Large Cap Growth

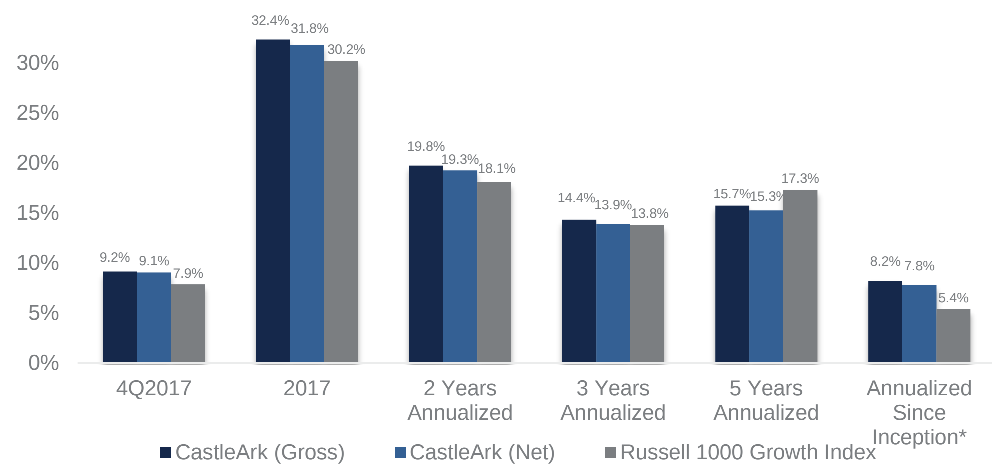
CASTLEARK

December 31, 2017

Fourth Quarter 2017 – Performance Update

The CastleArk Large Cap Growth composite had a return of +9.16% gross and +9.05% net for the quarter, outperforming the benchmark Russell 1000 Growth Index return of +7.86%. The continuation of strong economic data and strong corporate earnings helped growth stocks lead the equity markets steadily higher during the quarter, leaving full year returns for the CastleArk Large Cap Growth composite at +32.36% gross and +31.81% net, slightly ahead of the benchmark return of +30.21%. Since inception, March 1, 1999, the CastleArk Large Cap Growth composite has outperformed with an annualized return of +8.22% gross and +7.80% net compared to +5.40% for the benchmark for the period ending December 31, 2017.

CastleArk Large Cap Growth Performance*



Past performance is no guarantee of future results.
*Inception 03/1/99

Fourth Quarter 2017 – Portfolio Review

The equity bull market continued its relentless run-up in the fourth quarter of 2017 as successful passage of tax reform legislation added fuel to the already accelerating and synchronous, economic growth outlook across the globe. We expected the accelerating global growth to power rising earnings expectations, and thus, rising stock prices, but tax reform was a "gift." Also contributing to the sense of optimism was the strength of holiday spending by consumers – the best in years. The U.S. is on its way to three consecutive quarters of 3%+ GDP growth largely driven by industrial production and capital spending growth.

It was another strong quarter for the equity markets, with the Russell 1000 Growth Index finishing the quarter up 7.86%. The CastleArk Large Cap Growth Composite returned 9.16% gross, exceeding the benchmark return by 130 basis points. Stock selection added 145 basis points to relative return and asset allocation was a modest detractor losing 18 basis points to the total. From an asset allocation perspective, an underweight position in the strongly performing Consumer Discretionary sector detracted 18 basis points while an overweight in Energy, which lagged the market, detracted 7 basis points from total performance. The portfolio's overweight position in the Industrials sector, which

Top 10 Portfolio Holdings*

Microsoft Corp.	4.5%
Amazon.com, Inc.	4.0%
Charles Schwab Corp.	4.0%
CME Group, Inc.	3.4%
Facebook, Inc.	3.3%
Apple, Inc.	3.3%
Abiomed, Inc.	3.2%
Parker Hannifin Corp.	3.1%
XPO Logistics, Inc.	3.1%
Visa, Inc.	3.0%
Percentage of Total Assets	**34.9%**

Portfolio Characteristics*

	CastleArk Large Cap Growth	Russell 1000 Growth Index
Number of Companies	49	551
Forward P/E	23.0x	20.8x
Historical EPS Growth	21.7%	18.0%
Expected Growth	15.0%	11.7%
Return on Equity	21.1%	43.6%
Debt/Capital	43.0%	46.3%
Weight by Market Cap	$173.6B	$227.5B
Median Market Cap	$51.4B	$11.8B

*Representative client portfolio.

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Fourth Quarter 2017 – Portfolio Review (continued)

performed well, contributed 16 basis points to performance. Stock selection was positive in seven of the eight invested sectors, with Industrials, Energy, and Financials leading the way adding 82 basis points, 81 basis points and 32 basis points, respectively.

