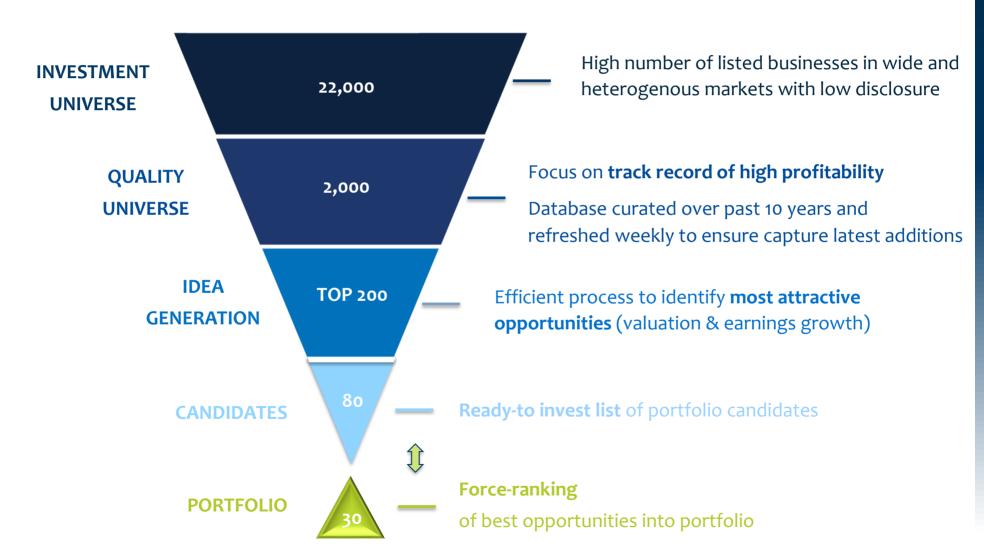
Portfolio management weekly meeting on Wednesday

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PROCESS DESIGNED TO IDENTIFY BEST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS ASIA

QUALITY BUSINESSES FIRST, ATTRACTIVE VALUATION SECOND



PROPRIETARY FRAMEWORK FOCUSING ON QUALITY



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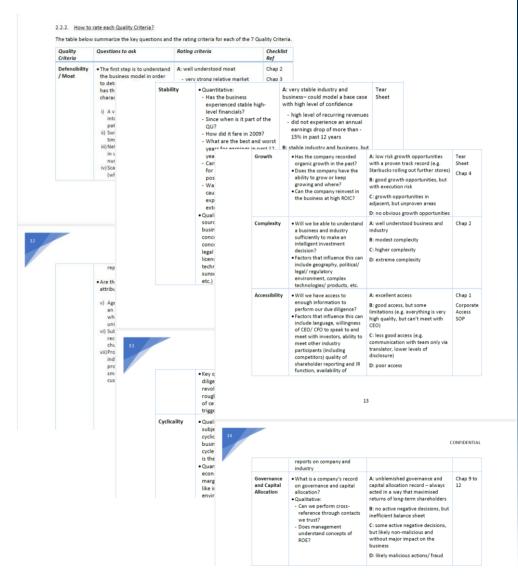
MINIMIZING BIASES AND ALLOWING COMPARISON ACROSS WIDE UNIVERSE

7 QUALITY CRITERIA

- Rating businesses A to D based on demonstrable facts
- Rating fine-tuned during our 4 due diligence steps and for portfolio companies and candidates
- Proprietary checklists customized for each geography to reflect our accumulated experience in known pitfalls

FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY

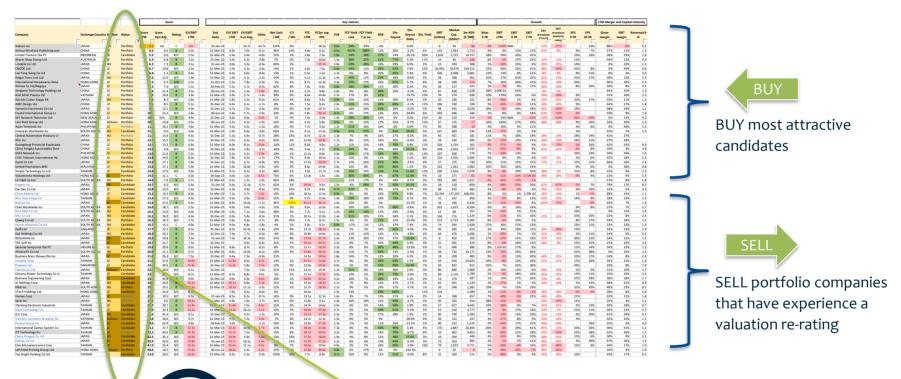
- Main task of weekly Investment Committee is to validate quality rating
- Allowing to compare quality across diverse geographies and sectors
- Minimizing biases





