

# HYPERION AUSTRALIAN GROWTH COMPANIES FUND MARCH 2021

**OBJECTIVE:** LONG-TERM CAPITAL GROWTH AND INCOME BY INVESTING IN HIGH CALIBRE AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES PRIMARILY LISTED WITHIN THE S&P/ASX 300 INDEX AT THE TIME OF INVESTMENT.



High-conviction portfolio of quality Australian listed equities from a research driven, bottom-up investment philosophy

## **Our Philosophy**

The highest proven quality businesses with the strongest competitive advantages and organic growth opportunities produce superior shareholder returns over the long-term.

Long term capital preservation is paramount.

#### We believe companies in our portfolio have:

- Predictable earnings
- Low debtHigh interest cover
- High return on capital Strong free cash flow
- Organic growth options
- Sustainable competitive advantages
- Experienced and proven management teams

### **Global Market Overview**

Global equity market indices exhibited generally positive results during March as many countries continued their vaccine rollout programmes. Supply chain disruptions were also the focus of news outlets with the weeklong Suez Canal blockage reducing daily global trade by approximately 12%. In the U.S., the S&P 500 Index returned +4.4% with economic data revealing that the unemployment rate decreased to 6.0% in March, as total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 916,000, predominantly across leisure and hospitality, public and private education, and construction. During the month, the Biden administration announced the "American Jobs Plan" worth US\$2.0t aimed at creating jobs, rebuilding infrastructure, and positioning the United States strongly against global counterparts. The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller National Home Price Composite Index increased by +11.2% year-on-year in January, reflecting the highest recorded increase since February 2006. In Europe, the FTSE 100, Euro STOXX 50 and German DAX Indices returned +4.2%, +7.9% and +8.9%, respectively. Economic estimates of Euro area annual inflation were revealed to be 1.3% in March, while the United Kingdom's "Roadmap out of Lockdown" began to take effect. Virus restrictions were hardened in some areas of Europe such as France and Italy. Despite this, the Markit Eurozone Manufacturing PMI revealed strong month-on-month expansion from 57.9 to 62.5, marking PMI survey record growth. In Australia, the S&P/ASX 300 Index returned +2.3%. Retail sales data revealed a decline of -0.8% month-over-month in February while the unemployment rate decreased further to 5.8%. The seasonally adjusted figure for total dwelling approvals increased by +21.6% in February, largely driven by private sector houses. Utilities (+6.8%), Consumer Discretionary (+6.7%) and REITs (+6.3%) were the best performing S&P/ASX 300 Index sectors. Materials (-3.1%), Information Technology (-2.7%) and Energy (-0.2%) were the worst performers. The U.S. dollar was up against most of the G10 currencies during the month but declined against the Canadian Dollar and Norwegian Krone.

#### Performance

	1 Month	3 Months	1 Year	3 Years (p.a.)	5 Years (p.a.)	7 Years (p.a.)	10 Years (p.a.)	15 Years (p.a.)	Since Inception* (p.a.)	Inception* ^
Portfolio – Net (%)	2.8	-3.5	44.6	19.5	13.7	11.9	12.2	10.3	12.5	780.2
Benchmark (%) <sup>1</sup>	2.3	4.2	38.3	9.7	10.3	7.8	7.9	6.3	9.1	400.9
Relative Performance – Net (%)	0.5	-7.7	6.3	9.7	3.4	4.1	4.4	4.0	3.4	379.4

1. S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index. \*Inception date: 30th September 2002. ^Total return

Returns are net of applicable fees and costs.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Data as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Due to rounding, excess performance figures may not equate perfectly to the difference between Hyperion Australian Growth Companies Performance and the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index Performance.



Hyperion named Winner FUND MANAGER OF THE YEAR Morningstar 2021 Awards, Australia



Hyperion named Category Winner DOMESTIC EQUITIES LARGE CAP Morningstar 2021 Awards, Australia.



Hyperion named Category Winner, DOMESTIC EQUITIES LARGE CAP Morningstar 2020 Awards, Australia.

Please consider the Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) of the Fund, which provides more complete information on risks and fees, in its entirety before making an investment decision. The current PDS of the Fund can be found at <a href="https://www.hyperion.com.au/">https://www.hyperion.com.au/</a>.

# PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS UPDATE

# Technology One Limited (TNE-AU)

Primary Exchange	ASX	
GICS Sector	Information Technology	technology <b>one</b>
Market Cap (AUD\$m)	3,001	Transforming business, making life simple

TechnologyOne Limited (TechnologyOne) reported a recent, material contract win with the Department of Agriculture (DAWE). The DAWE is the first Tier 1 government agency to migrate its finance systems to Software as a Service (SaaS) platforms, reflecting the continued success of TechnologyOne in the public sector. The migration will utilise TechnologyOne's Information Security Registered Assessors Program (IRAP) Protected SaaS solution which will provide high levels of cyber security to DAWE and will enable increased efficiencies for the government department. During the month, TechnologyOne appointed Pat O'Sullivan as a Non-executive Director and Deputy Chair, who contributes experience from a variety of ASX listed companies and currently sits on several other boards as Chair of Carsales.com and Non-executive Director of Afterpay Limited. In late February, TechnologyOne held its Annual General Meeting where management noted continued resilience in the enterprise software market and at TechnologyOne, as evidenced by the company's Annual Recurring Revenue (ARR) growth of 32.0% per annum. TechnologyOne highlighted their significant investments in research and development allowing a strong pipeline for future growth.

