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# Perspectives **US High Yield**

# **Market Update**

The ICE BofA Merrill Lynch U.S. High Yield Index generated an impressive return of +1.68% during May. High yield bonds posted their strongest gain in 10 months as a de-escalation of the trade war was met with relief from investors across most risk assets. The U.S. High Yield market saw the largest inflow (+\$5.6bn) since November '23 and capital markets activity rose to an 8-month high as new issuance totaled \$32bn. There were \$1.7bn in payment defaults and two distressed transactions during the month. Excluding distressed exchanges, the par-weighted U.S. High yield default rate ended the month at 0.43%, which was up from 0.31% from last month.

During May, U.S. High Yield outperformed U.S. Treasuries (-1.07%) and U.S. Corporates (+0.0%) but underperformed U.S. Equities (S&P 500 +6.29%). Within U.S. High Yield, CCC and lower-rated issues (+3.17%) outperformed both BB-rated credits (+1.52%) and single B-rated credits (+1.44%). From a sector perspective, 18 of the 18 sectors in the index posted positive monthly returns. The best performing sectors were Transportation (+2.42%), Energy (+2.42%), and Media (+2.37%). On a relative basis, the worst performing sectors were Banking (+.44%), Telecommunications (+.93%), and Capital Goods (+.94%). The High Yield Index's Option Adjusted Spread was 332 basis points at the end of May, 62bps tighter for the month. The yield-to-worst of the index ended the month at 7.53%, a decrease of 38 basis points from the start of the month. Finally, the High Yield Index's average price was \$95.65 at month end, \$1.21 higher than the \$94.44 average price at the start of the month.

High Yield Industry<sup>1</sup>

Retur	ns by Rating-		ingit field fiddotfy		as of:	F /24 /2025
					as or:	5/31/2025
	1.52%	BB		YTD Total Return	OAS	YTW
			US HIGH YIELD INDEX	2.65	332	7.53
	1 4 4 0 (		Automotive	3.03	269	6.86
	1.44%	В	Banking	2.20	159	5.97
			Basic Industry	1.67	302	7.20
		_	Capital Goods	2.67	292	7.20
			Consumer Goods	1.93	279	7.05
	3.17% CCC and lower	3.17% CCC and lower	Energy	0.54	361	7.86
			Financial Services	3.06	256	6.84
1			Healthcare	4.34	315	7.34
			Insurance	3.87	187	6.30
			Leisure	2.56	245	6.69
			Media	3.57	533	9.48
			Real Estate	4.17	284	7.00
-	ICE BofA ML, J.P. M	organ	Retail	1.04	348	7.67
May 31, 202			Services	3.26	331	7.13
E BofA Merr	rill Lynch US High Yie	ld Index.	<b>Technology &amp; Electronics</b>	2.76	322	7.43
			Telecommunications	4.19	496	9.18
			Transportation	0.69	410	8.29
			Utility	2.86	223	6.59

# Returns by Rating<sup>1</sup>

Source as of N (1) ICE

Past performance is not indicative of future results. For illustrative purposes only.

It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index. Index performance is not illustrative of the strategy's performance.



# US Short Duration High Yield: Strategy Activity and Performance

# Portfolio management comments

AXA IM's U.S. Short Duration High Yield Strategy generated a solid return during May, capturing roughly two-thirds of the overall's market's +1.68% return (gross and net of fees, USD). Performance was limited by the shorter duration nature of our holdings and our up-in-quality positioning. However, short duration high yield continues to benefit from the relative flatness of the high yield yield-curve, capturing roughly 80-85% of the overall market's yield.

The yield-to-worst of the Strategy (exclusive of cash) tightened by 38bps to 6.15%, while the market yield decreased to 7.53%. The Option Adjusted Spread of the Strategy tightened by 64 bps to 189 bps. The overall Strategy duration (using a calculation of modified duration-to-worst) decreased to 1.9 while market duration decreased to 3.2. Position count decreased in May and the Strategy remains well diversified. We believe that diversification of portfolio holdings is important for the Strategy and helps to manage credit risk. Our top holding, a 1.7% position, was Watco Companies. At month-end, approximately 40.3% of the portfolio was invested in securities in excess of three years, which we expect to be redeemed early. This is up versus the previous month.

