

Montanaro European Smaller Companies Fund (£)

28 June 2019

Open Ended

Fund Objective

To outperform its Benchmark, the MSCI Europe SmallCap (Capital Return) Index. The Fund will invest primarily in SmallCap companies quoted in the EU (including UK), Iceland, Norway and Switzerland with a market capitalisation smaller than the largest constituent of the MSCI Europe (Capital Return) Index at the time of initial investment. No unquoted investments are permitted.

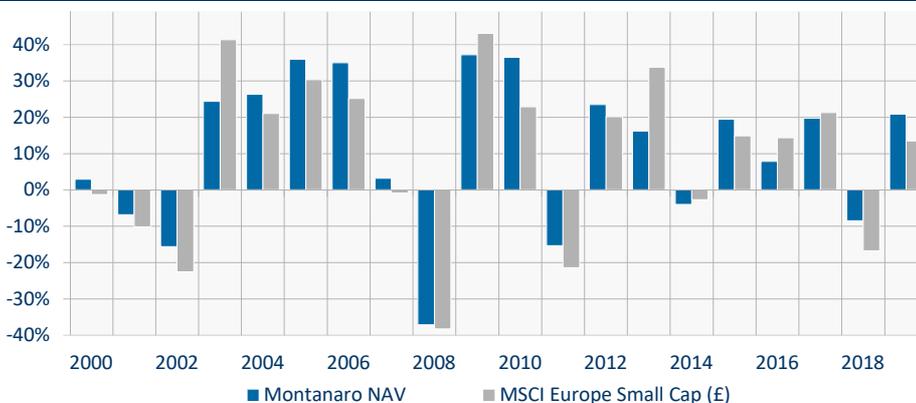
Performance

	YTD	1M	3M	6M	12M	3Y	5Y	Launch
Fund	20.9%	4.2%	8.4%	20.9%	6.5%	45.4%	66.4%	465.5%
Benchmark	13.5%	3.9%	3.8%	13.5%	-5.5%	30.9%	45.2%	282.1%
Fund (TR)‡	20.9%	4.2%	8.4%	20.9%	6.5%	47.1%	70.1%	509.4%
MSCI Europe Small Cap (TR)†	15.4%	4.2%	5.2%	15.4%	-3.3%	39.6%	61.8%	476.7%

Cumulative Performance Since Inception



Calendar Year Returns



Source: Montanaro, MSCI, Bloomberg. NAV to NAV, unrounded. NAVs prior to 24/09/07 priced at close of business; between 24/09/07 and 01/10/09 priced at midday; since 2/10/09 priced at 4pm.

† The MSCI Europe SmallCap index (net TR) and the MSCI LargeCap index are used for comparison purposes only.

‡ Dividends reinvested at ex-date.

About Montanaro

Montanaro, an independent specialist asset manager, was established in 1991 to research and invest in quoted Small & MidCap companies. Funds under management are currently £2.2 billion.

Fund Facts

Fund Manager	Montanaro Team
Contact	Charles Montanaro
Fund Launch	December 2000
Year End	December
Currency	GBP
Class	Distribution
Benchmark	MSCI Europe Small Cap (£)
Ticker	MONESCF ID
ISIN	IE0001195316
Sedol	0119531
Fund Size	£470 million
NAV	565.5p
No. of Holdings	59
Median Mkt Cap	£2530 million
Cash	2.9%
Legal Status	Irish OEIC
Listing	Irish Stock Exchange
Valuation Time	Daily 4pm Dublin time
Minimum Investment	£1,000
Dealing Time	12pm Dublin time
Dividend Date	Expected Q1
Reporting Fund Status	Approved
Management Fee	Annual 1.5%
Performance Fee	20% outperformance of Benchmark + 3%, with a hurdle of 467.9p
Authorised for marketing in	Ireland, UK, Switzerland, Italy
Fund ESG Score	6.4

The Fund ESG Score is the weighted average of Montanaro's proprietary company ESG Checklist scores (0-10; 10 is best).

Ratings and Awards

★★★★ – Morningstar Rating™
(as at 30/06/19)

© 2019 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Morningstar Rating™ Source: Morningstar Essentials. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information.

Important Information

All investments are subject to risk and the value of shares and the income from them can fall as well as rise due to stock market and currency movements. You may not get back as much as you originally invested.

Custodian, Fund Administrator and Subscriptions – Contact BNY MELLON
Tel: +353 1 900 6140 Fax: +353 1 900 6141 Email: MontanaroTA@bnymellon.com

Montanaro Asset Management Limited, 53 Threadneedle Street, London, EC2R 8AR

Tel: 020 7448 8600

Fax: 020 7448 8601

www.montanaro.co.uk

enquiries@montanaro.co.uk

Top 10 Holdings

Simcorp	3.2%
MTU Aero Engines	3.2%
Sartorius Stedim Biotech	3.2%
Belimo Holding	3.1%
Rightmove	2.8%
Marshalls	2.8%
IMCD	2.7%
Rational	2.6%
CTS Eventim	2.5%
Thule Group	2.5%
Total	28.7%

Risk Analysis

	Fund	Index
Jensen's Alpha (annual)	4.8%	
Beta	0.91	1.00
Standard Deviation	11.5%	11.6%
Sharpe Ratio	1.18	0.83
Tracking Error	4.7%	
Information Ratio	0.99	
Active Share	92.0%	

