### Managers



Guillaume **Dolisi** Fund manager



Hicham **Qasmi** Fund manager

(5)

Higher Expected Reward

The management team can be modified without notice Summary Risk Indicator (SRI)

# VIA Smart-Equity US (USD)

Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR): Article 8

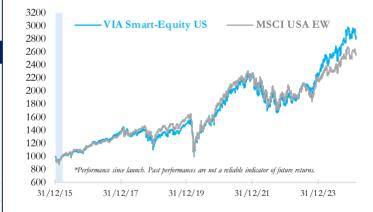
## Investment objectives & strategy

Reporting – Marketing documentation

February 2025

VIA Smart-Equity US is a UCITS fund invested in US Equities through a systematic approach. Its strategy consists in selecting liquid US companies with the best value creation profile from a shareholder's point of view that have at the same time high profitability, good perspectives and have relatively inexpensive valuations. In order to better account for the economic reality of the stocks, their accounting data are normalized prior to assess their fundamentals. The portfolio is reviewed monthly to ensure proper reactivity, but it is rebalanced only by fraction to limit timing dependency and slippage. The strategy is implemented mostly through the purchase of stocks, but derivatives may also be used to reduce risk and enhance performance.

## ■ Historical performance & statistics (SI USD share class)\*



SI-USD	Bench.
12.2%	10.9%
19.4%	19.1%
0.63	0.57
-37.1%	-39.4%
0.98	
5.1%	
0.25	
	12.2% 19.4% 0.63 -37.1% 0.98 5.1%

**VIA** AM

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fund	14.37%	20.15%	-13.33%	27.18%	15.49%	31.66%	-21.02%	26.14%	24.56%	0.76%
Bench.	13.60%	18.63%	-8.55%	29.34%	14.62%	25.13%	-17.42%	16.99%	14.17%	2.67%

## Market performance

	SI-USD	I-USD	P-USD	Bench.
1 Mth	-3.2%	-3.2%	-3.3%	-1.4%
YTD	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	2.7%
1 Y	16.0%	15.8%	15.0%	13.1%
3 Y	39.9%	39.1%	36.2%	21.9%
5 Y	108.1%	106.9%	99.4%	80.1%
Launch	184.5%	180.5%	162.5%	158.6%
31/12/2015	188.0%	183.8%	165.1%	158.9%

## Economic Net Asset Value variation per unit (SI-USD)

		1	,
	Initial NAV	SI-USD	Bench. USD
1 Mth	\$ 2 940	<b>-\$ 38</b> (-1.3%)	-\$ 2 (-0.1%)
YTD	\$ 2 824	<b>-\$ 13</b> (-0.5%)	-\$ 29 (-1.0%)
1 Y	\$ 2 452	+\$ 189 (+7.7%)	+\$ 74 (+3.0%)
3 Y	\$ 2 033	+\$ 221 (+11%)	+\$ 169 (+8%)
5 Y	\$ 1367	+\$ 391 (+29%)	+\$ 255 (+19%)
Launch	\$ 1000	+\$ 478 (+48%)	+\$ 413 (+41%)
31/12/2015	\$ 988	+\$ 490 (+50%)	+\$ 412 (+42%)
D 1 1.1	MA 1®	25 1	

■ Economic value created 🔘 VIA leap®

Download the VIA leap® reporting here

Sources: VIA AM. Data range from December 31st 2015 to February 28th 2025. Performances between December 31st 2015 and March 24th 2016 are based on the VIA Smart Equity US strategy as calculated and published on Bloomberg by an independent calculation agent since December 31st 2015, net of all fees. Performance since March 24th 2016 is based on the live track of the VIA Smart Equity US fund. Past performances are not a reliable indicator of future returns. leap performances are computed using normalized data when available. When not available, accounting data are used instead for the strategy and the benchmark. The benchmark used for the economic performance computation is weighted by market capitalization.

\*\* Capped to a maximum of 0.25% per year of the net asset value according to the Prospectus.

## Kev facts

Strategy Equities

3

Lower Expected Reward

Capital at Risk.