Market technicals improved during May as flows turned positive after being significantly negative in April. The positive flows were partially offset by an active primary market, however a majority of proceeds were used for refinancing. Tariffs, inflation data, Fed rate cuts (or lack thereof), slowing economic growth, and the impact of the new Republican administration remain the primary drivers of market movements, however we still believe that corporate credit fundamentals remain relatively healthy and the high yield default rate will continue to be benign. Valuations from a yield perspective remain attractive and offer a coupon-like return, and with markets focused on the trajectory of interest rates and the impact of a modest US slowdown, we believe the Short Duration Strategy remains well positioned in this market environment.

# Characteristics

Portfolio
2.7
6.50%
6.15%
6.19%
1.9
6.15%
189
99
5.0%
144
191
B1

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Sector Exposure



Source: AXA IM, FactSet, as of May 31, 2025. All data exclusive of cash. The examples shown herein are intended only to illustrate the investment process and should not be considered a recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell any particular security. The representative account shown has been selected because it utilizes an investment setup that is typical for accounts in the relevant strategy and/or on the basis that it has adequate assets under management to effectuate a fair comparison. Diversification does not ensure a profit or protection against a loss. 2

Please refer to the appendix for additional information about representative accounts



# US Core High Yield: Strategy Activity and Performance

# Portfolio management comments

AXA IM's core unconstrained US high yield strategy outperformed the US high yield market during the month of May (both net and gross, USD). The strategy benefitted predominantly from its security selection while its macro risk positioning was largely neutral. Specifically, selection in the highest yielding segment of the market was the largest positive contributor to relative performance. Additionally, the strategy benefitted from participating in several new issuances during the month.

From a sector perspective, selection within the Telecommunications and Capital Goods sectors were two of the largest positive contributors to relative performance. This was due in part to the portfolio's lack of exposure to pay-TV operator, Echostar, who announced they were electing not to pay the coupon on one of their bond issues. Additionally, the strategy's position in Mauser Packaging added to performance after the company reported better-than-expected earnings. Partly offsetting was selection within the Leisure and Retail sectors, which were the largest detractors from relative performance in May.

CHARACTERISTICS	Portfolio	Index
Average Years to Maturity	4.7	4.7
Yield to Maturity	7.29%	7.75%
Yield To Worst	6.98%	7.53%
Current Yield	6.95%	6.84%
Duration To Worst	3.1	3.2
Average Coupon	6.83%	6.54%
Option Adjusted Spread	272	332
Average Price	98	96
Cash Position	3.8%	N/A
Number of Issuers	214	867
Number of Positions	271	1884
Average ML Rating	B1	B1

# **Characteristics**



Sector Exposure

#### Source: AXA IM, FactSet, as of May 31, 2025. Index: ICE BofA Merrill Lynch US High Yield. All data exclusive of cash. The examples shown herein are intended only to illustrate the investment process and should not be considered a recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell any particular security. The representative account shown has been selected because it utilizes an investment setup that is typical for accounts in the relevant strategy and/or on the basis that it has adequate assets under management to effectuate a fair comparison. Please refer to the appendix for additional information 3 about representative accounts.



# US Core High Yield: Strategy Activity and Performance

# Portfolio management comments

Our flagship strategy finished the month with a yield-to-worst of 6.98% (exclusive of cash) which was lower than the benchmark's yield-to-worst of 7.53%. The strategy's duration-to-worst of 3.1 (ex-cash) was slightly below the benchmark's level of 3.2. Despite the volatility created by President Trump's trade policies, we continue to believe that the default rate of the US high yield bond market is unlikely to increase to a level significantly higher than its long-term average. In the current environment, we maintain that the US High Yield market can deliver an attractive total return over the next 12 months.



### **Broad Risk Positioning**



<sup>\*</sup>Returns are for bucket partitions of the BofAML US High Yield Index \*\*Defensive portion relative to the index

Source: AXA IM, FactSet, as of May 31, 2025. Index: ICE BofA Merrill Lynch US High Yield. All data exclusive of cash. Past performance is not indicative of future results. For illustrative purposes only. The examples shown herein are intended only to illustrate the investment process and should not be considered a recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell any particular security. The representative account shown has been selected because it utilizes an investment setup that is typical for accounts in the relevant strategy and/or on the basis that it has adequate assets under management to 4 effectuate a fair comparison. Please refer to the appendix for additional information about representative accounts.



