Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”)

The SAI provides additional information about the Funds. This SAI is not a prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the Fund’s current prospectus (the “Prospectus”). This SAI incorporates by reference the funds’ most recent annual report to shareholders, if any.

Contacting the Funds
You may obtain free copies of the annual reports, prospectus and the SAI, request other information and discuss your questions about the Funds by calling Shareholder Services at (888) 992-2765 or by contacting the Funds at:

Absolute Funds
c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC
4221 North 203rd Street, Suite 100
Elkhorn, NE 68022-3474

The Funds’ Prospectus, SAI and annual and semi-annual reports are available, without charge, on Absolute’s website at: www.absoluteadvisers.com.

Securities and Exchange Commission Information
Fund information, including copies of the annual and semi-annual reports and the SAI, is available on the SEC’s EDGAR database website at www.sec.gov.

You may also obtain copies of this information, for a duplication fee, by sending an email request to publicinfo@sec.gov.

Distributor
Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC
225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450
Cincinnati, OH 45246
Statement of Additional Information

September 5, 2023

ABSOLUTE CAPITAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND
INSTITUTIONAL SHARES (CAPOX)

ABSOLUTE CONVERTIBLE ARBITRAGE FUND
INSTITUTIONAL SHARES (ARBIX)
INVESTOR SHARES (ARBOX)

ABSOLUTE FLEXIBLE FUND
INSTITUTIONAL SHARES (FLXIX)

ABSOLUTE STRATEGIES FUND
INSTITUTIONAL SHARES (ASFIX)

Investment Adviser:
Absolute Investment Advisers LLC
82 S. Barrett Square, Unit G
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Account Information
and Shareholder Services:
Absolute Funds
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4221 North 203rd Street, Suite 100
Elkhorn, NE 68022-3474
(888) 992-2765

This Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”) supplements the prospectus dated September 5, 2023, as it may be amended from time to time (the “Prospectus”), offering Institutional Shares of the Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund, Absolute Flexible Fund, and Absolute Strategies Fund (each a “Fund”, and collectively the “Funds”), a separate series of the Unified Series Trust (the “Trust”). This SAI is not a prospectus and should only be read in conjunction with the Prospectus. You may obtain the Prospectus without charge by contacting Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (“Ultimus”) at the address, telephone number or e-mail address listed above. You may also obtain the Prospectus on Absolute’s website listed above. This SAI is incorporated by reference into the Funds’ Prospectus. In other words, it is legally a part of the Prospectus.

Financial statements for the Predecessor Funds for the year ended March 31, 2023, are included in the Annual Report to shareholders and are incorporated into this SAI by reference. Copies of the Predecessor Funds’ Annual Report and Semi-Annual Report may be obtained without charge and upon request, by contacting Ultimus at the address or telephone number listed above. You may also obtain copies of each Predecessor Fund’s most recent Annual Report and Semi-Annual Report on Absolute’s website listed above.
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KEY DEFINED TERMS

As used in this SAI, the following terms have the meanings listed.

“1933 Act” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, including rules, regulations, SEC interpretations, and any exemptive orders or interpretive relief promulgated thereunder.

“1940 Act” means the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, including rules, regulations, SEC interpretations, and any exemptive orders or interpretive relief promulgated thereunder.

“Adviser” or “Absolute” means Absolute Investment Advisers LLC, the Funds’ investment adviser.

“Board” means the Board of Trustees of the Trust.

“Independent Trustees” means trustees who are not interested persons of the Trust, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

“IRC” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

“IRS” means the Internal Revenue Service.

“NAV” means net asset value per share.

“RIC” means a domestic corporation qualified as a “regulated investment company” (as defined in Subchapter M of Chapter 1, Subtitle A, of the IRC).

“SEC” means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

“Subadviser” means Kovitz Investment Group Partners, LLC, the subadviser to the Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund and any other subadviser approved by the Board of Trustees from time to time pursuant to the Manager Of Managers Structure.
DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST AND FUNDS

The Funds are organized as a diversified series of Unified Series Trust (the “Trust”). The Trust is an open-end investment company established under the laws of Ohio by an Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated October 14, 2002, as amended (the “Trust Agreement”). The Trust Agreement permits the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) to issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest of separate series without par value. The Fund is one of a series of funds currently authorized by the Board.

The Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, Absolute Flexible Fund, and Absolute Strategies Fund currently offer one class of shares: Institutional Class. The Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund currently offers two classes of shares: Institutional Class and Investor Class. Each share represents an equal proportionate interest in the assets and liabilities belonging to the applicable class of a Fund and is entitled to such dividends and distributions out of income belonging to the applicable class of the Fund as are declared by the Board. Expenses attributable to any class are borne by that class. On matters that affect a Fund as a whole, each class has the same voting and other rights and preferences as any other class. On matters that affect only one class, only shareholders of that class may vote. Each class votes separately on matters affecting only that class, or as expressly required to be voted on separately by state or federal law. Shares of each class of a series have the same voting and other rights and preferences as the other classes and series of the Trust for matters that affect the Trust as a whole. The Funds may offer additional classes of shares in the future.

