# VT Astute Conservative

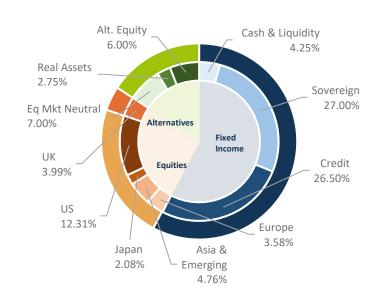
## FUND FACTSHEET | APRIL 2024

# Objective

To deliver total returns in line with the Consumer Prices Index over the recommended minimum time horizon of 5+ years.

The fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing at least 70% in collective investment vehicles, a greater proportion of which will be allocated to defensive assets (such as fixed interest and cash) than to growth assets (such as equities).

#### Asset Allocation



# Recent Changes (Previous 3 months)



Purchased Nomura Corporate Hybrid Bond Fund.



Increased Blackrock Sterling Liquid Env. Aware Fund, UK Gilt 4.250% 12/07/2040, Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity, BlackRock European Absolute Alpha & Man GLG Dynamic Income.



 ${\bf Sold}$  iShares \$ Treasury Bd 20+y ETF & Protea ECO Advisers ESG Absolute Return.



**Reduced** Jupiter Japan Income, Gresham House Energy Storage & Blackrock Sterling Liquid Env. Aware Fund



We reduced our Jupiter Japan Income position to increase Lazard Japanese Strategic. We sold our iShares \$ Treasury Bond 20+y ETF position to increase our direct Gilt position which has similar interest rate sensitivity but, in the UK, as yields have backed up more in the UK than US. We also reduced both Gresham House Energy Storage and our Blackrock Sterling Liquidity position to fund an increase in BlackRock European Absolute Alpha and a new purchase of Nomura Corporate Hybrid Bond fund which offers us an attractive yield.

# Holdings

Fixed	Income & Cash	57.75%			
Cash &	Cash				
Liquidity	Blackrock Sterling Liquid Env. Av	ware Fund			
Sovereign	iShares Core UK Gilts ETF				
	UK Gilt 4.250% 12/07/2040				
	iShares USD Treasury Bond ETF				
Credit	M&G UK Inflation Linked Corporate Bond				
	L&G ESG GBP Corporate Bond ETF				
	Man GLG Sterling Corporate Bond				
	BlueBay Financial Capital Bond				
	Nomura Corporate Hybrid Bond Fund				
	Man GLG Dynamic Income				
	Robeco QI Global Multi-Factor Credit				
	Royal London Short Duration High Yield				
	Equity	26.5%			
UK Equity	ES R&M UK Recovery Fund				
	JPMorgan UK Equity Core				
	Abrdn UK Mid-Cap Equity				
Int. Equity	ES R&M European				
	LF Miton European Opportunities				
	Comgest Growth Europe Ex. UK				
	iShares MSCI EM SRI ETF				
	Polar Emerging Markets Stars				
	Lazard Japanese Strategic Equity				
	Jupiter Japan Income				
	iShares Core S&P 500 ETF				
	Federated Hermes US SMID Equity Hedged				
	L&G US Equity				
Thematic Equity	M&G Global Listed Infrastructure				
	Regnan Sustainable Water and \	Waste			
А	lternatives	15.75%			
Eq. Mkt Neutral	Blackrock European Absolute Al	pha			
	Gresham House Energy Storage				
Real Assets Direct	LondonMetric Property PLC				
	Starwood European Real Estate Finance				
	Tritax EuroBox				
	Aberdeen Standard European Logistics				
Alt. Equity	Structured Products				



# VT Astute Conservative

## FUND FACTSHEET | APRIL 2024

#### Performance



- VT Astute Conservative A Acc
- UK CPI
- Morningstar UK Moderately Cautious Target Allocation

#### Cumulative & Discrete Performance

	1 Year	Launch	2023	2022	2021	2020*
VT Astute Conservative	6.74	10.32	6.42	-7.21	5.74	4.06
Benchmark	2.63	21.78	3.99	10.53	5.39	0.53
Comparator	7.28	4.46	7.73	-11.07	3.70	3.05

Performance is net of ongoing charges. \*Data from the 20th of July 2020 (Fund launch).

#### Commentary

Markets had a strong March, in both equities and bonds, amidst resilient data and continued enthusiasm around AI. US stocks continued to rally in March. Gains were supported by some well-received corporate earnings as well as ongoing expectations of rate cuts later this year. The pace of monetary policy easing is likely to be slower than had been expected at the end of last year, given resilient US economic data, but this did little to dampen appetite for equities. The S&P 500 index was boosted by good corporate earnings, including from some of the socalled "Magnificent Seven" companies. UK equities rose over the month with market expectations moving to price in a sooner-than-expected rate cuts as inflation undershot the Bank of England's (BoE) forecasts. The BoE's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided at its March meeting to keep the UK's main policy interest rate on hold at 5.25%. Japanese equities continued rallying, this was fuelled by increasing optimism over Japan's positive economic cycle, characterised by mild inflation and wage growth. The month also marked a historic moment as the Nikkei reached its all-time high and surpassed the 40,000 following the Bank of Japan (BOJ) taking significant actions at its March policy meeting.

# **ESG** Rating

MSCI ESG RATINGS



#### **Fund Details**

Fund Size £ 98.57m CPI Benchmark

Morningstar UK Moderately Comparator **Cautious Target Allocation** Manager Astute Investment Management

ACD Valu Trac **OEIC (UCITS) Fund Type** 20th July 2020 Launch Date 0.76% OCF 38 **Total No. Holdings Dealing Frequency** Daily

GB00BKWGB467 **SEDOL** BKWGB46

### Fund Management Team



Scott Osborne PhD CFA Chief Investment Officer



Nathan Chan CFA Senior Investment Analyst



Toby Hulse DipPFS IMC Investment Analyst

#### Risks

Investments can fall as well as rise and you may get back less than your original investment. Changes in markets, currency exchange rates or interest rates may have adverse effects on the value of your investments. Past performance is never a guide to future performance.

#### **Contact Information**



Info@astuteimltd.co.uk



0151 332 0175



5th Floor, 4 St Pauls Square, Liverpool, L3 9SJ

All data is valid to the 31st March 2024 and collated by Astute Investment Management. The views expressed herein should not be taken as statements of fact or relied upon when making investment decisions. Astute Investment Management Limited is the appointed investment manager of the VT Astute funds. Registered in England & Wales No. 11782438. Registered Office: Vista, 2nd Floor, St David's Park, Ewloe, Flintshire, CH5 3DT. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Financial Services Register Number 842580 . Valu-Trac Investment Management Ltd is the Authorised Corporate Director (ACD) of the VT Astute OEIC. Valu-Trac is registered in England No. 02428648 and is Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, registration number 145168. Registered office: Level 13 Broadgate Tower, 20 Primrose Street, London, EC2A 2EW. MSCI ESG Research LLC's ("MSCI ESG") Fund Metrics products (the "Information") provide environmental, social and governance data with respect to underlying securities within more than 23,000 multi-asset class Mutual Funds and ETFs globally. MSCI ESG is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. MSCI ESG materials have not been submitted to, nor received approval from, the US SEC or any other regulatory body. None of the Information constitutes an offer to buy or sell, or a promotion or recommendation of, any security, financial instrument or product or trading strategy, nor should it be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. None of the Information can be used to determine which securities to buy or sell or when to buy or sell them. The Information is provided "as is" and the user of the Information assumes the entire risk of any use it may make or permit to be made of the Information. OCF – Ongoing charges include all underlying fund costs, but exclude potential additional costs such as platform fees.