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Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy

Investor Presentation

March 31, 2021

MERIT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

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MERIT OVERVIEW

Merit Investment Management is the investment advisor for the Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy (GBCD)



- Merit is a registered investment advisor (RIA) founded in 2009
- Merit manages focused equity strategies for institutions & individual investors

INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY

- Generate the highest risk-adjusted returns available to equity investors
- Employ a comprehensive investment approach integrating macro, industry & company analysis
- Generate superior returns through fundamental research & active portfolio management

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- Invest in great companies with strong dividend yields offering compelling risk-adjusted returns
- Generate strong dividend income to improve total return, reduce risk & reinvest capital
- Actively manage the portfolio to improve returns, minimize volatility & reduce risk

OPERATIONS

- Top investment, audit & legal services provide a comprehensive solution
- High level of service and transparency within a regulated compliance structure



INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy focuses on three key tenets to build sustainable long term wealth

OBJECTIVE	INVESTMENT APPROACH	GOALS
GENERATE THE HIGHEST RISK ADJUSTED RETURNS	 Invest in high quality companies which offer compelling risk adjusted returns Achieve total return through both dividend income and capital appreciation Mitigate principal loss through continuous dividend income 	 Outperform equity markets over full market cycle Capture majority of returns in strong equity market Deliver positive returns in flat equity markets Outperform equity markets in down equity markets Compound positive returns over time
GENERATE STRONG DIVIDEND INCOME	 Utilize an extensive investment universe including REITs, MLPs, international equities Invest in strong dividend paying companies with stable businesses & dividend policies Focus on dividend yield component to provide valuation support and reduce risk 	 Deliver 4-5% dividend yield Deliver higher yield than equity income strategies Deliver dividend yield comparable to IG Bond index
MINIMIZE VOLATILITY & REDUCE RISK	 Invest in businesses that deliver solid returns through the business cycle Build a diversified portfolio of investments across all market sectors Invest in low beta stocks with low correlations 	 Invest in high quality companies Diversified portfolio of investments in all sectors Portfolio beta lower than equity indexes



INVESTMENT PROCESS

Merit's fundamental research process follows a three step approach to identify investment opportunities

INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

- Evaluate wide range of investments
- Review macro, sector & industry data
- Determine areas of investment focus

FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS

- Identify companies to research
- Perform Company Analysis
- Perform Dividend Analysis

INVESTMENT EVALUATION

- Evaluate portfolio additions
- Determine target price, position size
- Position portfolio to reflect updates

COMPANY ANALYSIS

Analyze industry & company factors for positive factors

- Durable competitive advantages
- Operate in industries with favorable economic characteristics
- History of earning attractive long-term returns on capital
- Management team has a sound plan for earnings growth
- Managers that are trustworthy and good allocators of capital
- Share price below intrinsic value
- Predictability of revenue streams
- Identifiable downside protection

DIVIDEND ANALYSIS

Analyze company factors for positive dividend factors

- Superior dividend yield
- Strong FCF generation
- · Stable cash flows
- Solid Balance Sheet
- History of growing dividends
- Conservative dividend payout ratios and policies
- Attractive valuation on a historical & relative basis
- · Management committed to dividend



PORTFOLIO SNAPSHOT

The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy invests globally in industry leading companies across all sectors

GBCD HOLDINGS as of MARCH 31, 2020























Johnson Johnson	Jol	msond	Jol	hnson
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Infrastructure Partners	CISCO: ENERGY, IRON MOUNTAIN NOVARTIS Johnson Johnson	Nestle	SIEMENS
SECTOR	COMPANIES	AVG DEBT RATING	DIVIDEND YIELD %
Communications	AT&T, Crown Castle International	Baa2	5.0%
Consumer Staples	Nestle, Pepsi	Aa2	2.9
Energy	Enbridge	Baa2	6.1



PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy is managed along the following guidelines

