

Montanaro European Smaller Companies Fund (£)

31 October 2019

Open Ended

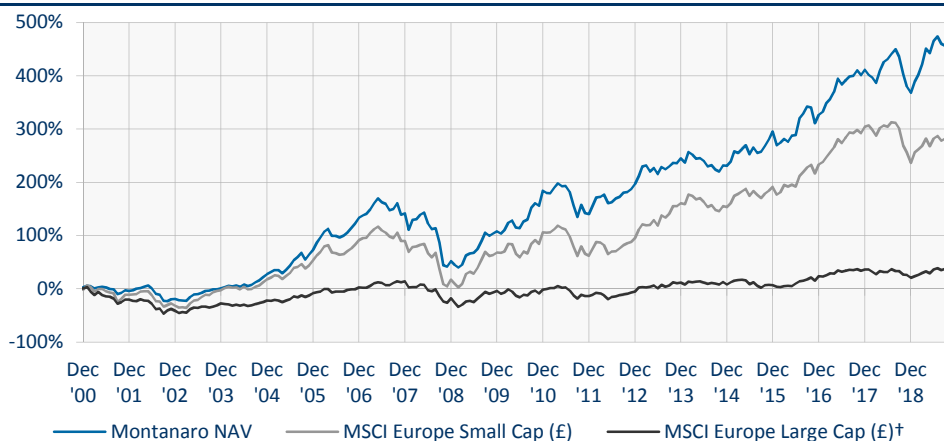
Fund Objective

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.

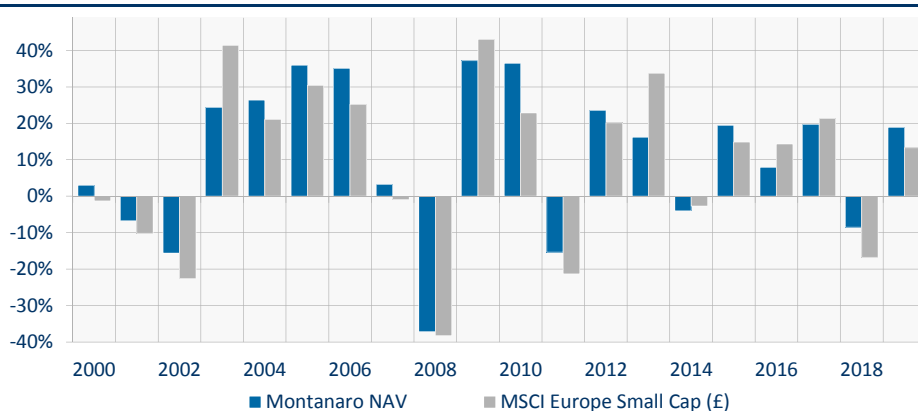
Performance

	YTD	1M	3M	6M	12M	3Y	5Y	Launch
Fund	18.9%	0.0%	-3.0%	1.0%	10.7%	26.4%	73.7%	456.4%
Benchmark	13.3%	-0.2%	-1.5%	-0.2%	3.4%	14.6%	55.4%	281.5%
Fund (TR)‡	18.9%	0.0%	-3.0%	1.0%	10.7%	27.8%	77.6%	499.6%
MSCI Europe Small Cap (TR)†	15.8%	-0.1%	-1.1%	1.2%	5.9%	23.0%	73.1%	478.8%

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	£417 million
NAV	556.4p
No. of Holdings	56
Median Mkt Cap	£2710 million
Cash	2.1%
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	6.5

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 31/10/19)

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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.

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Top 10 Holdings

CTS Eventim	3.5%
Rightmove	3.4%
Marshalls	3.2%
Sartorius Stedim Biotech	3.2%
Rational	3.0%
Belimo Holding	2.9%
MTU Aero Engines	2.8%
Shaftesbury	2.8%
Simcorp	2.6%
Elekta	2.5%
Total	30.0%

Risk Analysis

	Fund	Index
Jensen's Alpha (annual)	4.0%	
Beta	0.89	1.00
Standard Deviation	10.8%	11.0%
Sharpe Ratio	0.78	0.45
Tracking Error	4.6%	
Information Ratio	0.83	
Active Share	92.2%	

