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#### **FUND PROFILE**

OBJECTIVE Long-term capital appreciation through investment in equities of Japanese companies that are

achieving EPS growth through the skillful execution of unique business models that are well

suited to the economic environment and growth opportunities

APPROACH Intensive bottom-up research (company visits, interviews and fundamental analysis) with

utilization of proprietary database of over 3,800 companies

SUITABILITY Institutional investors with a long term view

### FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT I OVERVIEW

Our outlook as of May 29 for corporate performance for the fiscal year ending March 2021 for the 1,255 TOPIX companies that actually announced their forecasts for the year, are as follows: ordinary income down 17.3% from the previous year, net income down 16.9% from the previous year, and gross dividends down 2.5% from the previous year. The Japanese stock market began cautiously in May with the spread of the novel Coronavirus, but rose by the end of the month in anticipation of a return to economic activity as the emergency declaration released in stages. There were also signs overseas such as the gradual normalization of factory operations and relaxation of restrictions on going out. Also, many of the companies that have disclosed their earnings expectations for the current fiscal year assume that the impact of the novel Coronavirus will be resolved and recovery will occur from the second half of the fiscal year, but growing concerns about such things as a second wave of the spread of the virus and worsening US-China relations are also factors. We think it important to continue our due diligence and company visits to select companies that are expected to achieve mid- to long-term EPS growth.

## **Investment Themes**

- Companies that have established business models in Japan that will enable them to achieve a high level of earnings growth over the medium to long term;
- Companies with sustainable earnings growth over the medium to long term that contribute to the IoT and 5G hardware and software areas, which are part of the socalled fourth industrial revolution;
- 3. Companies supporting lifestyle changes brought on by the Coronavirus;
- 4. Well-known, bellwether Japanese companies with EPS growth and low stock price volatility:
- 5. Companies that support the utilization of idle assets and wealth creation.

#### PERFORMANCE CHART





### **FUND FACTS**

Market Coverage	Japanese Equities				
Currency	U.S. Dollar, Japanese Yen, or Euro				
Inception Date	19 August 2015 USD Hedged Unit Class 30 March 2011 Yen Unit Class 01 May 2018 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
ISIN Code	IE00BVRZ9185 USD Hedged Unit Class IE00B3VGSP84 Yen Unit Class IE00BDRTDF67 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Bloomberg Code	YUKIUSD:ID USD Hedged Unit Class YUKIJPY:ID Yen Unit Class YUKIEUR:ID EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Total Net Asset	¥8,608 Million -\$30 Million -\$4,931 Million -¥4,931 Million -€3.5 Million USD Hedged Unit Class Yen Unit Class EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Unit NAV	\$1,074.35 USD Hedged Unit Class ¥26,159 Yen Unit Class €646.84 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Legal Classification	UCITS regulated by Central Bank of Ireland				
Listed	Irish Stock Exchange				
Reporting Year End	July				
Subscription / Redemption	Daily				
Minimum Investment	\$10,000 USD Hedged Unit Class ¥1,000,000 Yen Unit Class €10,000 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
NAV Calculations	Daily				
Manager	Carne Global Fund Managers (Ireland) Ltd Dublin				
Trustee	BNY Mellon Trust Company (Ireland) Ltd Dublin				
Investment Manager	Yuki Management & Research Co. Ltd Tokyo				
Fund Manager	Magotaka Oshitani				
Administrator	BNY Mellon Fund Services (Ireland) DAC Dublin				
Auditor	PricewaterhouseCoopers Dublin				
International Placing Agent	Yuki-Co, LLC				

## CONTACTS

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## **FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT I REVIEW**

Through company visits and interviews, the fund manager added new positions, confirmed existing prositions, and increased the weightings of some positions. One company of note is Japan Elevator Service Holdings (6544), a domestic independent elevator maintenance company. The number of maintenance contracts, which is their recurring revenue business, is increasing because of their high cost performance following installation by elevator manufacturers. Elevator manufacturers have built their business model on setting high monthly rates for maintenance contracts following installation. On the other hand, Japan Elevator Service specializes in maintenance, and with its expertise is succeeding in customer acquisition because they can set a lower monthly rate. Also, unlike competitor independent maintenance businesses, Japan Elevator Service is the only listed company in this space and is distinguished from the others with the power of a well-known brand and high quality service. With the increase in recurring revenue from the company's nearly 100% repeat business rate, we anticipate an increase in the number of renewals on elevators and a 10% increase in new projects this fiscal year. Further, the number of elevators serviced per site has increased, improving maintenance efficiency, and we can expect improving margins. For these reasons we added this stock to our portfolio.

## **FEES**

Manager	0.015%			
Administrator	0.085% - 0.025%			
Trustee	0.02%			
Investment Manager &	1.50%			
Placing Agent				
Hedge Cost	0.07%			

Please see prospectus for details [minimum charge may apply]

#### PERFORMANCE DATA

#### **USD HEDGED UNIT CLASS**

	YTD	1M	ЗМ	6M	1Y	3Y	5Y	Inception
FUND	-11.4%	7.7%	9.6%	-9.4%	-7.1%	-7.5%	NA	7.4%
TOPIX [excl. dividends]	-9.2%	6.8%	3.5%	-8.0%	3.4%	-0.3%	NA	-5.1%

\*Note: TOPIX figures are stated in USD terms for this table.

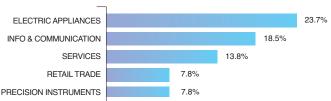
### **YEN UNIT CLASS**

	YTD	1M	ЗМ	6M	1Y	3Y	5Y	Inception
FUND	-11.8%	7.7%	9.2%	-10.1%	-8.9%	-12.7%	5.8%	161.6%
	-9.2%	6.8%	3.5%	-8.0%	3.4%	-0.3%	-6.6%	80.5%

## TOP HOLDINGS

TOTAL	32.0%
10 Nintendo Co (7974)	2.7%
9 Tokyo Electron Ltd (8035)	2.8%
8 Lasertec Corp (6920)	2.9%
7 Kao Corp (4452)	2.9%
6 Capcom Co Ltd (9697)	3.2%
5 Daikin Industries Ltd (6367)	3.2%
4 M3 Inc (2413)	3.3%
3 Terumo Corp (4543)	3.4%
2 Kobe Bussan Co (3038)	3.5%
1 Sony Corp (6758)	4.0%

# SECTOR BREAKDOWN



# FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT I Future Strategy

The stock market finished much higher in May. Continuing from April, the month started with panic-type selling on pessimism about the impact of the novel Coronavirus, settled at the level of 1.0x PBR, then transitioned to a market with investors returning to oversold companies, and especially stocks that can be expected to grow earnings notwithstanding the uncertain outlook on the effects of Coronavirus. Until mid-May, we saw buying of growth companies with robust business models that would be only temporarily impacted by the Coronavirus. However, analysis showed that from mid-month profit-taking of some of these stocks occurred as the market rotated to value focused on cheap stocks without consideration of earnings as the market settled at the PBR 1.0x level. We expected that such a short-term trend might occur, but we assume that the conditions will settle down after the overall market level has recovered. Our investment policy is to focus on fundamentals, building a portfolio focused on companies undergoing a high rate of change with a superior market advantage. We will adjust our position weightings based on target prices using our 3-year earnings estimates, and thoroughly analyze and evaluate company earnings to focus our investments on companies that we expect will improve profits over the mid- to long-term and have high EPS growth momentum based on unit sales growth.

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