# US Dynamic High Yield: Strategy Activity and Performance

# Portfolio management comments

AXA IM's US Dynamic High Yield Bonds outperformed the ICE B of A Merrill Lynch US High Yield Index (both net-of-fees and gross-offees, USD) during the month of May. The strategy underperformed the S&P (+6.2%), the Russell 2000 (+5.2%) and the triple-C market (+3.2%). The strategy's outperformance versus the index was primarily driven by the strategy's allocation to the CCC part of the market and security selection across the double B, Single B and CCC part of the markets. The startegy's derivative positions had a positive impact on performance during the month.

From a sector perspective, the strategy's performance was positively impacted by its security selection in the Technology sector and the Media sector, primarily driven by the strategy's overweight positions in Ion Trading, Gray and Sinclair. Performance was negatively impacted by security selection in the Retail Sector and Auto Sector, primarily driven by the strategy's overweight positions in Saks Global, Magnera and Clarios.

The strategy finished the month with a yield-to-worst of 8.4% (exclusive of cash and derivatives) compared to the benchmark yield-toworst of 7.5%. The duration-to-worst of the strategy was 2.8 compared to the benchmark duration-to-worst of 3.2. HY bond yields remain above recent historical averages, providing greater opportunities for the strategy. We continue believe the risk of a severe recession and a rise in the default rate of the US HY bond market to a level significantly higher than the long-term average is a low probability. The strategy will continue to participate in the primary market to provide incremental risk-adjusted return. As of monthend, the strategy holds 20 derivative positions related to 16 issuers. All of these derivative positions are expressing long credit views on individual issuers, and including these derivative positions, the strategy's exposure was 109% gross and 109% net.

CHARACTERISTICS	Portfolio	Index
Yield to Maturity	8.91%	7.75%
Yield To Worst	8.36%	7.53%
Current Yield	8.55%	6.85%
Duration To Worst	2.84	3.21
Average Coupon	8.20%	6.54%
Option Adjusted Spread	415	332
Average Price	12	10
Average ML Rating	97	96
Number of Issuers	112	867
Number of Cash Bonds	118	1,885
Number of CDS Positions	20	N/A

# **Characteristics**

# Sector Exposure



Source: AXA IM, FactSet, as of May 31, 2025. All data exclusive of cash. Index: ICE BofA Merrill Lynch US High Yield. The examples shown herein are intended only to illustrate the investment process and should not be considered a recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell any particular security. The representative account shown has been selected because it utilizes an investment setup that is typical for accounts in the relevant strategy and/or on the basis that it has adequate assets under management to effectuate a fair comparison. Please refer to the appendix for additional information 5 about representative accounts



### **US High Yield Risks Overview**

**CREDIT RISK** - If an issuer of bonds defaults on its obligations to pay income or repay capital, it may result in a decrease in portfolio value. The value of a bond (and subsequently, the portfolio) is also affected by changes in credit rating downgrades and/ or market perceptions of the risk of future default. Investment grade issuers are regarded as less likely to default than issuers of high yield bonds. High-yield, lower-rated, securities involve greater risk than higher-rated securities. Portfolios that invest in them may be subject to greater levels of credit and liquidity risk than portfolios that do not.

**RISK OF CAPITAL LOSS** – Any investment in our high yield strategies are not guaranteed and returns can be negative. The performance of a portfolio may not be consistent with the objectives of investors and their investment may not be fully returned.

**INTEREST RATE RISK** - Fluctuations in interest rates will change the value of bonds, impacting the value of the investment portfolio. Often, when interest rates rise, the value of the bonds fall and vice versa. The valuation of bonds will also change according to market perceptions of future movements in interest rates.

**LIQUIDITY RISK** - Some investments may trade infrequently and in small volumes and the risk of low liquidity level in certain market conditions might lead to difficulties in valuing, purchasing or selling bonds.

**HIGH YIELD BOND RISK** - The portfolio will be exposed to a risk related to investments in high yield financial instruments. These instruments present higher default risks than those of the investment grade category. In case of default, the value of these instruments may decrease significantly, which would affect the value of the portfolio. Lower-rated securities generally tend to reflect short-term corporate and market developments to a greater extent than higher-rated securities which respond primarily to fluctuations in the general level of interest rates.

**RE-INVESTMENT RISK** - Reinvestment risk describes the risk that, as interest rates or market environment changes, the future coupons and principal from any bond may have to be reinvested in a less favorable rate environment. This is more likely to occur during periods of declining interest rates when issuers can issue bonds with lower levels of coupon. Reinvestment risk may be greater with callable bonds.