The Funds do not issue share certificates. All shares are held in non-certificate form registered on the books of the Funds and the Funds’ transfer agent for the account of the shareholder. The shares do not have cumulative voting rights or any preemptive or conversion rights, and the Board has the authority from time to time to divide or combine the shares of any series into a greater or lesser number of shares of that series so long as the proportionate beneficial interest in the assets belonging to that series and the rights of shares of any other series are in no way affected. In case of any liquidation of a series, the holders of shares of the series being liquidated will be entitled to receive as a class a distribution out of the assets, net of the liabilities, belonging to that series. Expenses attributable to any series are borne by that series. Any general expenses of the Trust not readily identifiable as belonging to a particular series are allocated by or under the direction of the Board in such manner as the Board determines to be fair and equitable. No shareholder is liable to further calls or to assessment by the Trust without his or her express consent.

Any Trustee of the Trust may be removed by vote of the shareholders holding not less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the Trust. The Trust does not hold an annual meeting of shareholders. When matters are submitted to shareholders for a vote, each shareholder is entitled to one vote for each whole share he or she owns and fractional votes for fractional shares he or she owns. All shares of the Fund have equal voting rights and liquidation rights. The Trust Agreement can be amended by the Board, except that certain amendments that could adversely affect the rights of shareholders must be approved by the shareholders affected. All shares of the Funds are subject to involuntary redemption if the Board determines to liquidate the Fund. A Fund will provide notice to the shareholders if the Board determines, in its sole judgment, to liquidate that Fund, but the Fund will not be required to obtain shareholder approval prior to such liquidation. An involuntary redemption will create a capital gain or a capital loss, which may have tax consequences about which you should consult your tax adviser.

For information concerning the purchase and redemption of shares of the Funds, see “Your Account” in the Funds’ Prospectus.
INVESTMENT POLICIES AND RISKS

This section supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, the Prospectus. The following are descriptions of the investments and investment practices that the Funds may pursue (in addition to those described in the Prospectus) and the associated risks. Please see the Prospectus for a discussion of the Funds’ investment objective, principal investment strategies and principal risks.

The Funds acquired all of the assets and liabilities of Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund, Absolute Flexible Fund, and Absolute Strategies Fund, each a series of Forum Funds (the “Predecessor Funds”), in a tax-free reorganization on September 8, 2023 (the “Reorganization”). Each of the Predecessor Funds had the same investment objectives, strategies and policies as the corresponding Fund at the time of the Reorganization. Absolute was also the investment adviser to the Predecessor Funds.

A. Security Ratings Information

The Funds’ investments in fixed-income, preferred stock and convertible securities are subject to the credit risk relating to the financial condition of the issuers of the securities. The Funds may invest in investment grade securities and non-investment grade securities. The lowest ratings that are investment grade for corporate bonds, including convertible securities, are “Baa” in the case of Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) and “BBB” in the cases of Standard & Poor’s Financial Services, LLC, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (“S&P”) and Fitch, Inc. (“Fitch”); for preferred stock the lowest ratings are “Baa” in the case of Moody’s and “BBB” in the cases of S&P and Fitch. Non-investment grade fixed-income securities (commonly known as “junk bonds”) are inherently speculative and generally involve greater volatility of price than investment grade securities. The Funds may purchase unrated securities, if at the time of purchase, Absolute believes that they are of comparable quality to rated securities that the Funds may purchase. Unrated securities may not be as actively traded as rated securities.

Moody’s, S&P, Fitch and other organizations, together known as Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (“NRSROs”), provide ratings of the credit quality of debt obligations, including convertible securities. A description of the range of ratings assigned to various types of bonds and other securities is included in Appendix A to this SAI. Absolute or a Subadviser may use these ratings to determine whether to purchase, sell or hold a security. Ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Credit ratings attempt to evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments and do not evaluate the risks of fluctuations in market value. An issuer’s current financial condition may be better or worse than a rating indicates.

B. Equity Securities

Equity Securities. Equity securities in which the Funds may invest include common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, warrants, rights and depositary receipts. Common stocks are the most familiar type of equity security. Common stocks generally represent the riskiest investment in a company. Different types of equity securities provide different voting and dividend rights and priority in the event of the bankruptcy and/or insolvency of a company.

