# **VALUE OPPORTUNITY STRATEGY**



# 3Q 2025 Strategy Fact Sheet

## Performance (%)

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

	3Q 2025	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	Since 6/30/2006
Portfolio (Gross)	6.68	10.91	13.89	19.83	16.29	10.93	10.33	10.13
Portfolio (Net)	6.46	10.21	12.93	18.83	15.31	10.00	9.40	9.18
Russell Midcap Value Index	6.18	9.50	7.58	15.51	13.66	8.65	9.96	8.58
Russell 2500 Value Index	8.17	9.29	9.00	15.39	14.96	7.68	9.68	7.84

All periods longer than 12 months are annualized. See disclosures on last page. Source: GPS.

# Manager Commentary

### **Market Overview**

Globally, equity markets continued to rise in the third quarter with the S&P 500 Index, Russell 2000 Value Index, and the MSCI EAFE Net Index rallying 8.12%, 12.60%, and 4.77%, respectively.

Easing financial conditions, combined with relatively benign inflation and employment reports, set off a powerful risk-on rally in the second half of the quarter. Investors began reducing bearish positioning, leading to a strong move in the most heavily shorted stocks and price appreciation was inversely correlated with the market capitalization of the underlying security. Such price action is consistent with broad market participants' positioning being out of step with the underlying economic fundamentals. Once the short covering and repositioning are complete, security prices should adjust back to their underlying fundamentals.

With the sharp equity market appreciation over the last two quarters, some short-term price consolidation may be necessary; however, we expect conditions to remain relatively supportive of equity markets. Inflation should continue to rise minimally over the very short term but is expected to peak at levels that will not harm equity valuations. Economic growth should also continue to improve during the fourth quarter and into the first half of 2026. The inflation and growth outlooks are already reflected in the current Treasury yield curve, as yields at the short end have fallen with rate cuts, while yields beyond three years have risen over the last twelve months.

### **Portfolio Positioning**

As a result of buys and sells and market action, the portfolio is overweight Industrials, Consumer Discretionary, Utilities, Financials, and Information Technology while underweight Real Estate, Health Care, Energy, Communication Services, Materials, and Consumer Staples.

### **Contributors to Performance**

During the quarter, the portfolio experienced positive absolute and positive relative performance. Positive relative performance was driven by Information Technology, Consumer Discretionary, Real Estate, Materials, Consumer Staples, and Utilities. Detractors for the quarter were Industrials, Energy, Financials, Health Care, and Communication Services.

<sup>\*</sup> Performance referenced reflects gross-of-fee returns.

# **3Q 2025 VALUE OPPORTUNITY STRATEGY PORTFOLIO**

# Portfolio Characteristics\*

	Portfolio	Russell Midcap Value Index	Russell 2500 Value Index
Number of Holdings	60	718	1,887
Wtd. Avg. Mkt. Cap (\$B)	27.46	27.72	8.78
Price/Book*	3.03	2.37	1.83
Est. 3-5 Yr. EPS Growth (%)*	14.47	10.36	11.45
P/E NTM*	17.98	16.09	14.25
ROA (%)*	8.57	6.33	4.15
ROE (%)*	18.59	14.67	10.22
Dividend Yield (%)*	1.22	1.87	1.80

<sup>\*</sup> Calculated gross-of-fees.

Source: FactSet

# Top Ten Holdings\* 1

	% Total Portfolio		% Total Portfolio
Hubbell Inc	3.74	Coherent Corp	2.89
Western Alliance Bancorp	3.48	Burlington Stores Inc	2.67
Zions Bancorp NA	3.31	Herc Holdings Inc	2.67
Monolithic Power Systems	3.06	Evergy Inc	2.59
Republic Services Inc	2.95	BJ's Wholesale Club	2.58

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes 1.51% cash.