At the end of the quarter, seven of the ten worst contributing stocks during the quarter remained in the portfolio. Of these seven, the positions in Tesla, Gilead Sciences, WABCO Holdings and Aptiv (formerly Delphi Automotive) held steady. The position in Align Technology was new to the portfolio this quarter. There were significant position reductions made in Activision Blizzard and Applied Materials. The positions in Celgene Corporation, Electronic Arts and Ulta Beauty were eliminated from the portfolio.

Outlook and Strategy

The early days of the new quarter have been an uninterrupted continuation of the bull market. Monthly economic data points across the globe continues to point to economic acceleration. At the same time, it appears that the last of the naysayers regarding the prospect of better than 2.0% GDP growth in the U.S. on a sustainable basis have capitulated. Tax reform has forced the change in outlook. We contend that the consensus expectations for U.S. and global economic growth remain well behind the likely outcome for 2018. We expect U.S. GDP growth to exceed 3% for the year while the consensus has only adjusted to 2.6% expected growth. We believe the higher than expected economic growth will translate into better than expected sales growth rates, operating margins, and EPS for many companies. Nonetheless, it is very likely that stock price volatility will rise as companies report their quarterly results and provide guidance (including tax reform adjustments). We again expect investor attitude to be "a buying opportunity on stock price weakness." Thus, the characterization that this is an earnings-driven stock market remains intact, with Price/Earnings (P/E) ratios unchanged to lower over the course of the year. We wish to re-state that there is significant opportunity to generate alpha (i.e. superior portfolio performance via stock selection) as the Premium Paid for Growth stocks continues to expand versus that for defensive slow growth stocks given it is still well below historical norms. And secondly, the economic backdrop will produce an increase in the dispersion of reported results among companies as the relative financial returns on investments made over several years becomes more evident in the form of positive earnings surprises.

We remain confident in the continuation of the bull market, even as it sets record highs. It is likely there will be periods of profit-taking, and some quarterly results/guidance disappointments this earnings season. Issues such as immigration, trade "wars", infrastructure policy, healthcare policy, and most notably, central bank actions in the U.S. and abroad to reduce monetary stimulus via raising interest rates, reducing bond purchases, continue to be risks. While vigilant, we are steadfast in owning companies that have invested heavily in new products, productive capacity, and distribution capabilities as

Fourth Quarter 2017
Best and Worst Contributors*

Best:	Contribution
1. Amazon.com, Inc.	.80%
2. XPO Logistics, Inc.	.77%
3. Continental Resources, Inc.	.65%
4. Microsoft Corporation	.65%
5. United Rentals, Inc.	.54%
6. Charles Schwab Corporation	.54%
7. ABIOMED, Inc.	.46%
8. Intel Corporation	.43%
9. Parker-Hannifin Corporation	.43%
10. Deere & Company	.38%

Worst:	Contribution
1. Celgenen Corporation	-.56%
2. Electronic Arts, Inc.	-.14%
3. Align Technology, Inc.	-.10%
4. Tesla, Inc.	-.08%
5. Gilead Sciences, Inc.	-.07%
6. Aptiv plc	-.07%
7. WABCO Holdings, Inc.	-.07%
8. Activision Blizzard, Inc.	-.06%
9. Applied Materials, Inc.	-.06%
10. Ulta Beauty, Inc.	-.05%

*Representative client portfolio. A complete list of security's contribution to performance and description of calculation methodology is available upon request.

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Outlook and Strategy (continued)

they have the best opportunity for accelerating returns on invested capital (ROIC), revenues, and earnings, leading to share price outperformance.

During the fourth quarter, five new stocks were added to the portfolio and six were removed. For each of the three largest new holdings, our expectations and convictions exceed that of the consensus, giving us the opportunity for significant outperformance should our expectations play out. The largest new investments were made in:

Caterpillar Inc. (CAT) is the world's leading producer of construction and mining equipment, gas engines, turbines and locomotives. Throughout the downturn the company has restructured into leaner and more profitable business. Increasing global economic activity will drive demand for construction equipment putting the company in position to accelerate profit growth.

PayPal Holdings (PYPL) operates a worldwide technology platform that enables digital and mobile payments. The company's recent agreements with Visa and Master Card will allow it to scale and expand profitability. Its P2P payment system, Venmo, has dominant market share and is poised to drive significant revenue growth.

Align Technology (ALGN) is the global leader in orthodontics with its Invisalign product, a system of clear aligners designed and manufactured as an alternative to traditional braces. The company's extensive IP portfolio and brand recognition is driving growth and market share gains globally, particularly in the teen market where the appeal of clear aligners are gaining traction.