PORTFOLIO CANDIDATES TOOL HELPS MAKING INFORMED BUY & SELL DECISIONS

ENSURES QUALITY VS VALUATION MIX ACROSS MARKETS, SECTORS AND MARKET CAPS



Candidates List

Weighted
ranking

BUY/SELL
Candidates

Score-based ranking based on combination of quality and valuation Offer **real-time snapshot of choice** between portfolio companies and investable candidates

Backtesting shows tool outperformance



ADVANTAGES OF ASCENDER'S UNIQUE RESEARCH PROCESS

SYSTEMATIC, DRIVEN AND CONTRARIAN

AUTOMATED DISCOVERY OF INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Removes biases and encourages a contrarian mindset

SYSTEMATIC AND REPEATABLE PROCESS

• Drives investment research tempo and delivers consistency

UNIFORM QUALITATIVE GRADING

Enables comparison of diverse set of opportunities across business models and sectors

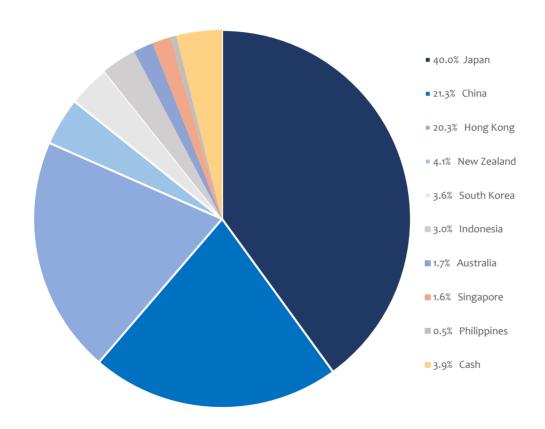
STANDARDIZED TOOLS

• Enable team efficiency and underpin our institutional memory

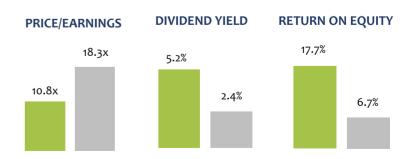


ASCENDER ASIA FUND

PORTFOLIO EXPOSURE & CHARACTERISTICS (as of 31 May 2024)



PORTOFLIO CHARACTERIST	ICS
P/E Ratio (TTM)	10.8x
EV/EBIT Ratio (TTM)	5.9x
Dividend Yield	5.2%
Return on Equity	17.7%
Net Cash to Mkt Cap	26.8%
7 Year EBIT Growth	11.4%
Median Mkt Cap	\$460m
# of Holdings	29





CASE STUDIES



CASE STUDY

OUR CHINA PORTFOLIO FEATURES INVESTMENTS IN MULTIPLE CHINESE STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES SINCE 2021

Portfolio companies	Citic Telecom International (1883.HK): Integrated service platform for overseas development of domestic telecom companies in China Xinhua Winshare (811.HK): Monopoly in textbook publishing and distribution in Sichuan province Lao Feng Xiang (900905.CH): One of the oldest jewelry brands with 170+ years history operating out of Shanghai GD Provincial Expressway (200429.CH): Toll road operator in Guangdong province commanding the highest payout ratio (~70%) among listed peers in China
Increasing shareholder returns	All the SOE companies we invested in demonstrate increasing shareholder returns (vs. market misperception of SOEs doing national services at the expense of minority shareholders) Citic Telecom Int'l increased its payout ratio from 50% to 75% over past 7 years (vs. Hong Kong market average of 37%)
Regulatory alignment	Unlikely to be targeted for regulatory actions as SOEs are not "over-earning" State Asset Administrator (SASAC) targets improving ROE through reform
Business predictability	Minimal revenue and profit volatility (7-year Y/Y revenue growth standard deviation: 15% vs. HSCEI average of 23%; Y/Y profit growth σ : 23% vs. HSCEI average 370%

CASE STUDY - XINHUA WINSHARE PUBLISHING

TEXTBOOK PUBLISHER ACQUIRED AT NEGATIVE EV, ANNUAL OPERATING EARNINGS GROWTH OF 16% OVER PAST 7-YEARS









Xinhua Winshare					
Ticker	811 HK				
Geography	China				
Financials (Aug 2021)					
Market Cap	US\$1,275M				
EV/EBIT	(0.3)x				
P/E:	4.5x				
LTM Dividend	7.5%				
ROE	12.0%				

Financials (May 2024)				
Market Cap	US\$2,175M			
EV/EBIT	3.5x			
P/E	6.8x			
FY23 Dividend	8.2%			
LTM Dividend	6.7%			
ROE	12.4%			

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Source: Bloomberg
All data displayed accurate as of 31 May 2024