PORTFOLIO GUIDELINES	GBCD as of MARCH 31, 2020
Equities, MLPs, REITs	81.5%, 0.0%, 18.3%
All Sectors < ~25%	Technology = 15.8%
Position Target = 5.0% - 8.0%	Average = 5.5%
Yield Target = 4.0 - 5.0%	Average = 4.1%
GBCD < MSCI ACWI	Beta = 0.9
Market Cap > ∼\$5B	Mega Cap > \$100B = 58.8% Large Cap > \$10B = 22.3% Mid Cap > \$5B = 18.7%
Global Portfolio	68.4% U.S. / 31.4% International
No Limits. Target < 10%	Cash = 0.2%
	All Sectors < ~25% Position Target = 5.0% - 8.0% Yield Target = 4.0 - 5.0% GBCD < MSCI ACWI Market Cap > ~\$5B Global Portfolio



PERFORMANCE

The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy has performed well versus both equity & corporate bond indexes

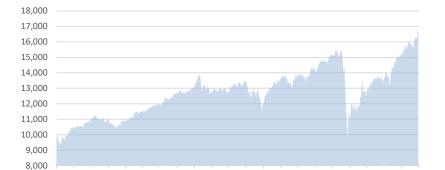
GBCD PERFORMANCE as of MARCH 31, 2020

• The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy has generated strong risk-adjusted returns while generating a higher yield and exhibiting lower volatility

Cumulative Net Returns	Yield	Q1	YTD	1 YR	3YR	5YR	Inception
Merit Global Blue Chip Dividend	4.10%	8.57%	8.57%	47.59%	8.98%	9.65%	10.11%
MSCI ACWI High Dividend Index	3.44	6.01	6.01	38.65	8.20	9.38	9.71
FTSE All-World High Dividend Index	3.30	8.80	8.80	48.30	6.90	9.20	9.23
Blackrock Global Dividend	2.08	4.45	4.45	39.88	8.63	8.71	8.81
Vanguard Global Equity Income	2.79	7.66	7.66	31.22	6.38		
iShares iBoxx USD Liquid IG Index	2.39	(5.51)	(5.51)	8.54	6.85	5.17	5.79

Calendar Year Net Returns	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	Inception
Merit Global Blue Chip Dividend	8.47%	0.61%	26.17%	(8.30)%	20.44%	8.66%	65.84%
MSCI ACWI High Dividend Index	6.26	1.73	23.88	(7.11)	18.86	10.05	62.33
FTSE All-World High Dividend Index	8.80	0.50	22.20	(10.90)	19.80	11.50	59.03
Blackrock Global Dividend	4.45	6.84	22.76	(10.42)	19.81	6.03	55.89
Vanguard Global Equity Income	7.68	(0.85)	14.53	(6.33)	12.27		
iShares iBoxx USD Liquid IG Index	(5.51)	11.14	17.13	(3.76)	7.16	5.97	34.43

Hypothetical Growth of \$10,000 from inception



Note:

Performance data includes all fees and expenses. Performance data shown represents past performance. Investors should carefully consider a fund's investment goals, risks, charges and expenses before investing.

1/1/19

1/1/20

1/1/21

1/1/18



1/1/17

1/1/16

HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

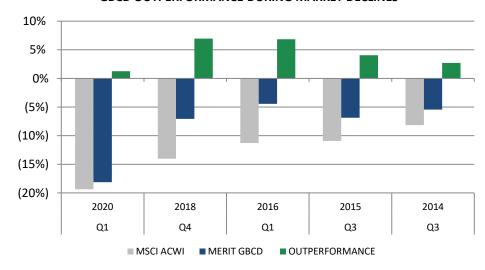
The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy can outperform by limiting drawdowns during challenging markets

ILLUSTRATIVE HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

- To illustrate illustrative historical performance, Merit's prior period GBCD holdings are analyzed for prior period returns
- The scenarios illustrate hypothetical performance during recent correction periods over the past 6 years
- Current Merit BCD positions outperformed in all corrections as lower drawdowns lead to future outperformance

CORRECTIONS	Q1	Q4	Q1	Q3	Q3
Periods	2020	2018	2016	2015	2014
MSCI ACWI	(19.37%)	(14.03%)	(11.29%)	(10.93%)	(8.15%)
MERIT GBCD	(18.12%)	(7.06%)	(4.43%)	(6.88%)	(5.44%)
OUTPERFORMANCE	1.25%	6.97%	6.86%	4.04%	2.71%

GBCD OUTPERFORMANCE DURING MARKET DECLINES



^{1.} Historical data reflects the performance of a hypothetical equally-weighted portfolio based on the actual historical performance of Merit GBCD holdings as of 12/31/2020 over the respective time periods.