Common stocks and preferred stocks represent shares of ownership in a company. Preferred stocks usually have specific dividends and rank after bonds and before common stock in claims on assets of the corporation should it be dissolved. Increases and decreases in earnings are usually reflected in a corporation’s stock price. Convertible securities are debt or preferred equity securities convertible into common stock. Usually, convertible securities pay dividends or interest at rates higher than common stock, but lower than other securities. Convertible securities usually participate to some extent in the appreciation or depreciation of the underlying stock into which they are convertible. Depositary receipts typically are issued by banks or trust companies and evidence ownership of underlying equity securities. Warrants are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price anytime during the life of the warrants.

While past performance does not guarantee future results, equity securities historically have provided the greatest long-term growth potential of an investment in a company. However, stock markets are volatile, and the value of securities held by the Funds will be affected by changes in the company’s financial condition, economic and political
conditions, and the stock markets, which may be the result of domestic or international political or economic news, changes in interest rates or changing investor sentiment. Other factors may also affect a particular stock’s prices, such as poor earnings reports by an issuer, loss of major customers, major litigation against an issuer, or changes in governmental regulations affecting an industry. The equity securities of smaller companies are more sensitive to these changes than those of larger companies. The Funds may experience a substantial or complete loss on an equity investment.

**Convertible Securities.** A convertible security is a bond, debenture, note, preferred stock, or other security or debt obligation that may be converted into or exchanged for a given amount of common stock of the same or a different issuer during a specified period and at a specified price or formula in the future. Convertible securities generally have features of, and risks associated with, both equity and fixed income instruments. As such, the value of most convertible securities will vary with changes in the price of, and will be subject to the risks associated with, the underlying common stock. Additionally, convertible securities are also subject to the risk that the issuer may not be able to pay principal or interest when due.

Convertible securities rank senior to common stock in a company’s capital structure but are usually subordinated to comparable non-convertible securities. Convertible securities are often rated below investment grade or not rated because they fall below debt obligations and just above common equity in order of preference or priority on an issuer’s balance sheet. Convertible securities have unique investment characteristics in that they generally: (1) are less subject to fluctuation in value than the underlying common stock since they have fixed-income characteristics; and (2) provide the potential for capital appreciation if the market price of the underlying common stock increases.

The value of a convertible security is a function of (1) its yield in comparison to the yields of other securities of comparable maturity and quality that do not have a conversion privilege and (2) its worth if converted into the underlying common stock. The value of a convertible security is influenced by interest rate changes, with investment values declining as interest rates increase and increasing as interest rates decline. The credit standing of the issuer and other factors also may have an effect on the convertible security’s investment value.

If the convertible security’s “conversion value,” which is the market value of the underlying common stock that would be obtained upon the conversion of the convertible security, is substantially below the “investment value,” which is the value of a convertible security viewed without regard to its conversion feature (i.e., strictly on the basis of its yield), the price of the convertible security is governed principally by its investment value. If the conversion value of a convertible security increases to a point that approximates or exceeds its investment value, the value of the security will be principally influenced by its conversion value. A convertible security will sell at a premium over its conversion value to the extent investors place value on the right to acquire the underlying common stock while holding an income-producing security.

A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a price established in the convertible security’s governing instrument. If a convertible security is called for redemption, the Funds will be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security, convert it into the underlying common stock or sell it to a third party, which may adversely impact the Fund.

**Convertible Arbitrage.** Convertible arbitrage involves buying convertible bonds (bonds that are convertible into common stock) or shares of convertible preferred stock (stock that is convertible into common stock) that are believed to be undervalued. In addition to taking “long” positions (i.e., owning the security) in convertible bonds or convertible preferred stock, the Funds may take “short” positions (i.e., borrowing and later selling the security) in the underlying common stock into which the convertible securities are exchangeable in order to hedge against market risk. The strategy is intended to capitalize on relative pricing inefficiencies between the related securities. This strategy may be employed with a directional bias (anticipating the direction of the market) or on a market neutral basis (the direction of the market does not have a significant impact on returns). The source of return from this strategy arises from the fact that convertible bonds may be undervalued relative to other securities due to the complexity of investing in these securities.

Convertible arbitrage is subject to special risks. The identification and exploitation of market opportunities involve uncertainty. No assurance can be given that Absolute will be able to locate investment opportunities or to exploit price discrepancies correctly. A material risk associated with the strategy is that, in the event of an issuer bankruptcy,
the gain on any short position held by a Fund may not fully cover the loss on the convertible security. Convertible arbitrage strategies may also be adversely affected by changes in the level of interest rates, downgrades in credit ratings, credit spread fluctuations, defaults and lack of liquidity. A default in interest or principal payments by an issuer could result in a loss of income to a Fund, or a decline in the market value of the securities. Market events may cause certain investors to sell large amounts of convertible securities and adversely affect their market price. The Funds may also realize losses if a transaction is terminated or delayed. Trading for convertible arbitrage strategies may materially increase the Funds’ portfolio turnover rate and result in high transaction costs and capital gains tax liabilities. Borrowing securities to cover short positions, as required by regulations, poses additional risks of loss, particularly to the extent that a transaction is terminated or delayed.

