# **Portfolio Profile**

# Antares Ex-20 Australian Equities Model Portfolio August 2020

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#### Model Portfolio description and investment return objective

The Antares Ex-20 Australian Equities Model Portfolio is an actively managed highly concentrated portfolio of Australian equities. It invests in shares from outside the largest 20 companies by market capitalisation that Antares identifies as having the potential to offer significant long term capital growth. The Model's objective is to outperform the Benchmark (S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index excluding the companies listed in the S&P/ASX 20 Total Return Index) over rolling five-year periods.

#### Investment returns\* as at 31 August 2020<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Period	1 month	3 months	1 year	3 yeas pa	5 years pa	Since inception <sup>3</sup> pa
Gross return %	7.5	9.8	7.9	12.3	14.1	12.2
Benchmark return %	4.7	7.2	-2.9	7.0	10.6	8.4
Gross excess return %	2.8	2.6	10.8	5.3	3.5	3.8

#### Model Portfolio performance and attribution

The Model generated a return of 7.5% as markets rebounded from the Covid induced lows. It was pleasing to perform well given the heightened uncertainty concerning the August reporting season, especially the outlook statements.

Our best contributor was IEL Education (IDP). IEL's result was very well-received as it assuaged market fears that extension of international border lockdowns would impact its business model. Instead, IEL showed resilience in its English language testing and university services as the business was able to pivot to the digital facilities it had been developing in recent years. Cost management was better than expected. Afterpay (APT) also contributed strongly delivering a good result. Having previously flagged its entry to Canada, APT also announced an accelerated entry into southern Europe and has built the pieces of a global BNPL platform. Finally, Nine Entertainment (NEC) also rallied strongly during the month. It seems the market is finally beginning to re-price NEC's future earnings stream on the basis of its improved quality as the company drives into more stable growth of subscription and digital earnings. These accounted for 50% of its FY20 operating earnings, highlighted by a sizeable step-up in Stan subscribers, despite the increase in competition from Disney and other new entrants. Northern Star (NST) detracted from performance as the rally in markets limited demand for gold's safe haven status. Further, NST released disappointing guidance regarding production and costs for the coming 12 months. A2 Milk (A2M) also detracted from performance having been very strong in the lead up to the release of its results with the expectation of a "beat" to the company's guidance. But the result was in line with guidance and there was some selling on the back of that. Finally, our position in Seek (SEK) impacted our performance, albeit in a minor fashion. The market was surprised by SEK's guidance for FY 21 which was materially below expectations. While employment volumes are weak, the real issue was the lack of leverage on evidence from SEKs new pricing system. While this was disappointing, we believe the company is being prudent with its pricing given the current downturn.

#### **Buys / Additions**

Lynas Corporation (LYC) - LYC is a producer of so-called "rare-earth" minerals which are essential ingredients in the production of renewable energy generation and battery developments. They are also important in production of night vision goggles and related products. China dominates the ownership of these resources and given their structural importance in the emerging decarbonised economy, LYC is a unique asset in having one of the world's major deposits in Western Australia, and one that is not under Chinese control. We see this as a very long term and strategic asset. Worley (WOR) - WOR historically provides engineering consulting to the upstream oil and gas industry and while this remains important it has diversified downstream via its acquisition of Jacobs chemical business. More importantly, WOR's engineering capabilities are increasingly important in energy transformation – pivoting towards more integration of renewables away from traditional hydrocarbons. This offers a long term growth option in the business.

#### Sales / Reductions

**Lendlease Group (LLC)** - We sold LLC from the portfolio. While we remain attracted to the longer term thematic of urban renewable and community development in the LLC business pipeline, we think the metrics of these may have changed given the move to work-from-home driven by the coronavirus.

# Top 10 share holdings

antares

as at 31 August 2020 (alphabetical)

- AfterPay
- Ansell
- Aristocrat Leisure
- Aurizon Holdings
- James Hardie
- Metcash
- Mineral Resources
- Nine Entertainment
- Northern Star Resources
- Qantas

#### Sector allocation

GICS	%
Metals & Mining	17.58
Consumer Discretionary	16.19
Industrials	13.81
Consumer Staples	10.22
Health Care	10.00
Communication Services	7.68
Energy	7.66
Information Technology	6.24
Materials Ex Metals & Mining	5.07
Financials Ex Reits	3.15
Real Estate	2.40
Utilities	0.00

Source: Antares Equities; 31 Aug 2020

Note: GICS - Global Industry Classification Standard % are absolute is sector proportion of portfolio

<sup>1</sup> Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Returns are not guaranteed and actual returns may vary from any target returns described in this document. The value of an investment may rise or fall with the changes in the market. <sup>2</sup> Investment returns for the Model Portfolio are based on a notional model portfolio constructed by Antares and are gross of administration (platform) and investment management fees, net of estimated transaction costs, and assume all dividends remain in the Model Portfolio.<sup>\*</sup> Performance is based on the income and market value of the notional model portfolio.<sup>3</sup> Inception date for the Model Portfolio is 27 May 2015.

## Investment guidelines and ranges

	Minimum	Benchmark Allocation	Maximum	As at 31 Aug 20
Australian shares	90%	100%	100%	97.1%
Cash and cash equivalents	0%	0%	10%	2.9%

### Portfolio managers

John Guadagnuolo Investment Manager **Key Responsibilities** John is the Portfolio Manager of the Ex-20 Australian Equities Model Portfolio and Ex-20 **Australian Equities** Managed Fund. Years with the group 13 Years of Industry Experience 20

# Platform availability

BT Panorama, Macquarie, Navigator, Netwealth and Praemium.

Ratings





**Andrew Hamilton** 

Head of Research



### Investor profile

The Ex-20 Australian Equities Model Portfolio is designed for investors seeking an actively managed, highly concentrated portfolio of Australian securities that excludes the top 20 stocks by market capitalisation. The Model aims to provide investors with long term capital growth

# Model portfolio facts

Inception date:	27 May 2015		
Benchmark:	S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index excluding the companies listed in the S&P/ASX 20 Total Return Index		
Investment timeframe:	At least 5 years		
No of shares:	15 to 30		
Indicative portfolio turnover:	50% to 60% pa		
Relative risk:	Very High		
Relative return <sup>1</sup> :	Very High		

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Approved

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#### About Antares Equities

Antares Equities (Antares) is a specialist Australian equities manager. Since 1994, Antares has managed portfolios for wholesale, advised and direct investors through a suite of products including segregated mandates, investment funds and managed account models. Antares has A\$4.9 billion (at 30 June 2020) under advice across a range of strategies including large capitalisation, concentrated, property, income and long-short. Antares believes in bottom-up stock picking. A consistent process and detailed, quality research executed by a highly experienced, stable and diverse team underpin this approach. The investment philosophy is based on the belief that markets can misprice stocks and these opportunities can be identified using the proven, proprietary Antares research process. Antares Equities is part of Antares Capital Partners Limited (ABN 85 066 081 114, AFSL 234483).

#### For further information please contact our Client Services Team - Toll Free: 1800 671 849

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