**LEVERAGE RISK** - Portfolios may invest in derivatives including Credit Default Swaps (CDS) and Total Return Swaps (TRS) for leverage purposes. The use of derivatives can involve significant economic leverage and may, in some cases, involve a significant risk of loss. The low initial margin deposits normally required to establish a position in such instruments permits leverage. As a result, a relatively small movement in the price of the contract and/or of one of its parameters may result in a profit or a loss that is high in proportion to the amount of assets actually placed as initial margin and may result in unlimited further loss exceeding any margin deposited.



# **AXA IM US High Yield Strategies – Composite returns** GIPS Compliant Performance Presentation

Strategy GIPS Composite Returns		A	Since	Inception		
oracegy on o composite returns	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year	Inception	Date
AXA IM US Short Duration High Yield (Net)	7.81	5.65	4.45	3.70	4.99	30-Sep-01
AXA IM US Short Duration High Yield (Gross)	8.29	6.13	4.92	4.16	5.48	30-Sep-01

Strategy GIPS Composite Returns		A	Since	Inception		
	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year	Inception	Date
AXA IM US Core High Yield (Net)	9.10	6.81	5.45	4.78	7.12	30-Sep-01
AXA IM US Core High Yield (Gross)	9.62	7.32	5.96	5.28	7.63	30-Sep-01
ICE BofA US High Yield Index (H0A0)	9.28	6.64	5.82	4.94	7.20	30-Sep-01

Strategy GIPS Composite Returns		A	Since	Inception			
	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year	Inception	Date	
AXA IM US Dynamic High Yield (Net)	9.86	9.07	7.99	6.77	6.49	28-Feb-14	
AXA IM US Dynamic High Yield (Gross)	10.52	9.72	8.64	7.41	7.12	28-Feb-14	
ICE BofA US High Yield Index (H0A0)	9.28	6.64	5.82	4.94	4.72	28-Feb-14	

Source: AXA IM Past results are not indicative of future performance. No assurances can be made that profits will be achieved or that substantial losses will not be incurred. Returns assume the reinvestment of distributions.



# **US SHORT DURATION HIGH YIELD COMPOSITE GIPS Compliant Performance Presentation**

### Investment Strategy Objective

Aims to generate high current income by investing in better-quality, non-investment grade debt of U.S. companies with an expected redemption of three years or less.

#### **Composite Benchmark**

# of Portfolios in Composite

The "US Short Duration High Yield" composite is not show n against a benchmark, since the strategy is an absolute return strategy and not managed against a benchmark.

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General Information								
Reporting date	May 31, 2025							
Composite Start Date	September 30, 2001							
Composite Creation Date	September 30, 2001							
Composite Currency	USD							

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Calendar year (%)	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Composite (Gross)	6.96	10.28	-4.55	3.80	4.38	8.50	1.69	3.98	6.38	1.23	1.51
Composite (Net)	6.48	9.79	-4.98	3.34	3.93	8.06	1.22	3.48	5.88	0.77	1.03
Internal Dispersion (Std. Deviation)	N/A	N/A	N/A								
Composite Volatility 3y (%)	5.71	5.65	6.46	4.50	4.57	1.81	1.63	2.29	2.62	2.70	2.24
As of end of period	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Composite Assets (USD mil)	4,140	4,980	5,494	6,507	5,772	5,712	5,575	8,217	10,039	11,014	12,390

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Source: AXA IM Past results are not indicative of future performance. No assurances can be made that profits will be achieved or that substantial losses will not be incurred. Returns assume the reinvestment of distributions.



# **US CORE HIGH YIELD COMPOSITE** GIPS Compliant Performance Presentation

### Investment Strategy Objective

Generates total returns by investing in the full maturity spectrum of non-investment grade debt of U.S. companies with improving fundamentals. The portfolios in this composite are managed with a total return investment strategy and aim to provide risk-adjusted out-performance, given their respective benchmarks and constraints.

