# Prime Value Opportunities Fund Fund Update – September 2019



- Hints of improvements in the macro-economic backdrop led to a strong September monthly performance for share markets
- Like its global peers, the Australian share market was led higher by 'value' stocks, at the expense of 'growth'
- The Fund rose 0.2% during the month. We remain highly invested in the market given the low interest rate environment but more so because we see attractive opportunities

	Total Return*	Benchmark (8% pa)	Value Add
Since inception (p.a.)	11.3%	8.0%	3.3%
5 Years (p.a.)	8.7%	8.0%	0.7%
3 Years (p.a.)	6.4%	8.0%	(1.6%)
2 Years (p.a.)	8.5%	8.0%	0.5%
1 Year	0.9%	8.0%	(7.1%)
3 Months	0.7%	2.0%	(1.3%)
1 Month	0.2%	0.6%	(0.4%)

\* Fund returns are calculated net of management fees, assuming all distributions are re-invested. Performance figures have been calculated in accordance with the Financial Services Council (FSC). The returns are calculated before performance fees which are charged against individual accounts. The returns exclude the benefits of imputation credits. Past performance is not

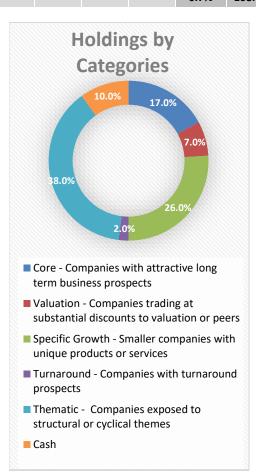
,	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	FYTD	ITD
FY 2013					1.8%	1.7%	4.3%	6.2%	(0.6%)	4.0%	(2.2%)	(1.6%)	14.1%	14.1%
FY 2014	4.4%	2.6%	4.3%	5.0%	(1.1%)	1.5%	(1.9%)	5.9%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	(1.4%)	21.4%	38.5%
FY 2015	2.5%	1.0%	(4.1%)	3.1%	(1.9%)	0.7%	1.5%	5.7%	1.4%	(1.0%)	0.5%	(4.3%)	4.6%	44.9%
FY 2016	5.3%	(3.7%)	0.1%	5.5%	1.7%	2.4%	(3.4%)	(1.9%)	3.6%	2.3%	4.4%	(1.8%)	14.9%	66.5%
FY 2017	6.5%	(1.7%)	(0.5%)	(4.9%)	(0.2%)	2.7%	(1.1%)	2.4%	2.1%	1.3%	(1.2%)	1.2%	6.3%	77.0%
FY 2018	(1.2%)	1.0%	0.4%	4.2%	1.6%	0.4%	(0.2%)	2.5%	(2.5%)	3.0%	2.1%	2.4%	14.3%	102.4%
FY 2019	1.7%	2.6%	(1.9%)	(8.2%)	(1.9%)	(1.8%)	3.2%	3.4%	0.2%	2.9%	0.3%	2.6%	2.5%	107.5%
FY 2020	2.9%	(2.3%)	0.2%										0.7%	108.6%

Top five holdings	Sector	
ВНР	Materials	
Westpac	Financials	
CSL	Health Care	
Macquarie	Financials	
Resmed	Health Care	
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The top five holdings make up approximately 30.1% of the portfolio

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Feature	Fund facts	
Portfolio Manager	ST Wong	
Investment Objective	To achieve superior absolute total returns by providing medium to long term capital growth without the constraints of a share market benchmark.	
Benchmark	8.0% pa	
Inception Date	5 November 2012	
Cash	0 - 100%	
International Exposure#	0 - 20%	
Distributions	Half-yearly	
Recommended Investment Period	3 + years	
Research Rating	Zenith – Recommended Lonsec - Recommended	

# The Prime Value SIV Opportunities Fund will have no exposure to international securities in accordance with SIV regulations



#### **Market review**

Global markets rallied in September, with developed markets up 2.4% in local currency terms, and emerging markets rising 1.5%. The Nikkei 225 (Japan) was the best performing major index (+5.8%), followed by the Euro Stoxx 50 (4.3%) and FTSE 100 (3.2%). Value-heavy European indices delivered the strongest performance in September. In contrast, the more growth-oriented NASDAQ Composite (+0.5%) and MSCI China (-0.2%) underperformed.