DIVIDEND YIELD & RISK METRICS

The Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy offers a higher yield and exhibits significantly lower volatility & risk

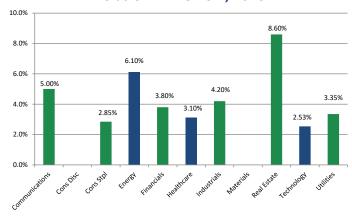
DIVIDEND METRICS

- GBCD yield of 4.1% is higher than U.S./Intl equity indexes of 1.4/2.3%
- GBCD yield of 4.1% is higher than the IG Corp Bond index 2.4%
- Solid dividend yields across all sectors; range from 2.5% to 8.6%
- All positions have stable yields & high dividend health scores
- Strong dividend income with equity upside and inflation hedge

RISK METRICS SINCE INCEPTION

- Lower Beta than the MSCI ACWI
- Lower Standard Deviation than the MSCI ACWI.
- Lower Downside Risk than the MSCI ACWI

SECTOR DIVIDEND YIELDS as of MARCH 31, 2020



RISK METRICS as of MARCH 31, 2020

Sharpe Ratio
Sortino Ratio
Standard Deviation
Downside Deviation
Maximum Drawdown

Calculation for risk-adjusted return
Risk adjusted return with required rate
Dispersion of returns versus expectations
Downside risk of returns below threshold
Maximum portfolio loss peak to trough

2021	YTD	Since Inception							
GBCD	ACWI	GBCD	ACWI						
3.12	1.36	0.65	0.76						
5.38	1.93	0.87	1.02						
8.28	11.40	12.72	13.56						
4.80	8.04	9.48	9.96						
(3.11)	(5.02)	(37.45)	(33.53)						



INVESTOR FOCUS

Merit's Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy is well suited for current markets and a wide investor base

KEY STRENGTHS	MARKET ENVIRONMENT & INVESTOR SUITABILITY
COLINID INIVESTMENT	Generate the highest risk adjusted returns in equity markets
SOUND INVESTMENT	 Invest globally in high quality companies improves returns and reduces risk
STRATEGY	Dividend income improves total return, rises with inflation and offers continuous re-investment
	Strong company position needed to realize value in a weak economic growth environment
WELL POSITIONED FOR	High quality equities generating strong cash flows are more resilient in volatile markets
CURRENT MARKETS	Flexibility to position strategy to take advantage of market opportunities
	 Individual investors are increasingly focused on global and income generating strategies
VELL SUITED FOR EVOLVING	 Institutional investors switching from traditional to new allocation frameworks
INVESTOR TRENDS	Low global yields increases cross-over investor base for Balanced and Equity Income strategies
WIDE TARGET	 Individuals - Baby Boomers, high net worth individuals, risk adverse equity investors
	 Institutions - Insurance companies, corporations, pension funds, endowments, family offices
INVESTOR BASE	matications matiance companies, corporations, pension ranas, endowments, family offices



INVESTMENT SUMMARY

Merit is committed to delivering superior risk-adjusted returns through its disciplined investment approach

Investment Focus

Invest in great companies operating in favorable industries

Focus on total return and high income with low volatility

Infrastructure

Experienced Management
Registered investment advisor
Top service providers
High transparency

Portfolio Management

Active risk management with guidelines for sector exposures and position limits

Return to target framework to effectively allocate capital to investments



Investment Approach

Identify companies that offer attractive, stable dividend yields

Concentrated portfolio approach to maximize impact of best ideas

Comprehensive investment approach integrating macroeconomic, industry & company analysis