### General Information

Reporting date	May 31, 2025
Composite Start Date	September 30, 2001
Composite Creation Date	September 30, 2001
Composite Currency	USD

### Composite Benchmark

ICE BofA Merill Lynch US High Yield Index (H0A0)

Calendar year (%)	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Calendar year (70)	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2013	2010	2017	2010	2013	2014
Composite (Gross)	8.75	13.04	-9.11	5.04	8.04	13.30	-1.20	8.07	15.83	-4.47	2.08
Composite (Net)	8.22	12.50	-9.55	4.54	7.53	12.77	-1.68	7.55	15.29	-4.92	1.59
Benchmark	8.27	13.46	-11.22	5.36	6.17	14.41	-2.26	7.48	17.49	-4.64	2.50
Internal Dispersion (Std. Deviation)	0.06	0.13	0.23	0.15	0.28	0.19	0.07	0.35	0.16	0.07	0.05
Composite Volatility 3y (%)	8.06	7.93	9.54	7.34	7.58	3.67	4.18	5.47	5.84	5.21	4.04
Benchmark Volatility 3y (%)	8.45	8.34	11.10	9.14	9.39	4.13	4.64	5.60	6.03	5.27	4.44
As of end of period	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Composite Assets (USD mil)	3,487	3,009	2,866	4,758	5,575	4,649	4,221	5,010	5,578	6,882	7,549
# of Portfolios in Composite	8	10	10	12	12	11	11	11	11	10	8

Source: AXA IM Past results are not indicative of future performance. No assurances can be made that profits will be achieved or that substantial losses will not be incurred. Returns assume the reinvestment of distributions.



# **US DYNAMIC HIGH YIELD COMPOSITE** GIPS Compliant Performance Presentation

### Investment Strategy Objective

Seeks to generate high income by investing in US high yield debt securities and credit default sw aps. This is a total return investment strategy that aims to provide risk-adjusted out-performance, given their respective benchmarks and constraints

### General Information

Reporting date	May 31, 2025
Composite Start Date	February 28, 2014
Composite Creation Date	February 22, 2017
Composite Currency	USD

### **Composite Benchmark**

BofA Merill Lynch US High Yield Index (H0A0)

Calendar year (%)	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	<b>2014</b> *
Composite (Gross)	12.20	18.96	-12.17	7.41	12.67	19.64	-3.87	12.15	24.4	-7.98	1.27
Composite (Net)	11.53	18.26	-12.70	6.77	12.01	18.93	-4.45	11.48	23.67	-8.53	0.77
Benchmark	8.27	13.46	-11.22	5.36	6.17	14.41	-2.26	7.48	17.49	-4.64	-0.25
Composite Volatility 3y (%)	10.15	10.05	13.51	11.48	11.98	5.94	6.08	7.24	N/A	N/A	N/A
Benchmark Volatility 3y (%)	8.45	8.34	11.10	9.14	9.39	4.13	4.64	5.60	N/A	N/A	N/A
As of end of period	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Composite Assets (USD mil)	1,683	964	936	1,444	740	319	214	232	122	93	108
# of Portfolios in Composite	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Source: AXA IM Past results are not indicative of future performance. No assurances can be made that profits will be achieved or that substantial losses will not be incurred. Returns assume the reinvestment of distributions.

# **GIPS®** Performance Disclosure Notes

### Compliance Statement

AXA-IM claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS<sup>®</sup>) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. AXA-IM has been independently verified for the periods 1999-2024. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The AXA IM US Dynamic High Yield Composite has had a performance examination for the periods 2018 - 2020 and 2023 - 2024. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

GIPS<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

### Presentation of the Firm

AXA IM is an active long-term, responsible multi-asset manager with investment centres in the Americas, Asia Pacific and Europe offering the following investment capabilities:

Equity Fundamental (formerly Framlington) - active, bottom-up stock selection approach for core equities and thematic equity strategies incorporating specialist investment capabilities and responsible investing (RI)

Equity QI (Quant Investing) - offering quantitative investing by the use of technology and modelling to deliver fundamental strategies including advanced factor, systematic alpha and targeted outcome, underpinned by environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles ;

**Fixed Income** - a robust, repeatable process, which involves bottom-up credit analysis and top-down macroeconomic research to deliver outcome-oriented solutions that span the fixed income spectrum; a range of high yield strategies investing within and across regions, sectors and maturities. Dedicated high yield teams employ a consistent investment process which has been tested over a range of market cycles and conditions; a strong bottom-up credit analysis and top-down macroeconomic research approach for traditional, benchmarked to fully flexible strategies which employ several different investment styles, including active and buy-and-maintain ;

Multi Asset - a combined fundamental top-down and bottom-up analysis with embedded risk monitoring to all client types for outcome-oriented and customized multi-asset solutions.

Alternative Credit - a broad range of alternative sources of return from across the credit continuum, beyond traditional credit investments, to suit various risk/return and liquidity profiles through standalone and multi-strategy investments;

Listed Real Assets Equity - equity stakes generating rental income and capital appreciation. Our scale and network give us unparalleled abilities to source and deploy capital.