With hints of an improvement in the macro-economic backdrop, combined with a sustained period of value-investing underperformance and extreme positioning, triggered a rotation from growth to value stocks. The rotation in Australia was particularly pronounced, with JP Morgan estimating value stocks outperformed growth stocks by 384 basis points.

Financials (+4.5%) and Energy sectors (+4.3%) led the global 'value' stocks uplift, with both outperforming strongly in the month. The rotation to 'value' stocks was similar locally, with banks (+4.9%) and energy (+3.9%) buttressing the gains for value. At the other end of the spectrum, growth and defensives sectors languished, with healthcare (-3.2%), communication services (-3.3%) and REITS (-2.8%) bearing the brunt of the downdraft in Australia.

After a slump in August, iron ore prices rebounded in September. The Bloomberg Commodities Index rose 1.0%. Oil spiked mid-month following an attack on a major Saudi Arabian processing plant, with the price rising 14.2% on 16 September. Over the month, however, Brent oil price gained just 1.4% as processing capacity at the damaged facility was restored more quickly than expected.



This graph shows how \$100,000 invested at the Fund's Inception has increased to \$208,900 (net of fees excluding performance fees). This compares very favourably with the return of the benchmark, where a \$100,000 investment would have increased to \$170,200 over the same period. The returns exclude the benefits of imputation credits.

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	Direct Investment (Class A)	Platform Investment (Class B)		
APIR code	PVA0005AU	PVA0006AU		
Minimum Investment	\$20,000	N/A		
Issue price	\$ 1.6880	\$ 1.6543		
Withdrawal price	\$ 1.6752	\$ 1.6417		
Distribution (30/06/2019)	\$ 0.0336	\$ 0.0335		
Indirect Cost Ratio (ICR)*	0.95% p.a.	0.95% p.a.		
Performance fee**	15%	15%		

<sup>\*</sup> Unless otherwise stated, all fees quoted are inclusive of GST and less the relevant RITC

\*\* Of performance (net of management fees) above the agreed benchmark, subject to a
high water mark

### **Fund review and strategy**

The Fund posted a 0.2% gain in September but lagged the ASX300 Accumulation Index's 1.8% gain. The underperformance versus the ASX300 Accumulation Index was against the backdrop of a significant market rotation from 'growth' to 'value' stocks. One consequence of the rotation had been a large outperformance of bank stocks and underperformance of the healthcare sector during the month. This dynamic worked against the portfolio, in the short-term, as we hold a much smaller weighting in bank stocks compared to the stock market index.

Key contributors to Fund performance during the month included **Collins Food** (+16.0%), **City Chic** (+15.8%) and **Westpac** (+5.0%). Key detractors during the month included **Service Stream** (-8.7%), **Bravura** (-15.3%) and **CSL** (-3.0%).

We remain confident of generating superior Fund performance given the quality and prospects of the companies we are currently invested in. The Fund's health care exposures, CSL and Resmed, underperformed in September, following several quarters of very strong performance. The underperformance was attributable to the broad rotation from growth to value stocks we highlighted above. We remain comfortable holding our healthcare exposures as the growth prospects of both CSL and Resmed are strong. We note that CSL's share price, which fell 3.0% in September has started to recover strongly into the early part of October. Overall, a number of our holdings, some of which we highlight in the contributors to Fund performance above, are performing well. These businesses are growing strongly but more importantly, they are investing for future growth. As shareholders, we expect to be beneficiaries of such investments for the future.

Service Stream (SSM) is a telco and utilities contractor with a steady but growing earnings base. SSM's share price has been softer in the past month but it comes after a period of strong share price performance. Investors have been somewhat concerned on SSM's dependence on the NBN, a major client, reaching the peak of its roll-out activities. We are less so. First, SSM has been diversifying its revenue stream over the last few years. SSM is a more diversified and better quality company targeting more avenues for growth. Second, the number of active NBN users is now sufficiently large that on-going maintenance on the NBN actually presents a larger opportunity for SSM as opposed to one-off NBN activation revenues. As the pool of active NBN users grow so will the opportunity for SSM's maintenance revenues.

Top contributors (absolute)	Sector
Collins Food	Consumer Discretionary
City Chic	Consumer Discretionary
Westpac	Financials
Ton detractors (absolute)	Conton
Top detractors (absolute)	Sector
Service Stream	Industrials
Service Stream	Industrials

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BT Wrap, Macquarie Wrap, Netwealth, Hub24, Powerwrap

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