Fund Commentary



Hartford International Opportunities Fund

Tickers A: IHOAX C: HIOCX F: IHOFX I: IHOIX R3: IHORX R4: IHOSX R5: IHOTX R6: IHOVX Y: HAOYX

Morningstar® Category Foreign Large Blend Inception Date 07/22/1996

Lipper Peer Group International Large-Cap Growth

Market Overview

International equities rose in the fourth quarter. Stocks rallied in tandem with government bonds as falling inflation in developed markets and weakening economic data across the globe bolstered views that policy rates have peaked and will begin to decline in 2024. More emerging-market (EM) countries began to reduce interest rates in December, while the European Central Bank and the Bank of England pushed back against market forecasts of sizable interest-rate cuts next year despite concerns about weak economic growth. China's economy rebounded, with third-quarter GDP expanding by 4.9% from a year ago. Nonetheless, a deepening slump in the property sector burdened the country's recovery and investor sentiment, putting greater pressure on the government to intensify its policy support. Even with the Middle East conflict, the Brent crude oil price dropped below US \$80 per barrel amid additional US output and as OPEC+ countries struggled to agree on production cuts.

The MSCI ACWI ex USA returned 9.75% for the period. Within the index, all 11 sectors rose over the quarter. Information technology and utilities were the top-performing sectors.

Performance Summary

- The Hartford International Opportunities Fund (I Share) outperformed the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index during the quarter
- Sector allocation, a result of our bottom-up stock selection process, contributed to relative results due to an overweight to information technology and an underweight to communication services, but partially offset by our overweight to energy and underweight to materials
- Security selection detracted from relative performance. Weak selection in healthcare, financials, and consumer staples was partially offset by selection in industrials and information technology. On a regional basis, strong stock selection in Developed European Union, Middle East ex United Kingdom, and EMs was offset by weak selection in North America and Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan.
- Siemens (industrials) was the top relative contributor and Taiwan Semiconductor (information technology) was the top absolute contributor. Cenovus Energy (energy) was the top relative and absolute detractor for the period.

Positioning & Outlook

- International markets were largely positive in the fourth quarter, as declining inflation and lower bond yields improved investor sentiment. As we look toward 2024, we believe volatility may remain elevated as the market continues to be acutely focused on macroeconomic issues such as the direction and level of rates, and geopolitical tensions in certain regions around the world. Given the uncertainty around the outlook for markets, we continue to take a moderate pace to our decision-making and seek to maintain a well-balanced portfolio.
- Although markets could continue to be choppy as we get more clarity on the path forward, we're looking to take advantage of the volatility by investing in companies with improving or sustainable returns on capital that we believe are underappreciated by the market

Portfolio Managers from Wellington Management

Nicolas M. Choumenkovitch

Senior Managing Director Equity Portfolio Manager Professional Experience Since 1987

Tara C. Stilwell, CFA

Senior Managing Director Equity Portfolio Manager Professional Experience Since 1994

The portfolio managers are supported by the full resources of Wellington.

Top Ten Holdings (%)

Percentage Of Portfolio	24.95
Siemens AG	2.07
Rio Tinto PLC	2.16
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	2.26
Sony Group Corp.	2.26
Shell PLC	2.34
AstraZeneca PLC	2.34
ASML Holding NV	2.38
Novartis AG	2.72
Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.	3.16
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	3.26

Holdings and characteristics are subject to change. Percentages may be rounded.

Fund Commentary

Performance (%)										
		Average Annual Total Returns —					Expenses ¹			
Class	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	SI	Gross	Net	
Ā	9.91	11.54	11.54	-0.74	8.13	3.76	5.15	1.10%	1.10%	
A with 5.5% Max Sales Charge	_	_	5.41	-2.59	6.91	3.17	4.93	_	_	
F	9.95	11.95	11.95	-0.34	8.57	4.16	5.38	0.70%	0.70%	
	9.99	11.85	11.85	-0.43	8.46	4.09	5.35	0.79%	0.79%	
R3	9.83	11.15	11.15	-1.05	7.79	3.46	5.16	1.42%	1.42%	
R4	9.87	11.44	11.44	-0.76	8.11	3.77	5.37	1.11%	1.11%	
R5	9.97	11.86	11.86	-0.44	8.46	4.08	5.56	0.80%	0.80%	
R6	9.99	11.94	11.94	-0.34	8.56	4.19	5.63	0.70%	0.70%	
Υ	9.95	11.83	11.83	-0.43	8.48	4.14	5.62	0.80%	0.79%	
MSCI ACWI ex USA Index	9.75	15.62	15.62	1.55	7.08	3.83	_			
Morningstar Category	9.81	16.25	16.25	2.43	7.62	3.98	_	_	_	
Lipper Peer Group	11.43	15.97	15.97	-0.75	8.81	4.64	_	_	_	

Morningstar* Category Foreign Large Blend Lipper Peer Group International Large-Cap Growth

Performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For more current performance information to the most recent month ended, please visit hartfordfunds.com.

Share Class Inception: A, Y - 7/22/96; F - 2/28/17; I - 5/30/08; R3, R4, R5 - 12/22/06; R6 - 11/7/14. Performance shown prior to the inception of a class reflects performance and operating expenses of another class(es) (excluding sales charges, if applicable). Had fees and expenses of a class been reflected for the periods prior to the inception of that class, performance would be different. Since inception (SI) performance is from 7/22/96. Performance and expenses for other share classes will vary. Additional information is in the prospectus. Only Class A assesses a sales charge.

MSCI ACWI ex USA Index is a broad-based, unmanaged, market capitalization weighted, total return index that measures the performance of both developed and emerging stock markets, excluding the U.S. MSCI index performance is shown net of dividend withholding tax. Indices are unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

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Expenses as shown in the Fund's most recent prospectus. Gross expenses do not reflect contractual fee waivers or expense reimbursement arrangements, if any. Net expenses reflect such arrangements only with respect to Class Y. These arrangements remain in effect until 2/29/24 unless the Fund's Board of Directors approves an earlier termination.

Important Risks: Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. Security prices fluctuate in value depending on general market and economic conditions and the prospects of individual companies. • Foreign investments may be more volatile and less liquid than U.S. investments and are subject to the risk of currency fluctuations and adverse political, economic and regulatory developments. These risks may be greater, and include additional risks, for investments in emerging markets or if the Fund focuses in a particular geographic region or country. • Mid-cap securities can have greater risks and volatility than large-cap securities. • The Fund may have high portfolio turnover, which could increase its transaction costs and an investor's tax liability. • To the extent the Fund focuses on one or more sectors, the Fund may be subject to increased volatility and risk of loss if adverse developments occur. • Integration of environmental, social, and/or governance (ESG) characteristics into the investment process may not work as intended.

Investors should carefully consider a fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. This and other important information is contained in a fund's full prospectus and summary prospectus, which can be obtained by visiting hartfordfunds.com. Please read it carefully before investing.

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