### **GIPS Disclosures**

### List of composites and pooled funds

A list of composite descriptions, a list of pooled fund descriptions for limited distribution pooled funds is available upon request.

A list of broad distribution pooled funds can be obtained from https://www.axa-im.com/fund-centre.

### Policies

Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request

### Use of derivatives

Derivatives are mainly used for hedging purposes. Please refer to composite investment strategy for any use of derivatives.

### Dispersion

Dispersion is defined as the standard deviation of portfolios returns for the period in question, taking into account the portfolio beginning relative weight (equally weighted measure until December 2020, asset weighted dispersion measure since January 2021). It is only displayed if there are at least five portfolios that remain for the entire period in the composite.

### **Benchmark definition**

100% ICE BofA US High Yield Index (H0A0)

### Minimum asset level

For US Fixed Income composites, the lower threshold is defined at 10.000.000 USD, where the upper threshold is not applicable, with a 3-month grace period. For AXA Framlington LatAm composite, the upper threshold is defined at 10.000.000 USD the lower threshold at 8.000.000 USD, with a 3-month grace period.

# **GIPS®** Performance Disclosure Notes (continued)

For Framlington UK composites the upper threshold is defined at 1 000 000 GBP the lower threshold at 900 000 GBP, with a 3-month grace period except for the AXA Framlington Managed

Balanced Composite, the upper threshold is defined 850 000 GBP and lower threshold is 816 000 GBP.

For the composite International Equity, Global Entrepreneur, the upper threshold is defined at 500.000 EUR, where the lower threshold is not applicable, with a 3-month grace period.

For GBP LDI composites, the upper threshold is defined at 5.000.000 GBP and lower threshold is 4.000.000 GBP, with a 6-month grace period.

For all other composites, the upper threshold is defined at 10.000.000 EUR the lower threshold at 8.000.000 EUR, with a 6-month grace period.

### Performance result / fees

Composite net returns are calculated using the standard ("model") management fees related to the strategy to calculate the net of fee returns. To calculate the composite net of fee return one twelvth of the standard management fee is subtracted from the monthly gross of fee composite return. Composite returns are calculated gross of fees. Gross of fees returns are calculated gross of management and custodial fees and net of all actual trading expenses. Returns are gross of any withholding taxes.

### Calculation methodology

Composite performance is calculated on a monthly basis as follows:

-The portfolios entering the performance calculation are determined according to the Minimum Asset Level and Buffer Rule described above.

-Each portfolio brings its own specific start and end dates to the calculation, depending on the particular valuation dates of the portfolio.

-The performance of each portfolio is calculated using the start and end dates relevant to the period in question, and using daily-weighted cashflows.

-The performance of a composite is calculated as a weighted average (using each portfolio's assets under management as at each portfolio's specific start date for the period in question) of the performances of the portfolios.

-Quarterly, annual, cumulative and since-inception returns are calculated by linking the composite monthly returns through compounded multiplication.

-The benchmark return is calculated using monthly cash flows and do not include potential transaction costs or management fees.

-The Annualized Performance is shown on a 365 days basis.

### Additionnal risk measures

Volatility : the volatility is a statistical measure (standard deviation) of a portfolio's dispersion of returns. It can be viewed as an indicator of uncertainty or risk, related to the size of changes in a security's value.

Tracking Error : the tracking error is the standard deviation of the difference between the returns of a portfolio and its benchmark. It can be viewed as an indicator of how actively the portfolio is managed as compared to the benchmark.

Sharpe Ratio : the Sharpe ratio is the portfolio's return earned in excess of the risk-free rate per unit of risk (volatility). It can be viewed as an indicator to help investors understand the return of an investment compared to its risk.

Information Ratio : the information ratio is the portfolio's return earned in excess of its benchmark return compared to the tracking error. It can be viewed as an indicator of a portfolio manager's level of skill and ability to consistently generate excess returns relative to a benchmark.

Risk free rates used : - USD = Federal Funds Effective Rate US Capitalized - EUR = ESTER Capitalized from November 2019, EONIA Capitalized from inception to October 2019 - GBP = SONIA O/N DEPOSIT rates SWAP Capitalized - CHF = SARON Capitalized Index from May 2021, CHF Libor overnight Capitalized from inception to April 2021, other currencies available upon request.

All risk measures presented are calculated using gross returns.

### Disclaimer

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