CASE STUDY – TAIWAN 2022

TIMELY IDENTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH REGULAR SCREENING COMBINED WITH ON-THE-GROUND VISITS





- Service-driven provider of industrial embedded flash/DRAM and IoT solutions for diverse industries
- Steady ASP over years thanks to reliability and growing value-add
- A well articulated strategy by Chairman during the in-person meeting



- Fabless IC design house for PC and Notebook controller chips
- Duopoly in the global PC/NB market with steady market share (50+%)
- Consistent 50+% GPM regardless of volume fluctuations



- Largest domestic IT system integrator in Taiwan
- #1 player in the cyber security services in Taiwan with ~30% rev exposure
- One of most frugal head offices ever visited in Taiwan

CASE STUDY - ITFOR











Financials				
(May	/ 2024)			
Market Cap	US\$252M			
EV/EBIT	6.9x			
P/E	13.6x			
FY23 Dividend	2.5%			
LTM Dividend	2.9%			
ROE	15.4%			

CASE STUDY - CHINA MOBILE

LEADING TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROVIDER IN CHINA NET CASH BALANCE SHEET, ANNUAL OPERATING EARNINGS GROWTH OF 2% OVER PAST 7-YEARS







China Mobile				
Ticker	941 HK			
Geography China				
Financials (Dec 2020)				
Market Cap	US\$118,213M			
EV/EBIT	3.3x			
P/E:	7.1X			
LTM Dividend	7.3%			
ROE	9.6%			

Financials (May 2024)				
(May 2024) Market Cap US\$209,452M				
EV/EBIT	7.8x			
P/E	11.2X			
FY23 Dividend	7.2%			
LTM Dividend	6 . 2%			
ROE	9.9%			
	J. J			

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All data displayed accurate as of 31 May 2024

CASE STUDY – i-MOBILE

LOW VALUATION GIVEN BUSINESS QUALITY, GROWTH AND DIVIDEND YIELD





June 2021



Source: Bloomberg All data displayed accurate as of 31 May 2024

i-Mobile					
Ticker	6535 JPY				
Geography	Japan				
Financials					
(Apr 2021)					
Market Cap	US\$297M				
EV/EBIT	6.1x				
P/E	13.7x				
LTM Dividend	0%				
ROE	16.3%				

Financials			
(May 2024)			
Market Cap	US\$174M		
EV/EBIT	3.1x		
P/E	10.2x		
FY23 Dividend	2.8%		
LTM Dividend	3.4%		
ROE	17.9%		

CASE STUDY - GMA NETWORK

LEADING FREE-TO-AIR TV COMPANY IN THE PHILIPPINES STRONG FREE CASH FLOW (LTM DIVIDEND YIELD AT 8+%) AND SOLID CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



2020-21





GMA Network			
Ticker	GMA7 PM		
Geography	Philippines		
Financials (Jun 2019)			
Market Cap	US\$347M		
EV/EBIT	5.3x		
P/E:	11.4X		
LTM Dividend	8.4%		
ROE	27.5%		

Financials (May 2024)			
Market Cap	US\$420M		
EV/EBIT	7.2X		
P/E	14.9x		
FY23 Dividend	13.1%		
LTM Dividend	8.2%		
ROE	14.0%		



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APPENDIX

Team

AAF – Performance Data and Portfolio Characteristics

AGVF - Performance Data

INVESTMENT PARTNERS



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MIX OF ENTREPRENEURIAL AND INVESTMENT EXPERIENCE



EDOUARD MERCIERFounder & Investment Manager

Partners have a 20+ year trackrecord as public and private capital investors

Co-investment from partners and staff amounts to ~\$30M Prior to founding Ascender in Hong Kong in 2012, Edouard had a successful career as an entrepreneur. He co-founded Sendit AB, a Swedish telecom software company, that was acquired by Microsoft in 1999. He then set up and managed Microsoft's Mobile Internet Business in Asia. In 2002, he became the lead investor and CEO of Incomit AB, which was later acquired by BEA Systems (Oracle). Since 2005, Edouard has been an active investor across private and public markets, co-founding Piton Capital in 2009 and Ascender Capital in 2012.

Edouard holds an MSc in Telecommunications Engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich) and an MBA from INSEAD.



JEAN-CHARLES TISSERANDPartner & Investment Manager

Jean-Charles joined Ascender in early 2020 with over 20 years of experience as an investor and finance executive. He started his career in investment banking with Merrill Lynch before joining European private equity firm Doughty Hanson, where he led leveraged buyout investments in the French market.

Jean-Charles moved to Hong Kong in 2013 and invested in the quality control company Qima (formerly AsiaInspection), assuming the newlycreated CFO position. At Qima, he led the group's international expansion through acquisitions across Asia, Latin America and the US, accelerating growth and institutionalizing the business before it was acquired by a private equity firm.