Warrants and Rights. Warrants are securities permitting, but not obligating, their holder to subscribe for other securities or commodities and provide the Funds with the right to purchase at a later date other securities of the issuer. Rights are similar to warrants but typically are issued by a company to existing holders of its stock and provide those holders the right to purchase additional shares of stock at a later date. Rights also normally have a shorter duration than warrants.

Warrants and rights do not carry with them the right to dividends or voting rights with respect to the securities that they entitle their holder to purchase, and they do not represent any rights in the assets of the issuer. Warrants and rights may be more speculative than certain other types of investments and entail risks that are not associated with a similar investment in a traditional equity instrument.

The Funds will limit their purchases of warrants to not more than 5% of the value of its net assets. The Funds may also invest up to 5% of their net assets in stock rights.

Investments in warrants and rights also involve certain risks, including the possible lack of a liquid market for the resale of the warrants and rights, potential price fluctuations due to adverse market conditions or other factors and failure of the price of the common stock to rise. If the warrant or right is not exercised within the specified time period, it becomes worthless.

Depositary Receipts.

Depositary receipts represent ownership interests in securities of foreign companies (an “underlying issuer”) that have been deposited with a bank or trust and that trade on an exchange or over-the-counter. Depositary receipts are not necessarily denominated in the same currency as the underlying securities. Depositary receipts include American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”), and Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”), among other instruments. Depositary receipts involve many of the same risks of investing directly in foreign securities, including currency risks and risks of foreign investing.

Depositary receipts may be sponsored or unsponsored. Unsponsored depositary receipts may be created without the participation of the foreign issuer. Holders of these receipts generally bear all the costs of the depositary receipt facility, whereas foreign issuers typically bear certain costs in a sponsored depositary receipt. Further, issuers of securities underlying unsponsored depositary receipts have no obligation to disclose material information in the U.S. Accordingly, available information concerning such an issuer may not be current, and the prices of unsponsored depositary receipts may be more volatile than the prices of sponsored depositary receipts.

ADRs typically are issued by a United States of America (“U.S.”) bank or trust company, evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign company and are designed for use in the U.S. securities markets. Most ADRs are denominated in U.S. dollars and are traded on a U.S. stock exchange. However, they are subject to the risk of fluctuation in the currency exchange rate if, as is often the case, the underlying securities are denominated in foreign currency. Also, the securities underlying ADRs typically trade on foreign exchanges at times when the U.S. markets are not open for trading. As a result, the value of ADRs representing those underlying securities may change materially at times when the U.S. markets are not open for trading.
EDRs are receipts issued by European financial institutions. They are often denominated in a foreign currency and typically trade in Europe. GDRs are receipts issued by either a U.S. or non-U.S. banking institution evidencing its ownership of the underlying foreign securities and are often denominated in U.S. dollars. IDR receipts are issued by a foreign bank or trust company evidencing its ownership of the underlying foreign securities.

The Funds will not invest in any depositary receipts that the Adviser deems to be illiquid or for which pricing information is not readily available.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts and Royalty Trusts.** The Funds may purchase interests in real estate investment trusts (“REITs”) and royalty trusts. A REIT is a company that pools investor funds to invest primarily in income producing real estate or real estate related loans or interests. A royalty trust is an entity that typically owns oil or natural gas wells or the mineral rights of wells and of property, such as mines.

Because REITs and royalty trusts have ongoing fees and expenses, which may include management, operating and administration expenses, REIT and royalty trust shareholders, including the Fund, will indirectly bear a proportionate share of those expenses in addition to the expenses of the Fund. However, such expenses are not considered to be Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and, therefore, are not reflected as such in the Funds’ fee table.

REITs may be affected by changes in their underlying properties and by defaults by borrowers or tenants. Mortgage REITs may be affected by the quality of the credit extended. Furthermore, REITs are dependent on specialized management skills. Some REITs may have limited diversification and may be subject to risks inherent in financing a limited number of properties. REITs depend generally on their ability to generate cash flow to make distributions to shareholders or unitholders and may be subject to defaults by borrowers and to self-liquidations. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to their shareholders if, among other things, they distribute substantially all of their taxable income (other than net capital gains) for each taxable year. The performance of a REIT would likely be affected by its failure to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income under the IRC, however, including regulations thereunder and IRS interpretations or similar authority upon which the Funds may rely or its failure to maintain exemption from registration under the 1940 Act.

Royalty trusts may be subject to certain risks associated with a decline in demand for crude oil, natural gas and refined petroleum products, which, in turn, could adversely affect income and royalty trust revenues and cash flows. Factors that could lead to a decrease in market demand include a recession or other adverse economic conditions, an increase in the market price of the underlying commodity, higher taxes or other regulatory actions that increase costs, or a shift in consumer demand for such products. A rising interest rate environment could adversely impact the performance of royalty trusts. Rising interest rates could limit the capital appreciation of royalty trusts because of the increased availability of alternative investments at more competitive yields.