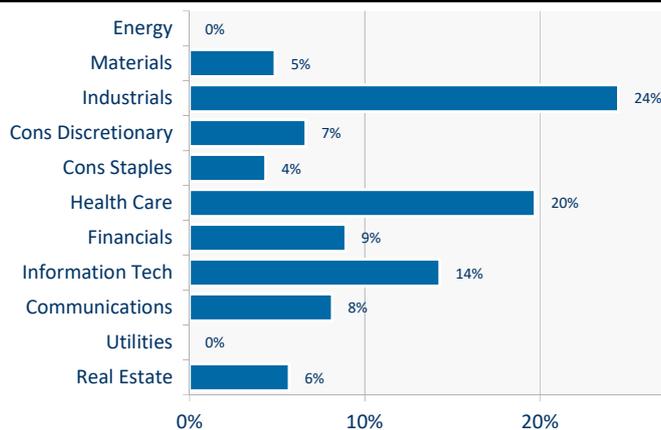
Note: risk statistics over three years

Portfolio Analysis

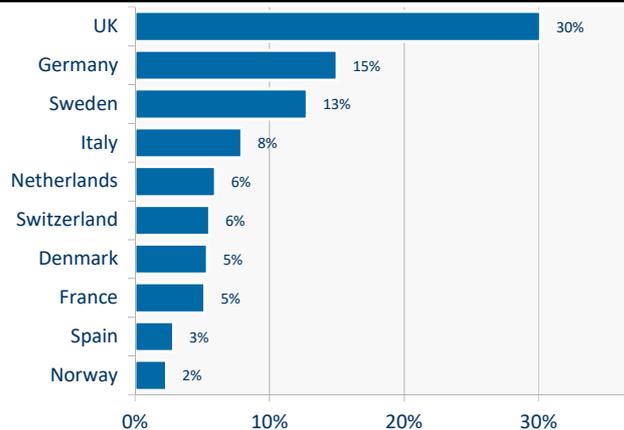
Price / Earnings 19F	25.0
EPS Growth 19F	6.3%
Dividend Yield 19F	2.0%
Dividend Growth 19F	6.2%
Return on Equity 19F	15.7%
EV/EBITDA 19F	20.0
EBIT Margin 19F	24.8%
Net Debt/Equity 19F	17.0%

Source: Factset consensus estimates

Sector Allocation



Country Allocation (Top 10)



Monthly Commentary

The wobble experienced by markets in May was greeted with the balm that has become so familiar during this Bull Market: the soothing words of Central Bankers. This had the “new normal” effect of turning bad economic data into good news for investors. Equities thus resumed their upwards momentum in June, even as safe haven assets – such as gold – also saw decent gains.

At the mid-point of the year, it is worth noting just how strong equity returns have been. All major equity indices are in positive territory, with European and US markets posting double-digit gains. Even the UK, where Brexit has proven such a headwind to sentiment, experienced good returns. Investors who have tried to “time” the end to the Bull Market have again been caught out.

During June, the NAV of the share class increased by 4.2% in Sterling terms, marginally ahead of the MSCI Europe Small Cap benchmark index. During the last 6 months, the NAV has risen by 20.9%, an outperformance of more than 7%.

The strongest contributions during the month came from **Belimo**, the actuator manufacturer, which moved into the STOXX Europe 600 Index. **Sartorius Stedim**, the developer of equipment used in the manufacture of biologic drugs, continued to benefit from very good Q1 growth numbers. **CompuGroup**, the German provider of software for the medical sector, rose after it received a major order for its hospital business in Austria.

The weakest contributions came from **Chr Hansen**, the supplier of bioscience based natural ingredients to the food, health and animal feed industries, which suffered due to weak Chinese growth. **Rightmove**, the online real estate portal, declined after a broker downgrade on valuation grounds. **Cineworld**, the leading cinema operator in the UK and US, suffered from a weak film season in the US, which we believe will recover in H2 2019.

Incredibly, two-year sovereign debt for every single country in the Eurozone now trades on negative yields. The probable appointment of Christine Lagarde as President of the ECB, who is seen as even more dovish than the incumbent Mario Draghi, is expected to lead to a continuation of loose monetary policy in Europe. Recent history suggests that this should support equity markets.

Set against this is the likelihood that the narrative of the second half of 2019 may mirror that of the first: politics and the trade war could dominate the headlines once again. With this in mind, we continue to believe that the environment remains supportive of owning “Quality” companies. Such businesses are in control of their own destiny and have the resilience and strength to weather periods of market turbulence, which any long-term investor should expect to experience from time to time.

Risk and Reward Profile



These numbers rate how the Fund may perform and the risk of losing some or all of your investment. In general the potential for higher returns also implies a higher level of risk. However, the lowest category (1) does not mean a risk free investment.

This risk rating is based on historical data which may not be a reliable indication of the future risks and rewards of the fund. The risk rating of the fund may change over time.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. All investments are subject to risk and the value of shares and the income from them can fall as well as rise due to stock market and currency movements. You may not get back as much as you originally invested.

For further information please see the Risk and Reward section of the Key Investor Information Document (KIID).

Important Information

This report is issued monthly by Montanaro Asset Management Limited (MAM), the fund manager, who is Authorised and Regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). It may not be copied or distributed or otherwise made available to any recipient without the express written consent of MAM.

This material constitutes a financial promotion for the purposes of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the “Act”). The material included in this report has been prepared by MAM and is provided for information purposes only and does not constitute an invitation or offer to subscribe for or purchase shares in the Fund. Such investments can only be made by completing the application forms that accompany the Fund’s Prospectus. MAM is not authorised to market directly to retail investors. Retail investors should seek independent financial advice before making any investment decisions.

Information and opinions presented in this material have been obtained or derived from sources believed by MAM to be reliable. MAM makes no representation as to their accuracy or completeness.

It is the responsibility of all users of this information to be informed and observe all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdictions where they reside.

