

**SHINING A LIGHT ON THE.....
Premier Miton European Opportunities Fund**

AT A GLANCE

Investment Objective
The objective of the Fund is to provide total returns, comprised of income and capital growth, over the long-term, being five years or more. The Investment Manager aims to achieve the objective of the Fund by investing in an actively managed portfolio with a minimum of 80% of its assets in shares in companies listed in Europe, excluding the UK.

Inception Date	14 th December 2015
Fund Factsheet Link	http://www.morningstar.co.uk/uk/funds/snapshots/snapshot.aspx?id=F00000WMCG

Management	
Manager Name	Start Date
Carlos Moreno	14 th December 2015
Thomas Brown	14 th December 2015

FUND PERFORMANCE

Performance from 1st January 2016 to 31st March 2022:

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Premier Miton European Opportunities Fund	22.28%	28.35%	-4.22%	33.86%	38.25%	15.24%	-13.70%
MSCI Europe Ex UK	18.62%	15.84%	-9.87%	19.99%	7.49%	16.73%	-7.40%

Performance over 12 months, 3 years, 5 years and since launch:

	1 year	3 years	5 years	Since launch
Premier Miton European Opportunities Fund	-0.86%	64.62%	110.53%	189.80%
MSCI Europe Ex UK	5.45%	29.14%	35.86%	81.11%

You should note that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns and the value of your investments can fall as well as rise. The total return reflects performance without sales charges or the effects of taxation, but is adjusted to reflect all on-going fund expenses and assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. If adjusted for sales charges and the effects of taxation, the performance quoted would be reduced.

Tracking Error	Upside Capture Ratio	Downside Capture Ratio	Batting Average	Beta	Alpha	Equity Style
10.04	103.12	83.29	52.78	0.80	7.02	Growth/Mid

LWM Consultants Ltd

Volatility Measurements

3-Yr Std Dev (volatility)	18.33%
3-Yr Mean Return (average)	18.08%

Investment Style Details

Giant	5.72%
Large	20.80%
Medium	62.26%
Small	9.36%
Micro	2.16%

Top 5 Holdings

Soitec SA Share	Technology	5.59%
ASML Holding NV	Technology	3.46%
Kingspan Group PLC	Industrials	3.31%
FinecoBank SpA	Financial Services	3.26%
Kongsberg Gruppen ASA	Industrials	3.18%

Top 5 Sectors

Industrials	25.39%
Technology	22.01%
Healthcare	16.39%
Financial Services	14.07%
Communication Services	8.07%

Top 5 Regions

Switzerland	15.29%
Italy	13.28%
France	13.11%
Norway	11.50%
Sweden	10.95%

UPDATE....

The strategy has done well since launch but slipped away during 2021 and this year. They focus on quality companies which can compound earnings and this style has been out of favour. The strategy tends to do well in rising markets and it should protect some of the downside.

When we delve deeper into the companies they like, the characteristics they like are barriers to entry. High return on capital and balance sheet strength. Although they can't guess the future they do aim to map out the path of a company over the next five years.

This is not a macro fund but they are aware of what is happening around them. The war in the Ukraine is bad for the world. They don't have any Russian holdings but with the Ukraine having one of the largest steel plants in Europe this will push up the price of steel and this impacts manufacturers in areas like wind turbines. Therefore this is an area they have reduced exposure to.

LWM Consultants Ltd

They worry about a slowdown in China and the impact slower growth will have globally. They are less worried about inflation as they think this will come down.

The strategy has good quality companies which have seen their valuations come down and they feel that the worst is behind us. They believe in a weaker environment this is where the fund will do well, for two reasons. Firstly many of the companies in Europe are trading at a discount to the US, and secondly at times like this investors tend to turn to quality which will naturally benefit the fund.

They are benchmark agnostic and split the holdings between cyclical and defensive stocks. The approach can be out of fashion at some points during the cycle but what they have found is that it creates an anti-herd approach which delivers a more durable strategy.

One holding example is Soitec, who do engineering for the semi-conductor industry. They cover smart phones, auto and "internet of things" (smart fridges, watches etc). They have around a 75% market share. They are operating in a growing market and so will be able to compound earnings and grow market share.

In summary, this fund has done well but this has dropped back over the last 18 months due to its style. However, the focus on quality means that if there is a global slowdown then investors tend to favour quality, and this fund is perfectly set to benefit from this. They also believe the worst is behind them and feel confident moving forward.

The source of information in this note has been provided by Premier Miton and is correct as at April 2022. These are notes from meeting the fund manager or representative and should not be seen as a recommendation to purchase any fund mentioned. Any reference to shares is not a recommendation to buy or sell. Should you wish to make a decision based on these notes we cannot take responsibility for this and you should carry out your own research before making a decision. We would also recommend that you receive advice before following up on any decision.