Geography

Benchmark MSCI USA Equal Weighted

United States

Index (M1USEW)

Reference Ccy. USD

Launch Date 24/03/2016

No of holdings 150 AuM (M USD) 35.9

## Legal information

Inv. Manager Veritas Investment Associates (VIA AM)

Man. Company Opportunity Fund Management

Domicile Luxembourg

Registration LU, IT (EUR Instit. Only), FR, CH, AT, DE

Legal Form SICAV / UCITS

Fund Admin. Caceis Bank, Luxembourg Branch

Custodian Caceis Bank, Luxembourg Branch
Auditor KPMG

Sub./Red. Freq. Daily

Cut-off T - 12:00 CET

Settlement Date T + 2

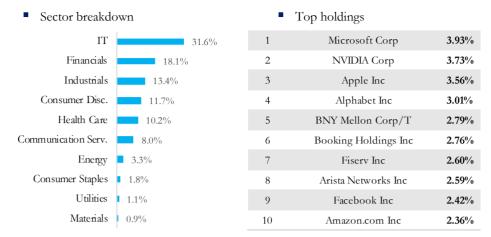
#### Available share classes

	Super Instit. (SI)	Instit. (I)	Private (P)
Min. Invest.	\$ 5m	\$ 0.2m	\$ 1,000
Entry Charge (max.)	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%
Exit Charge	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Mgmt. Fees	0.54%	0.76%	1.50%
Operat. Exp.	0.22%**	0.22%**	0.22%**
Subscript. Tax	0.01%	0.01%	0.05%
Ong. Chgs.	0.77%	0.99%	1.77%
Perf. Fees	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
NAV	2845.16	2804.84	2624.54

### Share classes identifiers

	SI	I	P
ISIN	LU1369530875	LU1369531253	LU1369531766
BBG	VSEUSUU LX	VSEUINU LX	VSEUPRU LX

## Portfolio analysis



Sources: VIA AM - asset breakdown and top holdings as at of February 28th 2025.

#### Portfolio fundamentals

	Profit	ability <sup>3</sup>	Valu	ation <sup>4</sup>	Earnings Growth*
	Accounting	Normalized <sup>1</sup>	Accounting	Normalized <sup>1</sup>	
Fund	24.3%	28.2%	18.9	17.6	17.2%/13.2%
Synthetic benchmark <sup>2</sup>	26.7%	25.1%	24.8	23.2	18.8%/13.0%

Computation methodology change for calculating average portfolio valuation: P/E <1x are excluded to avoid outliers

#### ■ Morningstar Stylebox<sup>TM</sup> (in %)

Morningstar Stylebox (III 70)						
11	11	33	Large			
8	13	7	Mid			
6	8	4	Small			

Value Core Growth
For confidentiality purposes, the stylekov: is presented with a 3-months lag. Data as of
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or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of
future results.

#### Notes

- Normalized Data aim to reflect the economic reality of corporates on a comparable basis.
- The synthetic benchmark is composed of 1400 US companies making up the fund selection universe, weighted by market cap.
- Accounting profitability is calculated using the RoE/RoEA, while the normalized version uses the Economic Profitability (when available).
- Accounting valuation is calculated using the P/E ratio, while the normalized version uses the economic P/E (when available).

## Managers' update

Markets: After a very good year in 2024, the US equity markets seem to be marking time. The MSCI USA EW and S&P 500 indices dropped 1.4% and 1.3% respectively in February. These declines must be put into perspective with the very strong performances of the last 2 years (+30% and +50%). Following a strong expansion in asset multiples, it is not abnormal that performance becomes more difficult. Following a strong outperformance in 2024 compared to its benchmark, the VIA Smart Equity US fund posted a -3.2% performance (SI-USD) in February, underperforming its benchmark.

Factors and Stock Selection (relative to the Market Cap. benchmark): over the month and since the beginning of the year, the underweighting to the Size factor is clearly unfavorable. Only sector exposure appears to be yielding results, particularly with the strong performance of financial companies.

However, stock selection detracted from performance during the month. Specifically, Arista and Salesforce experienced notable declines of 19% and 13%, respectively. Despite strong earnings reports, investor sentiment regarding Arista was negatively influenced by concerns over its reliance on Meta. Similarly, Salesforce faced market scepticism regarding its future growth prospects, despite solid financial results.

The latest monthly portfolio adjustments emphasize diversification, encompassing a range of sectors from technology (Microsoft) to infrastructure (construction companies) and renewable energy (EnerSys). Notably, EnerSys presents a compelling investment profile, boasting an economic profitability of 18% with an economic P/E ratio of 12x.

Outlook: There are very different approaches to successful long-term equity investing. Unlike passive management, which selects and weights stocks based on market capitalization, we prefer a two-step approach, betting that if we can select companies capable of maximizing wealth creation for shareholders, the portfolio's market value will follow suit. Despite the volatility displayed during multiple contraction/expansion phases, this "super factor" explains much of the long-term equity market performance. Moreover, when markets deviate from their economic performance, it generally presents investment or divestment opportunities. With the VIA Smart Equity US fund, we precisely adopt a diversified, Buy & Hold approach, focusing on maximizing long-term value creation. The fund continues to exhibit strong fundamentals, boasting an economic return on capital (Economic Profitability) of 28.2% against an economic PER of 17.6x (FEV/Economic Assets/Economic Profitability), while maintaining significant diversification (around 150 different companies).