Jean-Charles holds a Master in Finance from HEC Paris.



TEAMMULTINATIONAL AND EXPERIENCED



JIAYI ZHANG
Investment Analyst

Jiayi joined Ascender Capital as an Analyst in early 2020. Prior to Ascender, Jiayi was an Investment Analyst at Seiga Asset Management and Snow Lake Capital, where he covered China-focused public equities from 2012 to 2019. Jiayi started his career as an Investment Banking Analyst with J.P. Morgan in Hong Kong from 2009 to 2011.

He graduated from Wesleyan University, with a BA in Economics and Physics. Jiayi is fluent in Mandarin and English.



JASON FU Investment Analyst

Jason joined Ascender Capital as an Analyst in August 2023. Prior to Ascender, Jason was an analyst at Fidelity International and a pan-Asia hedge fund, where he covered China and Hong Kong equities for five years.

He holds a MSc in Management from **London Business School** and a BSc in Financial Management from **Fudan University**. Jason is fluent in Mandarin and English.



NANA YASUDA Consultant

Nana works closely with Ascender Capital as an interpreter. Currently, she serves as the CEO of iProfess Partners, LLC, offering translation/interpretation and IR consulting services around the globe. Also, she is the Technical Director of the Japanese Institute of Certified Accountants (JICPA). She is a US CPA and has over 10 years of working experience with Deloitte Touche in Japan and the U.S. Especially, she has extensive knowledge in the field of auditing, M&A financial due diligence, and IFRS. Nana graduated from Keio University, Tokyo Japan, with a BA in Economics. Nana is fluent in Japanese and English.



RICKY PANGFund Accounting & Operations Manager

Ricky joined Ascender Capital in November 2021. Having previously worked at Sterling Private Management Limited (a prominent HK based family office) and RBC Investor Services, he has over eleven years of experience in fund and investment operations.

He is a qualified accountant and holds a Bachelor of Commerce from **Macquarie University**, Sydney. He speaks fluent Cantonese and English, as well as conversational Mandarin.

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ASCENDER ASIA FUND

FUND TERMS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Fund	Ascender Asia Fund (ISIN KYG051771031)
Domicile	Cayman Islands
Fees	Management Fees: 1.5% Performance Fee: 20% of net alpha vs. MSCI AC Asia Small Cap High water mark
Launch Date	01 December 2021
Subscription	Frequency: Monthly Minimum: US\$1,000,000
Redemption	Frequency: Monthly with 90-day notice 5% early redemption fee first 3 years Ability to redeem 10% of holding at the end of every year
Administrator	Bolder Group
Custodian	DBS
Auditor	Grant Thornton
Legal Advisor	Ogier



AGVF – NET PERFORMANCE ABSOLUTE RETURN FOCUS

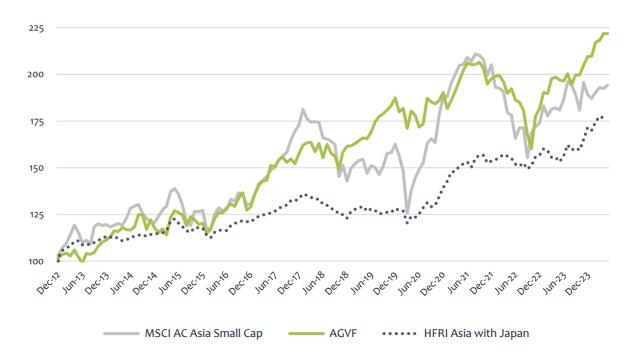


Positive returns every single year (except 2022)

Limited drawdown in March 2020 thanks to market hedges

Outperformance against regional hedge fund index

		Annualized			
	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Launch (Dec 2012)
AGVF (Net)	5.9%	12.6%	3.2%	6.0%	7.2%
MSCI Asia Small Cap	2.7%	16.1%	0.2%	5.9%	6.5%
HFRI Asia incl. Japan	3.5%	15.9%	5.3%	7.0%	5.1%





AGVF – NET PERFORMANCE

FUND TERMS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Fund	Ascender Global Value Fund (ISIN NL0012817183)
Fees	1% Management Fees 20% Performance Fee with 5% Hurdle High Watermark
Inception Date	1 st December 2012
Minimum Investment	US\$1,000,000
Redemption	Monthly Liquidity - Minimum 30-Day Notice with No Lock-Ups Fee: 5% under three months notice
Administrator	Bolder Group
Custodian	DBS
Auditor	IUS
Legal Advisor	Van Campen Liem
Regulator	Investment Manager regulated by SFC since 2012

CONTACT INFORMATION



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For further information, investors are invited to contact us:

Ascender Capital Limited Suite 3001, W50 50 Wong Chuk Hang Hong Kong

info@ascendercapital.com www.ascendercapital.com

DISCLAIMER



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