Source: FactSet

## Risk Reward\*

	Portfolio	Russell Midcap Value Index	Portfolio	Russell 2500 Value Index
Beta	0.93	1.00	0.20	1.00
Sharpe Ratio	0.75	0.59	0.75	0.59
Information Ratio	0.47	N/A	0.19	N/A
R-Squared	0.91	1.00	0.88	1.00
Standard Deviation (%	) 17.50	17.91	17.50	20.11

<sup>\*</sup> Annualized 5-years ending 9/30/2025; calculated gross-of-fees. Source: eVestment

# Portfolio Sector Weightings (%)\*1

	, ,	` '	
	Portfolio	Russell Midcap Value Index	Russell 2500 Value Index
Industrials	35.89	17.84	20.38
Financials	17.61	17.07	20.43
Consumer Discretionary	13.60	8.40	10.87
Utilities	10.84	7.29	4.38
Information Technology	10.17	9.92	10.08
Consumer Staples	4.16	5.88	3.46
Materials	3.75	6.50	6.14
Real Estate	1.99	9.24	8.77
Health Care	1.11	7.60	7.46
Energy	0.88	6.74	4.63
Communication Services	-	3.52	3.35

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes 1.51% cash. Due to rounding, totals may not equal 100%.

Source: FactSet

## **Additions To Portfolio**

Arcosa, Inc.	Builders FirstSource, Inc.
First American Financial Corporation	Hexcel Corporation
Masco Corporation	Nucor Corporation
PVH Corp.	Robinhood Markets, Inc. Class A
SharkNinja, Inc.	Talen Energy Corp
Valmont Industries, Inc.	WESCO International, Inc.

Source: FactSet

# **Deletions From Portfolio**

CACI International Inc Class A	CDW Corporation
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	EastGroup Properties, Inc.
Embraer S.A. Sponsored ADR	Extra Space Storage Inc.
Range Resources Corporation	Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated
Tradeweb Markets, Inc. Class A	Tyler Technologies, Inc.
Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corporation	
Courses FootCot	

Source: FactSet

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Performance holdings subject to change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Performance holdings subject to change.

#### **VAUGHAN NELSON EQUITY TEAM**

### **LEAD PORTFOLIO MANAGER**



Dennis Alff, CFA Senior Portfolio Manager

- 28 years investment management and research experience
- Began investment and research career in 1996 Joined Vaughan Nelson in 2006
- MBA, Harvard Business School, 1998
- BS, United States Military Academy, 1993

### PORTFOLIO MANAGER



Sundeep Khanna, CFA **Portfolio Manager** 

- 20 years investment management and financial analysis experience
- Began investment career in 2005
- Joined Vaughan Nelson in 2020
- BS, The University of Texas, 2005

### **RESEARCH TEAM**



**Forbes Dumas** Associate, U.S.

- 8 years financial analysis experience
- MS, Southern Methodist University, 2017
- BA, Southern Methodist University, 2016



Keller Horlock\* Associate, U.S.

BBA, The University of Texas at Austin, 2025

#### CAPITAL ALLOCATION TEAM



Ben Eckert **Junior Associate** 

BBA, Baylor University, 2025



Isabella Thomsen Junior Associate

- MS, Vanderbilt University, 2025
- BBA, Stetson University, 2024

## **CIO TEAM**



Adam Rich, CFA **Deputy CIO Portfolio Manager** 

- 15 years investment management and research experience
- BS, Brigham Young University, 2010



Chris Wallis, CFA, CPA **CEO and CIO Senior Portfolio Manager** 

- 33 years investment management / financial analysis and accounting experience
- MBA, Harvard Business School, 1998
- BBA, Baylor University, 1991

#### **RISK TEAM**



Sarah Lai Junior Associate, Portfolio and Risk Analysis

- MS, Rice University, 2024
- BA, The University of Texas at Austin, 2023



Isabelle Long

Associate, Portfolio and Risk Analysis

- 3 years portfolio and risk analysis experience
- MBA, Texas A&M University, 2024
- BS, Texas A&M University, 2022



#### William Wojciechowski, PhD Chief Risk Officer, Portfolio and Risk Analysis

- 23 years investment management and financial analysis experience
- PhD, Rice University, 2001
- MA, Rice University, 1999
- MS, West Virginia University, 1996
- BS, Carnegie Mellon University, 1992

### **ABOUT VAUGHAN NELSON**

Vaughan Nelson Investment Management specializes in value equity investing with a focus on a targeted return. The firm employs a bottom-up, fundamental research process that seeks to capitalize on information and liquidity inefficiencies in the equity universe. The firm's long-term, consistent investment approach draws on its in-depth research capabilities.