Please find the **VIA** leap® monthly report, measure of the fund's real economic performance <a href="here">here</a>. This reporting, unique in the world, intends to offer a measure of the wealth creation of our strategies, compared to the benchmark wealth creation and their respective Mark-to-Market performances.

<sup>\*</sup>The 1st number corresponds to the expected 12-months earnings growth, the 2nd corresponds to the expected 12-months earnings growth in 12 months.

## Rewards



The VIA Smart Equity US Fund received a 3star Morningstar Rating TM Overall. The rating is for the SI-USD share class only; other classes may have different performance characteristics. Rating as of February 28th 2025.



The VIA Smart Equity US Fund received a Morningstar 4-Globe Sustainability Award. Out of 3,680 US Large Blend Funds as of February 28th 2025. Based on 96.5% of AuM. Data is based on long positions only.



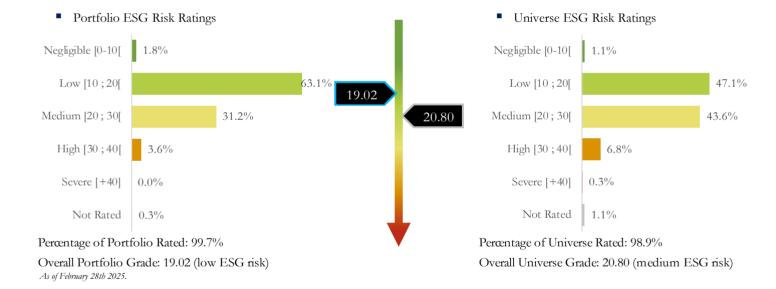
The VIA Smart Equity US Fund received a 4-star Quantalys Rating (75/100). The rating is for the SI-USD share class only, other classes may have different performance characteristics. Rating as of February 28th 2025.

The Morningstar® Sustainability Rating<sup>TM</sup> is intended to measure how well the issuing companies of the securities within a fund's portfolio holdings are managing their financially material environmental, social and governance, or ESG, risks relative to the fund's Morningstar Global Category peers. The Morningstar® Low Carbon Designation<sup>TM</sup> is intended to allow investors to easily identify low-carbon funds across the global universe. The designation is an indicator that the companies held in a portfolio are in general alignment with the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The Quantalys score is calculated every month using data from the last 3 years. The calculation is performed within each main category and considers 3 dimensions: the alpha fund compared to its benchmark index, the beta fund (broken down into bullish beta and bearish beta) and the alpha fund compared to its statistical re-composition. The rating includes 5 stars distributed equally (in increments of 20%).

## ■ Sustainalytics Rating<sup>TM</sup>

VIA AM incorporates ESG criteria into its investment strategies through three pillars: compliance with an exclusion list of controversial issuers (thermal coal, weapons, tobacco, etc.); consideration of off-balance sheet issues (dismantling of power plants, pension fund deficit, etc.); integration of Sustainalytics Ratings<sup>TM</sup>.



#### How to interpret the ESG Risk Ratings?

- Negligible Risk (Overall Score of 0-9.99 points): Enterprise value is considered to have a negligible risk of material financial impacts driven by ESG factors
- Low Risk (10-19.99 points): Enterprise value is considered to have a low risk of material financial impacts driven by ESG factors
- Medium Risk (20-29.99 points): Enterprise value is considered to have a medium risk of material financial impacts driven by ESG factors.
- High Risk (30-39.99 points): Enterprise value is considered to have a high risk of material financial impacts driven by ESG factors.
- Severe Risk (40 and higher points): Enterprise value is considered to have a severe risk of material financial impacts driven by ESG factors

The elements specific to VIA AM's ESG approach and to the information requirements of the European regulation (EU) 2019/2088 – The Sustainable Finance Disclosure (SFDR) - can be found in section 4.11 (Sustainability Risks and ESG promotion) of the VIA AM SICAV's Prospectus, which is available on the management company's website as well as in the ESG tab at the following link: <a href="https://www.via-am.com/en/esg">https://www.via-am.com/en/esg</a>.

Voting right policy and reports can be found on the following link: <a href="https://www.via-am.com/en/legal-notice">https://www.via-am.com/en/legal-notice</a>.

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Risk factors: VIA AM recommends that investors carefully read section 5 "General risk factors" of the product prospectus.

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The MSCI USA Equal Weighted Index represents an alternative weighting scheme to its market cap weighted parent index, the MSCI USA Index The index includes the same constituents as its parent (large and mid cap securities from US markets) However, at each quarterly rebalance date, all index constituents are weighted equally, effectively removing the influence of each constituent's current price (high or low) Between rebalances, index constituent weightings will fluctuate due to price performance.

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