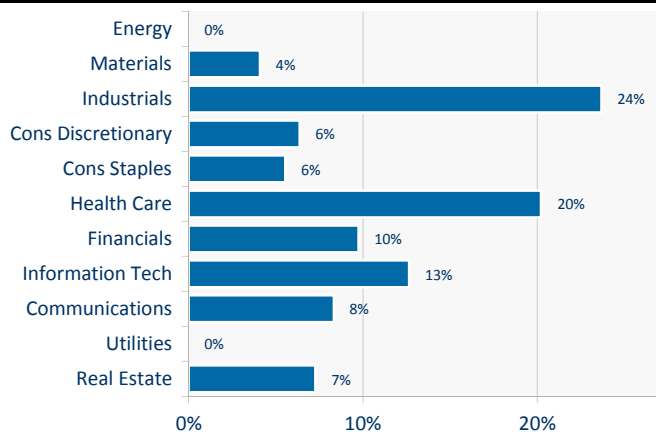
Note: risk statistics over three years

Portfolio Analysis

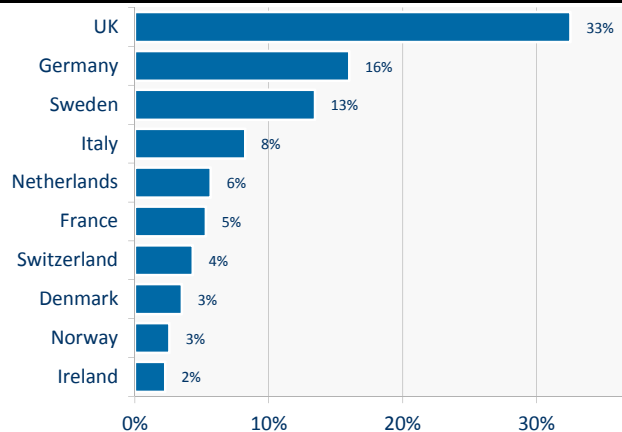
Price / Earnings 20F	23.5
EPS Growth 20F	12.8%
Dividend Yield 20F	2.0%
Dividend Growth 20F	8.1%
Return on Equity 20F	15.5%
EV/EBITDA 20F	19.2
EBIT Margin 20F	26.7%
Net Debt/Equity 20F	5.4%

Source: Factset consensus estimates

Sector Allocation



Country Allocation (Top 10)



Monthly Commentary

Easing political tensions provided support to equity markets in October. A consequence of this was that SmallCap had one of its strongest months so far this year relative to European LargeCap, outperforming by some 2%. With two months to go until the end of the year, SmallCap is now on track to outperform LargeCap in 2019. As President Trump celebrated a "Phase One Trade Deal" with China, the UK stepped back from the apparent precipice of a "no deal" Brexit. Meanwhile, Central Banks reiterated their dovish stances as Mario Draghi, the architect of Europe's "whatever it takes" stimulus strategy, stepped aside for Christine Lagarde.

During October, the NAV of the share class was flat in Sterling terms, in line with the MSCI Europe Small Cap benchmark index.

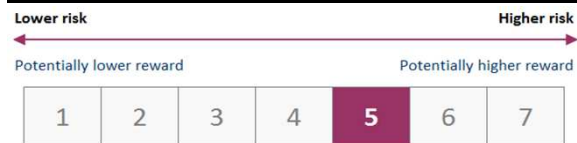
The strongest contribution during the month came from **Rightmove**, the UK's leading online real estate portal, which gained as fears of a "no deal" Brexit receded. **Belimo**, the actuator manufacturer, sustained its upward momentum due to a positive broker report. **Marshalls**, the hard landscaping manufacturer in the UK, also surged on more positive Brexit related news.

The weakest contribution came from **VZ Holding**, the Swiss wealth manager, which experienced profit taking after a strong third quarter. **AAK**, the producer of high-value added vegetable oils and fats, declined on profit taking after a slightly weaker than expected set of results. **IMA**, the producer of packaging machines for the food and pharmaceutical industries, weakened due to an increase of short positions on the stock.

It is perhaps a little confusing that European equities have climbed close to a two-year high in recent weeks when signs that the global economy is slowing are so prevalent. While much of this is due to improved political developments, a positive earnings season has also reinvigorated investor appetite for risk assets.

Yet the clouds hovering over the investment landscape have not evaporated completely. Geopolitical risks remain and growth is slowing across the world. While the monetary backdrop remains supportive, Central Banks have not left much in the toolkit. In our opinion, we remain in a period in which investors will continue to favour companies with strong balances sheets and healthy cash flows.

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).

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