

# Liontrust Select International Alpha Fund

## 31 August 2025



The Select International Alpha Fund is an Absolute Return equities fund. The fund is index-unaware, aiming to produce positive absolute returns over the long term with a capital preservation mindset. The Fund's mandate allows it to actively manage its net market exposure – utilising both cash and shorts to help protect clients' capital. As of 8 May 2024, the Fund has been managed by Liontrust Investment Partners.

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	Inception
Performance (Net of Fees)	-0.15%	3.21%	3.21%	16.88%	13.08%	8.35%

Refer below detailed performance data matrix

Name	%
Alphabet Inc. Class A	4.5%
Seagate Technology Holdings PLC	4.3%
Microsoft Corporation	4.0%
Coinbase Global, Inc. Class A	2.9%
Uber Technologies, Inc.	2.8%
Full Truck Alliance Co. Ltd. Sponsored ADR	2.6%
T-Mobile US, Inc.	2.6%
Tencent Holdings Ltd	2.2%
Snowflake, Inc.	2.1%
Trimble Inc.	2.0%
Total (top 10 of 87 holdings)	30.1%

Source: Liontrust Investment Partners, GAM Star Alpha Technology Fund

Category	Top Categories by Net Exposure
Government Bonds	14.1%
Industrials	9.4%
Communication Services	9.4%
Financials	5.2%
Information Technology	4.8%
Consumer Discretionary	3.8%
Health Care	3.3%
Real Estate	1.2%

Net (Short)	Gross Exposure 9555.77%
Net (Long)	Short Exposure -4483.81%

Source: Liontrust Investment Partners, GAM Star Alpha Technology Fund

Fund Characteristics	
Portfolio Managers	Mark Hawtin, David Goodman, Pieran Maru & Kevin Kruczynski
Strategy	International Equities
Objectives	To deliver consistent absolute returns over the investment cycle with a focus on capital protection during periods of market declines
Return Target	+10% pa over the long term
Number of Stocks	Up to 80
Cash	Up to 100% of portfolio
Distributions	Annually
Management Fee	1.36%
Buy/Sell	Daily Application/Redemption
Performance Fee	15.38% pa of the amount by which the NAV per unit exceeds the High Water Mark once the fund achieves its hurdle

### Commentary

The Liontrust Select International Alpha Fund returned -0.15% for the month to be +7.55% year-to-date and +16.88% over the past year (net, after fees). The Fund has continued to perform well during periods of elevated market volatility.

The US equity market continues to have a tailwind following the well anticipated 25bps Fed rate cut at the mid-September FOMC Meeting. The late cycle softer US labour market data gives the Fed the opportunity to start cutting rates again following a long pause this year which is positive for risk assets, particularly equities and credit. Further, the ongoing strong investment from the tech sector has been supportive given the productivity gains going forward. While US valuations are well above average and challenging for some investors, aggregate earnings have remained robust which was confirmed from the recent US quarterly earnings.

While September tends to be a month where the market plateaus or weakens historically, the US rate cuts are supportive combined with the AI investment surge. There is significant cash build up, particularly in money market funds which have reached new record levels of investment. Many investors on the sidelines are looking at any US equity market retracements or corrections to further reinvest. The Fed language from the September FOMC Meeting was broadly accommodative guidance and similar to the recent Jackson Hole speech by the Fed Chair. Outside of major US tech names the valuations are more compelling with the US midcap sector the main beneficiary.

The Fed has more than enough reasons to continue to cut going forward following the 25bps cut last week which lowered the Fed Fund target from 4.25-4.5% to 4%-4.25% with another two to three anticipated within 9-months. We view two more rate cuts over the next six months would leave policy at appropriate and neutral settings.

Context is important as US cash rates are notably higher than other developed markets particularly the ECB cash rate at 2%. The US have shown more resilience however lower US cash rates are now required. The recent Fed commentary of further US rate cuts is supportive for equity markets. Of note, the neutral cash rate in the US on current inputs is circa 3.25%-3.5% given the higher core inflation measures. This is around 1% higher than pre pandemic level cash rates (i.e. 0.75% real Fed Funds rate plus CPI expectations).

The EU region continues to remain soft as markets await the roll out of the anticipated large fiscal spend via defence spending for the major economies Germany (still in recession) and France. There is scope for further re rating for EU equities given this upside. China domestic demand remains soft but has consolidated while their export sector continues to find new markets to avoid the worst of the tariff headwinds. Exposure to the Hang Seng is our preferred China proxy exposure.

Domestically the current RBA Cash Rate of 3.6% is "mildly" restrictive policy and a rate of 3.35% looks to be a more neutral and appropriate long-term setting. The higher "neutral" cash rate settings are broadly a function of higher core inflation expectations.

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## Liontrust Select International Alpha Fund Net Monthly Returns in AUD

Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Fin YTD	Fin YTD Index (1)	Average Cash	Average Short
2004/05							0.89	1.30	-0.44	-1.38	1.36	3.79	5.56	3.03	50.51%	-4.41%
2005/06	4.91	0.73	2.64	-0.96	4.20	4.43	5.11	4.42	5.66	-0.07	-3.66	2.02	33.16	22.26	21.28%	-4.15%
2006/07	0.43	2.13	2.80	3.60	1.97	4.81	2.40	0.13	1.06	3.14	5.05	-0.29	30.70	9.93	23.64%	-1.06%
2007/08	0.09	0.64	2.57	3.36	-3.71	-1.08	-8.04	-0.63	-1.22	2.98	1.83	-3.45	-7.04	-19.95	43.46%	-7.29%
2008/09	-2.51	2.89	-8.60	-9.70	-2.45	5.09	-3.10	-2.84	4.93	6.88	7.84	-0.65	-4.00	-15.30	51.14%	-3.95%
2009/10	7.58	2.13	3.34	-1.70	1.41	3.03	-4.09	0.16	4.70	0.17	-5.42	-2.72	8.11	8.36	11.69%	-1.03%
2010/11	4.31	-2.46	8.39	2.70	0.04	3.75	0.43	0.92	0.98	1.73	-1.91	-1.55	18.20	3.50	12.01%	-2.42%
2011/12	-2.18	-4.47	-4.46	2.48	-3.02	-1.70	3.61	4.73	3.57	-0.02	-4.28	-1.48	-7.57	-2.59	22.89%	-2.93%
2012/13	0.63	3.44	1.97	0.58	1.43	2.81	2.74	1.78	0.72	2.50	4.06	-0.44	24.49	31.02	6.72%	-0.35%
2013/14	3.93	-0.38	0.47	2.43	4.36	5.47	-0.93	1.56	-5.72	-2.51	1.16	-1.82	7.72	19.62	8.01%	-0.15%
2014/15	0.65	1.03	3.92	0.77	4.13	3.74	4.04	4.23	2.06	3.09	3.14	-2.68	31.74	23.89	13.16%	-0.63%
2015/16	-0.13	-2.30	-1.88	5.41	-2.12	-1.91	-3.98	-3.27	2.08	0.40	3.97	-7.06	-10.88	-0.60	20.86%	-0.71%
2016/17	2.90	2.13	0.13	-1.29	3.85	2.98	2.07	0.88	0.42	1.23	1.42	-2.06	15.50	15.36	23.10%	-2.82%
2017/18	0.26	0.99	1.89	3.62	2.39	-1.72	2.11	-0.29	-2.65	0.70	-0.69	-0.25	6.38	15.13	21.63%	-3.25%
2018/19	0.83	2.67	-0.16	-5.59	-1.95	2.09	-2.55	3.58	-0.28	3.12	-4.07	3.51	0.69	10.51	32.63%	-3.84%
2019/20	1.29	-1.58	1.39	0.26	2.89	1.88	0.26	-8.61	-16.74	4.90	6.25	-0.27	-9.91	3.22	9.52%	-2.35%
2020/21	2.93	5.39	0.02	-2.91	9.05	4.76	-0.45	4.70	1.05	2.69	-0.53	1.80	31.80	28.43	2.59%	-0.26%
2021/22	1.65	3.32	-3.37	2.76	-3.89	2.78	-6.81	-3.68	1.13	-3.00	-1.19	-11.91	-21.05	-8.80	5.43%	-0.15%
2022/23	4.96	-2.21	-8.79	3.56	6.86	-4.06	6.57	0.58	1.99	0.55	3.61	-1.50	11.50	19.97	7.68%	-25.68%
2023/24	3.22	0.96	-1.46	1.85	4.81	-1.21	8.89	0.34	1.32	-2.45	-3.81	4.85	17.94	18.21	16.14%	-59.16%
2024/25	-2.84	-0.62	-0.94	6.08	2.51	0.87	2.79	1.38	-3.43	0.57	2.97	2.30	11.85	17.97	1.37%	0.00%
2025/26	1.05	-0.15											0.89	4.18	0.60%	0.00%
Incept.													424.78	512.29		
Incept.													8.35%pa	9.16%pa	20.20%	-6.33%

(1) Morningstar Global Markets NR AUD

Up until 7 February 2023, K2 Asset Management Ltd was the investment manager of the Select International Alpha Fund (former name K2 Select International Absolute Return Fund). The data represented in this table and document for the dates prior to 7 February 2023 were for K2 Asset Management Ltd as the investment manager of the Fund. The past performance of the Fund is not a reliable indicator of the future performance of the Fund with a new investment manager.

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## Liontrust Investment Team



**Mark Hawtin** is Head of the Global Equities team. Mark joined Liontrust in 2024 from GAM where he was an Investment Director running global long only and long/short funds investing in the disruptive growth & technology sectors. Before joining GAM in 2008 he was a partner and portfolio manager with Marshall Wace Asset Management for eight years, managing one of Europe's largest technology, media and telecoms hedge funds. Mark Hawtin previously spent seven years at Enskilda Securities, initially as head of sales, before taking responsibility for the international equity business, overseeing pan-European research and trading activities and around a quarter of the investment banking staff.



**David Goodman** is an Investment Manager in the Global Equities team. David joined Liontrust in 2024 from GAM where he was responsible for applying technical analysis to assist with portfolio construction and risk management. Between starting his career trading equity derivatives for Citigroup and joining GAM in 2009, he has held numerous senior positions at such companies as SEB, Marshall Wace, Instinet Alpha and Pali International. David Goodman has passed the Securities Association, General Registered Representative examination and has passed the Society of Technical Analysts diploma exam thus is a full member of the Society of Technical Analysts (MSTA).



**Pieran Maru** is an investment analyst in the Global Equities team. Pieran joined Liontrust in 2024 from GAM where he covered software and hardware companies in GAM's Global Equity team. Pieran initially joined GAM's compliance team in 2017, before moving to the Global Equity team in 2021. Pieran holds a BA in Materials Science from the University of Oxford, the Investment Management Certificate (IMC), a Certificate in ESG Investing and has passed CFA Exam Level 1.



**Kevin Kruczynski** is an Investment Manager in the Global Equities team. Kevin joined Liontrust in 2024 from GAM where he managed both Global and US Equity portfolios. He joined GAM Investments in 2016 from THS Partners, a global equity investment firm and a long-standing sub-advisor of GAM's oldest global equity strategies. Prior to that, Kevin spent two years at Cazenove Capital and in 2001 he worked for Merrill Lynch Investment Managers, where he supported the charities team. Kevin holds a degree in Banking and International Finance from City University and is a CFA charterholder.