

## **AMP International Share**

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 March 2019

#### **Aim and Strategy**

To provide total returns (income and growth) after costs and before tax, above the performance benchmark on a rolling 3-year basis. The benchmark is the MSCI World ex Australia (ex Tobacco) Index NR in AUD. The portfolio provides investors with access to international shares, and exposure to a range of international share managers. Generally the portfolio is unhedged to Australian dollars. Currency exposures are individually managed by the underlying investment managers.

<b>Investment</b>	<b>Option</b>	<b>Performance</b>

To view the latest investment performances please visit <a href="www.amp.com.au">www.amp.com.au</a>

#### **Investment Option Overview**

Investment category	Global Shares
Suggested investment timeframe	5 to 7 years
Relative risk rating	High
Investment style	Multi-Manager

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
International shares	100
Cash	0

Sector Allocation	%
Information Technology	18.91
Health Care	15.86
Financials	11.07
Consumer Discretionary	10.58
Industrials	10.25
Communication Services	8.54
Consumer Staples	6.65
Cash	5.20
Energy	5.02
Materials	3.60
Utilities	2.51
Real Estate	1.78
Others	0.02

Region Allocation	%
North America	57.13
Europe ex UK	15.77
Japan	7.69
Asia ex Japan	6.38
Cash	5.17
United Kingdom	5.49
Others	2.20
Australasia	0.17

#### **Fund Performance**

The Fund posted a positive absolute return, but underperformed its benchmark over the March quarter. All of the five underlying fund managers delivered positive returns and one of them, American Century, outperformed its benchmark over the period. The Fund continues to outperform its benchmark over the longer term, including over 2, 3 and 5 vears. since inception (annualised). (All returns before fees.) Country allocation was the key detractor from relative performance over the period. An exposure to South Korea and an underweight exposure to the United States were the main detractors, while an overweight exposure to Australia and underweight exposure to Germany were the main positive contributors. Sector allocation also detracted from relative performance. An overweight exposure to health care and an underweight exposure to energy were the main detractors, while underweight exposures to financials and consumer staples and an overweight exposure to information technology were the main positive contributors. Stock selection also detracted from relative performance. The largest individual detractors were overweight exposures to US companies AbbieVie, Kraft Heinz and XPO Logistics. Pharmaceutical company AbbVie fell (-12.6%) after announcing disappointing fourth quarter 2018 results. Food giant Kraft Heinz fell sharply (-24.2%) after reporting a fourth quarter 2018 loss, mainly due to brand write downs, and after disclosing a Securities and Exchange Commission probe into its accounting practices. Transport company XPO Logistics waned (-6.6%) after reporting soft fourth quarter 2018 results. The main positive contributors to relative performance were overweight exposures to US companies Celene Corporation, Mastercard and Facebook. Biotechnology company Celgene Corporation soared (+45.9%) after Bristol-Myers Squibb announced its intention to acquire the company. Financial services giant Mastercard climbed (+23.8%) after reporting strong fourth quarter 2018 results and as US credit card debt rose to record levels. Social-media company Facebook jumped (+22.8%) after announcing much better than expected Q4 2018 results.

#### **Market Review**

After heavy falls in the December quarter, global share markets posted extremely strong gains in the March quarter, the MSCI World ex Australia index finishing up by 12.66%. While markets around the globe remain optimistic on the back of reasonably good global economic growth, a somewhat dovish US Federal Reserve (Fed), improving US trade relationships, strong resource prices and Chinese economic stimulus, this is being balanced by some caution creeping in around an inverting US yield curve, softening (but still reasonable) US growth and relatively high price/earnings ratios - particularly in the US. Chinese shares were the clear standout over the period, as the CITIC300 index soared 27.63% on the back of positive trade talks with the US and stimulus measures introduced by the Chinese government. Most other major markets saw returns near or beyond double-digits for the period, as a wave of optimism seemed to make the falls of late 2019 a distant memory. Despite the markets' rise, broader risks to global growth have arguably not appreciably changed over the three months, leading many commentators to urge caution, after the strong price rises. Emerging markets were also strong over the period, the MSCI Emerging Markets index returning 9.84% as resource prices rose and the positive sentiment from developed markets spilled over, despite ongoing currency and debt issues that many developing economies continue to face. (All indices quoted in local currency terms and on a total-return basis, unless otherwise stated.)

#### Outlook

Ongoing and unresolved US-China trade negotiations continue to impart uncertainty to the markets, with recent short-term swings between a risk-on and risk-off bias. Therefore, until some semblance of longer-term stability supports global markets, equities will likely remain susceptible to volatility, especially following the rally from falls at the end of 2018. The US Federal Reserve has also changed tack, indicating from recent communications that further interest rate rises will not occur until 2019 and that it will halt the shrinking of its balance sheet by September 2019. European tensions remain high, particularly from Brexit uncertainty and the fast approaching exit date. Eurozone GDP remains anaemic, and with the German economy approaching technical recessionary territory, the European Commission has revised growth estimates down and implemented stimulatory measures, with more likely to come. Asian data remains mixed, with both Japan and China continuing to be accommodative.

### **Availability**

Product name	APIR
CustomSuper	AMP0168AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Allocated Pension	AMP0818AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Term Pension	AMP0901AU*
AMP Flexible Lifetime Super	AMP0168AU*

<sup>\*</sup> Closed to new investors

#### **Contact Details**

Web: www.amp.com.au Email: askamp@amp.com.au

# Phone: 131 267 (Mon. to Fri. 8:30am to 6:00pm AEST)

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