- · Headquarters: Houston, Texas
- Founded: 1970
- Firm Assets: \$16.1 Billion\*
- Domestic equity, international equity, and fixed income strategies
- 55 employees
- 27 investment team professionals
- 12 Chartered Financial Analyst designations
- \* Number includes assets where Vaughan Nelson Investment Management does not have full unconditional trading authority. The assets consist of model portfolio relationships with third-party platforms and totaled \$2.8 billion as of 9/30/25.

#### VAUGHAN NELSON EQUITY STRATEGIES

		Product Assets as of 9/30/25
Small Cap Value	<ul> <li>Benchmark against the Russell 2000® Value Index</li> <li>Generally 55 to 85 positions</li> </ul>	\$4,754 MM
Value Opportunity	<ul> <li>Benchmark against the Russell Midcap® Value Index and Russell 2500™ Value Index</li> <li>Generally 55 to 75 positions</li> </ul>	\$2,322 MM
Select	<ul> <li>Benchmark against the S&amp;P 500 Index and Russell 3000® Index</li> <li>Generally 20 to 40 positions</li> </ul>	\$6,627 MM
Global SMID Cap	<ul> <li>Benchmark against the MSCI ACWI SMID Cap NR Index</li> <li>Generally 40 to 80 positions</li> </ul>	\$293 MM
Emerging Markets	<ul> <li>Benchmark against the MSCI Emerging Markets NR Index</li> <li>Generally 20 to 40 positions</li> </ul>	\$52 MM
International	Benchmark against the MSCI ACWI ex USA NR Index     Generally 20 to 40 positions	\$38 MM

# VALUE OPPORTUNITY: GIPS® COMPOSITE, NOTES AND DISCLOSURES

June 30, 2006 through September 30, 2025

Performance data shown represents past performance and is not a guarantee of, and not indicative of, future results.

Year	Compos. Returns	Compos. Returns	RMV Index	R2500V Index	No. of Ports.	Disp. at EOP	Compos. Assets at EOP	Total Firm Assets (ex. model assets)	Entity Assets**	Std Dev. Compos.	Std Dev. RMV Index	Std Dev. R2500V Index
	Gross	Net	PRIM	SEC		Std Dev	\$MM-USD	\$MM-USD	\$MM-USD	3-Yr Anlzd	3-Yr Anlzd	3-Yr Anlzd
2025 YTD	10.91%	10.21%	9.50%	9.29%	19	N/A	2,013	13,336	16,102	16.47%	16.66%	19.04%
2024	19.65%	18.65%	13.07%	10.98%	19	0.30%	2,050	14,791	17,840	18.12%	19.77%	21.63%
2023	17.59%	16.61%	12.71%	15.98%	19	0.09%	1,866	13,811	16,351	16.92%	19.31%	20.70%
2022	-9.34%	-10.11%	-12.03%	-13.08%	20	0.45%	1,597	11,720	13,566	23.36%	24.44%	26.46%
2021	22.40%	21.38%	28.34%	27.78%	20	0.61%	1,958	13,490	15,481	21.18%	21.95%	24.15%
2020	11.86%	10.91%	4.96%	4.88%	23	0.22%	1,676	12,690	14,052	22.82%	22.62%	25.05%
2019	31.98%	30.89%	27.06%	23.56%	24	0.11%	1,695	11,346	13,064	13.33%	12.79%	14.23%
2018	-14.82%	-15.56%	-12.29%	-12.36%	36	0.14%	1,952	10,078	11,425	14.01%	11.96%	13.58%
2017	14.31%	13.33%	13.34%	10.36%	49	0.27%	2,612	11,675	13,172	12.30%	10.32%	11.81%
2016	7.12%	6.22%	20.00%	25.20%	62	0.26%	2,895	11,572	12,912	13.53%	11.30%	13.17%
2015	-2.35%	-3.21%	-4.78%	-5.49%	62	0.24%	2,631	11,316	12,469	12.48%	10.71%	12.02%
2014	12.26%	11.32%	14.75%	7.11%	58	0.58%	1,477	9,943	11,057	11.21%	9.81%	11.25%
2013	43.03%	41.84%	33.46%	33.32%	46	0.39%	965	9,243	10,258	15.65%	13.69%	15.07%
2012	17.56%	16.57%	18.51%	19.21%	41	0.18%	586	7,273	8,071	18.81%	16.76%	18.41%
2011	-2.37%	-3.17%	-1.38%	-3.36%	27	0.17%	433	6,876	7,667	21.46%	22.78%	24.23%
2010	21.92%	20.91%	24.75%	24.82%	19	0.36%	356	7,050	7,965	24.09%	27.11%	26.97%
2009	34.11%	32.87%	34.21%	27.68%	7	0.49%	127	6,757	7,690	21.42%	25.01%	24.61%
2008	-31.33%	-32.01%	-38.44%	-31.99%	7	0.19%	80	5,761	6,642	N/A	N/A	N/A
2007	10.48%	9.39%	-1.42%	-7.27%	6	N/A	90	6,637	8,176	N/A	N/A	N/A
2006*	7.73%	7.20%	12.33%	11.62%	Fewer than 5	N/A	18	5,218	6,711	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### **NOTES**