**Investments in LLCs and LPs.** The Funds may invest in one or more limited liability companies (“LLCs”) and limited partnerships (“LPs”). Certain LLCs and LPs in which the Funds invests may be operating companies or private funds. Private funds are investment vehicles that are not registered under the 1940 Act. Certain shares of the operating companies and private funds that are organized as LLCs and LPs may not be registered under the 1933 Act.

For a discussion of the tax risks related to investments in LLCs and LPs, see “TAXATION — Certain Tax Rules Applicable to Fund Transactions - Investments in LLCs, LPs and Grantor Trusts.” The Funds will monitor such investments to assure its compliance with the tax requirements of regulated investment companies.

**Initial Public Offerings.** The Funds may purchase securities of companies in initial public offerings. Special risks associated with initial public offerings may include a limited number of shares available for trading, unseasoned trading, lack of investor knowledge of the company and limited operating history. These factors may contribute to substantial price volatility for the shares of these companies. The limited number of shares available for trading in some initial public offerings may make it more difficult for the Funds to buy or sell significant amounts of shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. Some companies whose shares are sold through initial public offerings are involved in relatively new industries or lines of business, which may not be widely understood by investors. Some of these companies may be undercapitalized or regarded as developmental stage companies without revenues or operating income, or the near-term prospects of achieving them.
**Master Limited Partnerships.** The Funds may directly invest a portion of its total assets in the equity or debt securities of MLPs, which are limited partnerships in which the ownership units are publicly traded. MLP units are registered with the SEC and are freely traded on a securities exchange or in the OTC market. MLPs often own several properties or businesses (or own interests) that are related to real estate development and oil and gas industries, but they also may finance motion pictures, research and development and other projects. Generally, a MLP is operated under the supervision of one or more managing general partners. Limited partners are not involved in the day-to-day management of the partnership. The risks of investing in a MLP are generally those involved in investing in a partnership as opposed to a corporation. For example, state law governing partnerships is often less restrictive than state law governing corporations. Accordingly, there may be fewer protections afforded investors in a MLP than investors in a corporation. Additional risks involved with investing in a MLP are risks associated with the specific industry or industries in which the partnership invests, such as the risks of investing in real estate, or oil and gas industries.

MLPs generally do not pay U.S. federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner in an MLP is allocated a share of the MLP’s income, gains, losses, deductions, and expenses. A change in current tax law, or a change in the underlying business mix of a given MLP, could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. This would result in the MLP being required to pay U.S. federal income tax on its taxable income and could result in lower income to a Fund and a reduction in the value of the Fund’s investment in the MLP. Additionally, mutual funds seeking to be taxed as regulated investment companies, such as a Fund, are limited in their ability to invest in MLPs by current federal tax rules. If a mutual fund invests more than 25% of the value of its total assets in MLP securities, it will be subject to federal corporate income tax.

**C. Fixed-Income Securities**

**General**

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Funds may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. government securities may be backed by the credit of the government as a whole or only by the issuing agency. It is possible that the U.S. government would not provide financial support to its agencies if not required to do so by law. U.S. Treasury bonds, notes, and bills and some agency securities, such as those issued by the Federal Housing Administration and the Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA”), are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government as to payment of principal and interest and are the highest quality government securities. Other securities issued by U.S. government agencies or instrumentalities, such as securities issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, are supported only by the credit of the agency that issued them, and not by the U.S. government. Securities issued by the Federal Farm Credit System, the Federal Land Banks, and the Federal Home Loan Banks are supported by the agency’s right to borrow money from the U.S. Treasury under certain circumstances but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. If a U.S. government agency in which the Fund invests defaults and the U.S. government does not stand behind the obligation, the Fund’s share price could fall.

**Bank Loans.** The Funds may invest in bank loans. By purchasing a loan, the Funds acquires some or all of the interest of a bank or other lender in a loan to a particular borrower. The Funds may purchase participations in loans and may purchase assignments of such loans. Investments in loan participations are considered to be debt obligations for purposes of any investment restriction relating to the lending by the Funds and, as indebtedness, bank loans are subject to credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk, each of which is discussed in more detail in this SAI.

As the purchaser of a bank loan, the Funds will depend primarily upon the creditworthiness of the borrower for payment of principal and interest. If a Fund does not receive scheduled interest or principal payments on such indebtedness, the Funds’ share price could be adversely affected. In addition, the Funds may only be able to enforce its rights through the lender and may assume the credit risk of the lender in addition to that of the borrower.