Investment Process

Fundamental research process and concentrated portfolio

Disciplined investment process to add portfolio positions



APPENDIX



PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS

Merit tracks portfolio metrics such as dividend, valuation, credit & performance data to manage the strategy

GBCD PORTFOLIO as of MARCH 31, 2020

					S	TOCK PRI	CE & PERF	ORMANCI	E					TARGET	PRICES	DIV	IDEND IN	IFO		DIV V D	EBT	GROWTH	,	VALUATI	ON (CREDIT
52 TP D5 Dt T	TICKER	COMPANY	Geo	Weight	BETA	COST	PRICE	% C	RSI	%F52H %	200D	%50D	1YR%	Tgt Px	% to T	DIV IB	D 5 IB	D-5	DIV EX DATE	D CST% D	- DC%	REV 3Y	P/E CY	F P/E	P/CF)/Cap
Ø	AGNC	AGNC Investment Corp.	U.S.	5.92%	1.33	15.29	17.36	0.78%	68	-0.2%	13.9%	5.0%	52.6%	16.18	-6.8%	8.60%	12.09	(3.49)	2021-04-29	1.67%	6.9%	-26.9	7.1	7.1	5.4	2%
②	AVGO	Broadcom Inc.	U.S.	5.69%	1.00	313.76	477.30	-1.58%	52	-2.1%	16.8%	1.4%	93.3%	493.85	3.5%	3.10%	2.84	0.26	2021-03-19	4.81%	-1.7%	7.6	20.4	20.4	16.0	63%
88	bipc	Brookfield Infrastructure Partners	CAN	5.82%	1.38	43.61	73.42	-0.29%	53	-5.4%	17.5%	5.9%	89.8%	66.14	-9.9%	2.70%	3.24	(0.54)	2021-02-25	5.25%	-2.6%	-5.0		NA	4.5	NA
•	CCI	Crown Castle International	U.S.	5.43%	0.32	144.64	175.69	-0.80%	63	-1.6%	7.2%	6.6%	16.4%	180.36	2.7%	3.10%	3.50	(0.40)	2021-03-12	2.69%	0.4%	7.8	27.5	27.7	24.4	73%
⊘ ■	CSCO	Cisco Systems Inc.	U.S.	5.44%	0.93	45.91	51.37	-0.56%	58	-2.4%	14.0%	5.7%	28.5%	50.53	-1.6%	2.90%	2.85	0.05	2021-01-04	2.98%	-0.1%	0.0	17.8	17.8	13.0	20%
	DUK	Duke Energy	U.S.	5.75%	0.31	89.32	98.79	0.29%	73	-0.4%	10.0%	6.5%	17.8%	98.75	0.0%	4.00%	4.19	(0.19)	2021-02-11	3.41%	0.6%	0.1	19.0	18.9	8.1	54%
	ENB	Enbridge Inc	CAN	5.96%	0.97	33.64	37.09	0.98%	59	-1.5%	12.5%	3.5%	38.0%	42.68	15.1%	6.10%	5.58	0.52	2021-02-11	4.37%	1.7%	-4.0	17.9	17.9	9.6	51%
	IRM	Iron Mountain	U.S.	6.97%	0.85	32.14	37.99	-0.11%	65	-8.0%	20.8%	7.2%	57.2%	32.60	-14.2%	6.70%	7.04	(0.34)	2021-03-12	3.95%	2.8%	1.6	14.5	14.5	10.9	90%
⊘ ⊘ ≡	JNJ	Johnson & Johnson	U.S.	5.62%	0.71	138.65	159.92	0.28%	43	-8.1%	4.6%	-1.2%	17.2%	183.08	14.5%	2.50%	2.59	(0.09)	2021-02-22	0.64%	1.9%	1.5	16.9	16.7	18.5	34%
⊘ ⊘ ■	JPM	JP Morgan Chase & Co.	U.S.	5.74%	1.27	92.00	151.21	-1.87%	47	-4.8%	21.3%	1.3%	61.1%	148.14	-2.0%	2.40%	2.38	0.02	2021-04-05	2.38%	0.0%	3.6	13.3	13.5	14.1	58%
	NSRGY	Nestle SA	EU	4.79%	0.33	110.53	116.23	-0.75%	65	-4.5%	1.0%	4.7%	13.6%	134.80	16.0%	2.70%	2.67	0.03	2021-04-19	2.67%	0.0%	-0.4		NA	21.6	38%
	NVS	Novartis AG	EU	5.84%	0.40	85.70	86.75	0.16%	50	-12.1%	-1.3%	-0.7%	6.8%	107.17	23.5%	3.70%	3.52	0.18	2021-03-04	2.59%	1.1%	-4.0	13.5	13.4	14.6	33%