COMPOSITE DESCRIPTION. This composite is comprised of all fee paying, discretionary Value Opportunity portfolios with a minimum of \$1 million under management. Value Opportunity is defined as a security having a market capitalization within the capitalization range of \$1 billion to \$20 billion at time of initial purchase. The primary benchmark is the Russell Midcap® Value Index. The Russell Midcap® Value Index of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell Midcap® Value Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer of the mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true mid-cap value market. The secondary benchmark is Russell 2500® Value Index. The Russell 2500® Value Index measures the performance of the small to mid-cap value market. The secondary benchmark is Russell 2500® companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The Russell 2500® Value Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer of the small to mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap value market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not disto

#### DISCLOSURES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION. The attached information and index performance has been developed internally and/or obtained from sources, which Vaughan Nelson believes to be reliable; however, Vaughan Nelson does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of such information, nor does it guarantee the appropriateness of any strategy referred to for any particular investor. This document is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as advice or a recommendation for purchase or sale of securities. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The strategy is managed by Dennis Alff, Sundeep Khanna, and Chris Wallis from 12/31/24, Dennis Alff, Chad Fargason, and Chris Wallis from 12/31/18; Dennis Alff, Chad Fargason, Chris Wallis, and Scott Weber from 9/30/13; and Dennis Alff, Chris Wallis, and Scott Weber since 6/30/06. COMPOSITE NOTES. The composite for each investment strategy has specific criteria in terms of minimum portfolio size, tax status, and discretion. Portfolios meeting the stated criteria are added to the composite as of the first full quarter of investment in that composite's style. Similarly, accounts are removed from the composite after the last full quarter of management under the composite style. A list of all composites and pooled fund investment strategies offered by the firm, with a description of each strategy, is available upon request. The composite results portrayed reflect the reinvestment of dividends, capital gains, and other earnings when appropriate. The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite (using gross-of-fee returns, and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. CALCULATION METHODOLOGY. The composite performance results are time-weighted total returns net of commissions and transaction costs. Valuations and returns are expressed in U.S. dollars. Vaughan Nelson consistently values all portfolios each month on a trade date basis. Additional information regarding policies for valuing por

Model year-end portfolio totals were as follows: 2024 - \$3.0 billion, 2023 - \$2.5 billion, 2022 - \$1.8 billion, 2021 - \$2.0 billion, 2020 - \$1.4 billion, 2019 - \$1.7 billion, 2018 - \$1.3 billion; 2017 - \$1.5 billion; 2016 - \$1.3 billion, 2015 - \$1.2 billion, 2014 - \$1.1 billion, 2013 - \$1.0 billion.

- \* Partial year return. Inception date of 6/30/06
- \*\* Number includes assets where Vaughan Nelson Investment Management does not have full unconditional trading authority. The assets consist of model portfolio relationships with third-party platforms and totaled \$2.8 billion as of 9/30/25. This information is supplemental to the Value Opportunity GIPS Report.