Bank loans may be secured or unsecured. Loans that are fully secured offer the Funds more protection than an unsecured loan in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal. However, there is no assurance that the liquidation of collateral from a secured loan would satisfy the borrower’s obligation, or that the collateral can be liquidated.
A loan is often administered by an “agent bank,” which may be a financial intermediary of any sort, acting as agent for all participation holders. The agent bank is normally responsible for the collection of principal and interest payments from the borrower and the apportionment of these payments to the credit of all institutions that are parties to the loan agreement. Unless, under the terms of the loan or other indebtedness, the Funds has direct recourse against the borrower, the Funds may have to rely on the agent bank to apply appropriate credit remedies against the lender and borrower.

An agent bank may be terminated in the event that it fails to observe a requisite standard of care or becomes insolvent. A successor agent bank would generally be appointed, and assets held by the agent bank under the loan agreement should remain available to holders of the bank loan. However, if assets held by the agent bank for the benefit of the Funds were determined to be subject to the claims of the agent bank’s general creditors, the Funds might incur costs and delays in realizing payment on the investment and could suffer a loss of principal and/or interest.

The Funds may invest in loan participations that are rated by a nationally recognized rating service or unrated. The Funds do not expect all of the participations in which it invests to be rated. Even with respect to loans that are rated, Absolute and the Subadviser will perform a credit analysis of the borrower in order to make an investment decision. The Funds may invest in loan participations of any credit quality. Indebtedness of companies whose creditworthiness is poor involves substantially greater risks and may be highly speculative. Consequently, when investing in indebtedness of companies with poor credit, the Funds bears a substantial risk of losing the entire amount invested. When the Funds acquire loans through assignments, it may not be able to unilaterally enforce all rights or remedies under the loan with respect to associated collateral.

Certain loans may be subject to the risk that a court, pursuant to fraudulent conveyance or other laws, could subordinate a loan to presently existing or future indebtedness of the borrower or take other action detrimental to the holder of the loan; including, in certain circumstances, invalidating the loan or causing interest previously paid to be refunded. Such events could negatively affect the Funds’ performance.

While some bank loans are traded and may be deemed to be liquid, others, such as loan assignments, loan participations, delayed funding loans, revolving credit facilities, bridge loans and similar types of indebtedness may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. The liquidity of each loan investment will be reviewed according to the requirements of the Trust’s liquidity policy. It may be difficult or impossible to dispose of certain bank loans readily at what a Subadviser believes to be a fair price. Further, the valuation of certain bank loans involves a degree of judgment and may result in significant variations in the Funds’ net asset value.

The Funds currently intend to treat indebtedness for which there is no readily available market as illiquid for purposes of the Funds’ limitation on illiquid investments. (See the discussion entitled “Illiquid and Restricted Securities.”) Long settlement periods for transactions in bank loans may impede the ability to timely honor redemptions. The settlement process may take longer than seven days. Although bank loans can be sold during the settlement period, some indebtedness may be difficult or impossible to dispose of within seven days at what Absolute believes to be a fair price and, in those instances, where the loans can be neither sold nor settled, they will be treated as illiquid for the purposes of the Funds’ limitation on illiquid investments. Long settlement periods for transactions in bank loans may impede the ability to timely honor redemptions.

Further, the Funds limit the amount of its total assets that it will invest in any one issuer or in issuers within the same industry (see “Investment Limitations”). For purposes of these limits, the Funds will generally treat the borrower as the “issuer” of indebtedness held by the Fund. Treating a financial intermediary as an issuer of indebtedness may restrict the Funds’ ability to invest in indebtedness related to a group of intermediaries engaged in the same industry, even if the underlying borrowers represent many different companies and industries.

Investments in loans through a direct assignment of a participation may involve additional risks. For example, if the loan is foreclosed, the Funds could become part owner of any collateral securing it and would bear the costs and liabilities associated with owning and disposing of it. In addition, under emerging legal theories of lender liability, the Funds could be held liable as co-lender.
Certain bank loans may include equity features, such as warrants and conversion rights. These investments involve the additional risks of an equity investment, including potential volatility, valuation difficulties, illiquidity and significant loss, particularly if the equity features expire worthless or is not exercised.

Bank loans may not be considered “securities” for certain purposes of the federal securities laws and purchasers, such as the Fund, therefore may not be entitled to rely on the anti-fraud protections of the federal securities laws. The amount of public information with respect to loans is generally less extensive than that available for other securities.

Corporate Debt Obligations. The Funds may invest in corporate debt obligations. Corporate debt obligations include corporate bonds, debentures, notes, commercial paper and other similar debt obligations, which are instruments, used by companies to borrow money from investors. The issuer pays the investor a fixed or variable rate of interest and must repay the amount borrowed at maturity. Commercial paper (short-term unsecured promissory notes) is issued by companies to finance their current obligations and normally has a maturity of less than 9 months. The Funds may also invest in corporate fixed-income securities registered and sold in the U.S. by foreign issuers (Yankee bonds) and those sold outside the U.S. by foreign or U.S. issuers (Eurobonds).