⊘ ⊘ <u>■</u>	PEP	PepsiCo Inc.	U.S.	4.46%	0.59	128.50	142.11	-0.66%	57	-3.9%	2.5%	3.8%	12.6%	151.33	6.5%	3.00%	2.84	0.16	2021-03-04	2.92%	0.1%	3.3	23.6	23.4	18.7	75%
	PRU	Prudential Financial Inc.	U.S.	5.11%	1.69	88.75	97.34	2.16%	63	-0.6%	23.0%	9.1%	75.2%	87.88	-9.7%	5.20%	3.77	1.43	2021-02-12	3.30%	1.9%	-1.1	8.2	8.3	4.4	23%
	SIEGY	Siemens AG	EU	4.47%	1.09	52.87	82.89	-0.54%	55	-2.0%	13.2%	2.5%	92.3%	86.02	3.8%	3.50%	3.35	0.15	2021-02-04	2.07%	1.4%	-13.9		NA	11.9	49%
	T	AT&T Inc.	U.S.	6.90%	0.79	35.33	29.73	0.34%	46	-10.8%	1.8%	0.8%	3.5%	30.27	1.8%	6.90%	5.62	1.28	2021-04-08	4.35%	2.6%	2.9	9.4	9.3	5.0	52%
	TSM	Taiwan Semiconductor	Asia	4.66%	0.92	55.87	120.84	-0.35%	51	-14.8%	18.7%	-2.4%	154.0%	144.50	19.6%	1.60%	2.88	(1.28)	2021-06-17	0.76%	0.8%	19.4	30.3	30.6	22.1	NA
88	UPS	United Parcel Service Inc.	U.S.	5.21%	0.99	116.22	176.21	-1.79%	66	-0.3%	10.0%	6.7%	87.7%	169.06	-4.1%	2.40%	2.91	(0.51)	2021-02-19	2.50%	-0.1%	7.3	20.0	20.0	14.4	97%
		Cash		0.22%																						
	18	Averages		100.0%	0.88			-0.21%	57	-4.6%					3.2%	4.08%		-0.15			1.0%			17.31	14.97	0.51



ABOUT MERIT

Scott McGraw is the Founder & Chief Investment Officer of Merit Investment Management

SCOTT MCGRAW - MERIT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

- Founded Merit Investment Management in 2009 and established the Registered Investment Adviser (RIA) with State of DE, PA & SEC
- Chief Investment Officer of Merit investment strategies:
 - · Merit Global Blue Chip Dividend Strategy
 - Merit Fund L.P. long/short equity strategy
- Established Merit infrastructure:
 - research, portfolio management
 - trading, operations, compliance
 - business development processes

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- 25+ years of professional experience in investment management, investment banking and consulting in financial services
- Investment Management Investment Analyst at Gardner Lewis Asset Management responsible for investment positions of over ~\$750M in AUM across multiple investment strategies
- Investment Banking Associate at Banc of America Securities in the Energy & Power sectors and Merrill Lynch in Technology & Telecom
- Consulting Manager in the Financial Services practice at Accenture in management consulting, technology services and outsourcing
- MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and BS from Boston College both with concentrations in Finance

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