# Xero Limited (XRO-AU)

Primary Exchange	ASX
GICS Sector	Information Technology
Market Cap (AUD\$m)	18,569

Xero Limited (Xero) announced its acquisition of Stockholm-based e-invoicing infrastructure business, Tickstar, in late March. The Tickstar acquisition adds strength to Xero's current e-invoicing functionality with the business to be integrated into the existing Xero infrastructure, facilitating faster and more secure transactions for Small-to-Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Xero customers in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore will continue to have access to Tickstar's technology through the Galaxy Gateway brand. The acquisition has a total consideration of SEK 150 million funded with 50.0% cash and 50.0% shares in Xero with the completion expected in Q1 of Xero's financial year ending 31 March 2022. The payments growth opportunity, through e-invoicing (or 'click-to-pay' invoicing), is a strategic priority of Xero with the digitisation of workflows using cloud-based technologies aiding customers to achieve faster payments and regulatory accounting compliance. Earlier in March, Xero announced its acquisition of Planday, a workforce management platform, headquartered in Copenhagen with operations in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Germany and France. The acquisition of Planday will provide further strength to Xero's strategy in its small business platform and combined with an accounting platform solution, offers business insights that increase operating efficiencies and flexibilities of SMEs. Planday has been a partner of the Xero ecosystem since 2019 and will expand its presence into other markets in which Xero operates, contributing to the long-term growth plans of Xero. The acquisition is expected to contribute approximately 3.0% of additional operating revenue growth for the business in FY22, with a potential total acquisition cost of EUR 183.5 million.

<ero

# **Afterpay Limited (APT-AU)**

Primary Exchange	ASX	<b>\$7</b>
GICS Sector	Information Technology	
Market Cap (AUD\$m)	29,011	after <b>pay</b>

Afterpay Limited (Afterpay) completed its acquisition of Pagantis during the month. The acquisition was announced in mid-2020, identified by management as an opportunity to accelerate the company's European expansion. With the transaction complete, Afterpay, through its brand Clearpay, is now live in Spain, France and Italy. Pagantis holds a Payment Institution License which is eligible for "passporting" to other EU countries with the company already having regulatory approval to operate in Portugal and pending approval to expand into Germany. Afterpay also released its 1H21 results at the end of February. The company reported Total Underlying Sales growth of 106% to AU\$9.8 billion and Group Total Income of AU\$417.2 million, as well as 13.1 million active customers and 74,700 active merchants across its platform. Notably, management highlighted the value Afterpay provided to merchants through its shop directory which generated an average of 27 million monthly referrals throughout the half year period, and 45 million in the month of December alone. Afterpay also reported that over 91% of Underlying Sales during the half year period were from repeat customers, further emphasising the strength of the platform.

#### **Top 5 Holdings**

	Portfolio (%)	Benchmark (%)
Xero Ltd	12.0	0.8
Afterpay Ltd	9.3	1.2
James Hardie Industries PLC	8.4	0.9
CSL Ltd	6.9	6.1
Wisetech Global Ltd	6.6	0.2

### Top 5 Contributors (rolling 12 months)

Contributors	Price change (%)	Avg Weight (%)	Contribution to return (%)
Afterpay Ltd	112.6	7.4	7.2
Xero Ltd	86.3	8.7	6.2
Domino's Pizza Ltd	88.4	7.7	6.1
James Hardie Industries	115.1	6.3	5.2
Wisetech Global Ltd	69.9	8.3	4.9
Detractors			
Nanosonics Ltd	11.3	1.1	-0.0
IRESS Ltd	-11.9	1.5	-0.1
Fisher & Paykel Ltd	1.9	7.5	-0.5
CSL Ltd	-10.8	8.2	-0.8

#### **Market Capitalisation**

	Pf (%)	Bm (%)	Act. (%)	# Stocks
S&P/ASX 1-20	23.3	57.3	-34.0	4
S&P/ASX 21-50	27.8	16.8	11.0	4
S&P/ASX 51-100	35.9	13.3	22.6	8
S&P/ASX 101-300	7.0	12.6	-5.6	7
Cash	6.1		6.1	
Total	100.0	100.0		23

Portfolio weights may not equate to 100.0% due to rounding.

#### Sector Allocation

	Portfolio (%)	Benchmark (%)
Communication Services	11.2	4.2
Consumer Discretionary	5.7	8.0
Financials	8.3	29.3
Health Care	27.1	10.0
Industrials	1.6	6.8
Information Technology	31.6	4.2
Materials	8.4	19.9
Cash	6.1	

Portfolio weights may not equate to 100.0% due to rounding.

\* Stock not currently held

#### Fund Characteristics

Universe	S&P/ASX 300		
Launch	Managed by Hyperion since September 2002, launched October 1996		
Fees	MER 0.95%		
Distribution	AUD 0.4324 CPU at 31 March 2021 AUD 0.7676 CPU at 30 September 2020 AUD 51.4675 CPU at 30 June 2020 AUD 0.2551 CPU at 31 March 2020		
Fund Size	\$2,028.4 million		
APIR Code	BNT0003AU		
The Fund's PDS contains more complete information on risks and fees			

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