Treasury Inflation Protected Securities. The Funds may invest in treasury inflation protected securities (“TIPS”). The value of inflation-protected securities generally fluctuates in response to changes in real interest rates, which are in turn tied to the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. Therefore, if inflation were to rise at a faster rate than nominal interest rates, real interest rates might decline, leading to an increase in the value of inflation-protected securities. In contrast, if nominal interest rates increase at a faster rate than inflation, real interest rates might rise, leading to a decrease in the value of inflation-protected securities. If a Fund purchases inflation-protected securities in the secondary market whose principal values have been adjusted upward due to inflation since issuance, the Fund may experience a loss if there is a subsequent period of deflation. The inflation protected securities markets are generally much smaller and less liquid than the nominal bonds from the same issuers and as such can suffer losses during times of economic stress or illiquidity.

Mortgage-Backed Securities. MBS are “pass through” securities, meaning that a pro rata share of regular interest and principal payments, as well as unscheduled early prepayments, on the underlying mortgage pool is passed through monthly to the holder. MBS may include conventional mortgage pass through securities, participation interests in pools of adjustable and fixed rate mortgage loans, stripped securities (described herein), floating rate mortgage-backed securities and certain classes of multiple class CMOs. MBS pay principal to the holder over their term, which differs from other forms of debt securities that normally provide for principal payment at maturity or specified call dates. MBS are subject to the general risks associated with investing in real estate securities; that is, they may lose value if the value of the underlying real estate to which a pool of mortgages relates declines. In addition, investments in MBS involve certain specific risks, including the failure of a party to meet its commitments under the related operative documents, adverse interest rate changes, and the effects of prepayments on mortgage cash flows and that any guarantee or other structural feature, if present, is insufficient to enable the timely payment of interest and principal on the MBS. Although certain MBS are guaranteed as to timely payment of interest and principal by a government-sponsored enterprise, the market price for such securities is not guaranteed and will fluctuate. Certain MBS may be purchased on a when-issued basis subject to certain limitations and requirements.

There are currently four types of MBS: (1) those issued by the U.S. Government or one of its agencies or instrumentalities, such as the Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA”), the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”); (2) those issued by private issuers that represent an interest in or are collateralized by pass through securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or one of its agencies or instrumentalities; (3) those issued by the U.S. Government or one of its agencies or instrumentalities without a government guarantee, such as credit risk transfer bonds; and (4) those issued by private issuers that represent an interest in or are collateralized by whole mortgage loans or pass through securities without a government guarantee but that usually have some form of private credit enhancement. Privately issued MBS are structured similar to GNMA, FNMA and FHLMC MBS, and are issued by originators or and investors in mortgage loans, including depositary institutions mortgage banks and special purpose subsidiaries of the foregoing.

Privately Issued Mortgage-Backed Securities. The Funds may invest in privately issued mortgage-backed securities. Mortgage-backed securities offered by private issuers include pass-through securities consisting of pools of conventional residential mortgage loans; mortgage-backed bonds, which are considered to be debt obligations of
the institution issuing the bonds and are collateralized by mortgage loans; and bonds and collateralized mortgage
obligations that are collateralized by mortgage-backed securities issued by GNMA, FNMA or FHLMC or by pools of
conventional mortgages of multi-family or of commercial mortgage loans.

Privately issued mortgage-backed securities generally offer a higher rate of interest (but greater credit and interest rate
risk) than securities issued by U.S. Government issuers because there are no direct or indirect governmental guarantees
of payment. Many nongovernmental issuers or servicers of mortgage-backed securities guarantee or provide insurance
for timely payment of interest and principal on the securities. The market for privately issued mortgage-backed
securities is smaller and less liquid than the market for mortgage-backed securities issued by U.S. government issuers.

Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities. The Funds may invest in stripped mortgage-backed securities. Stripped
mortgage-backed securities are multi-class mortgage-backed securities that are created by separating the securities
into their principal and interest components and selling each piece separately. Stripped mortgage-backed securities
are usually structured with two classes that receive different proportions of the interest and principal distributions in
a pool of mortgage assets.

Collateralized Obligations. The Funds may invest in collateralized mortgage obligations ("CMOs") that are
collateralized by mortgage-backed securities issued by GNMA, FHLMC or FNMA ("Mortgage Assets"). CMOs are
multiple-class debt obligations. Payments of principal and interest on the Mortgage Assets are passed through to the
holders of the CMOs as they are received, although certain classes (often referred to as "tranches") of CMOs have
priority over other classes with respect to the receipt of mortgage prepayments. Each tranche is issued at a specific or
floating coupon rate and has a stated maturity or final distribution date. Interest is paid or accrues in all tranches on a
monthly, quarterly or semi-annual basis. Payments of principal and interest on Mortgage Assets are commonly applied
to the tranches in the order of their respective maturities or final distribution dates, so that generally, no payment of
principal will be made on any tranche until all other tranches with earlier stated maturity or distribution dates have
been paid in full. The Funds may also invest in collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs"), which include collateralized
bond obligations ("CBOs"), collateralized loan obligations ("CL0s") and other similarly structured securities. CBOs
and CLOs are types of asset-backed securities. A CBO is a trust which is backed by a diversified pool of high risk,
below investment grade fixed-income securities. A CLO is a trust typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which
may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate
corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans.

For both CBOs and CLOs, the cash flows from the trust are split into two or more portions, called tranches, varying
in risk and yield. The riskiest portion is the "equity" tranche which bears the bulk of defaults from the bonds or loans
in the trust and serves to protect the other, more senior tranches from default in all but the most severe circumstances.

Since it is partially protected from defaults, a senior tranche from a CBO trust or CLO trust typically have higher ratings
and lower yields than their underlying securities and can be rated investment grade. Despite the protection from the
equity tranche, CBO or CLO tranches can experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to
defaults due to collateral default and disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, and
aversion to CBO or CLO securities as a class.

The risks of an investment in a CDO depend largely on the type of the collateral securities and the class of the CDO
in which the Funds invest. Normally, CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs are privately offered and sold, and thus, are not
registered under the securities laws. As a result, investments in CDOs may be characterized by the Funds as illiquid
securities; however, an active dealer market may exist for CDOs allowing a CDO to qualify for Rule 144A
transactions. In addition to the normal risks associated with fixed-income securities discussed elsewhere in the SAI
and the Prospectus (e.g., interest rate risk and default risk), CDOs carry additional risks including, but are not limited
to: (1) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other
payments; (2) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default; (3) the Funds may invest in CDOs that are
subordinate to other classes; and (4) the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of
investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.

Asset-Backed Securities. The Funds may invest in asset-backed securities ("ABS"), including asset-backed
commercial paper. ABS are collateralized by pools of automobile loans, educational loans, home equity loans, credit
card receivables, equipment or automobile leases, commercial mortgage-backed securities ("MBS"), utilities
receivables, secured or unsecured bonds issued by corporate or sovereign obligors, unsecured loans made to a variety of corporate commercial and industrial loan customers of one or more lending banks, or a combination of these bonds and loans. ABS are “pass through” securities, meaning that principal and interest payments made by the borrower on the underlying assets are passed through to the ABS holder. ABS are issued through special purpose vehicles that are bankruptcy remote from the issuer of the collateral. ABS are subject to interest rate risk and prepayment risk. Some ABS may receive prepayments that can change their effective maturities. Issuers of ABS may have limited ability to enforce the security interest in the underlying assets or may have no security in the underlying assets, and credit enhancements provided to support the securities, if any, may be inadequate to protect investors in the event of default. In addition, ABS may experience losses on the underlying assets as a result of certain rights provided to consumer debtors under federal and state law. The value of ABS may be affected by the factors described above and other factors, such as the availability of information concerning the pool and its structure, the creditworthiness of the servicing agent for the pool, the originator of the underlying assets or the entities providing credit enhancements and the ability of the servicer to service the underlying collateral. The value of ABS representing interests in a pool of utilities receivables may be adversely affected by changes in government regulations. While certain ABS may be insured as to the payment of principal and interest, this insurance does not protect the market value of such obligations or the Fund’s net asset value. The value of an insured security will be affected by the credit standing of its insurer.

**Junk Bonds.** The Funds may invest in fixed-income securities rated below investment grade. These securities are commonly referred to as “high yield securities” and “junk bonds” and are deemed inherently speculative with respect to the issuer’s capacity to pay interest and repay principal and may involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. These securities are subject to specific risks that may not be present with investments of higher grade securities significantly. In particular, these securities may provide poor protection for payment of principal and interest but may have greater potential for capital appreciation than do higher quality securities. These securities also have greater risk of default or price changes due to changes in an issuer’s creditworthiness than do higher quality securities. The market for these securities may be thinner and less active than that for higher quality securities, which may affect the price at which the lower rated securities can be sold. The market prices of these securities may fluctuate more than the market prices of higher quality securities and may decline significantly in periods of general economic difficulty or rising interest rates. Under such conditions, the Funds may have to use subjective rather than objective criteria to value its high yield/high risk securities investments accurately and may rely more heavily on the judgment of a Subadviser to do so.

**Distressed Assets.** A Fund may invest in distressed securities to the extent they meet the Fund’s restrictions on investments in illiquid securities. Distressed securities are securities of companies encountering significant financial or business difficulties, including companies which (i) may be engaged in debt restructuring or other capital transactions of a similar nature outside the jurisdiction of federal bankruptcy law, (ii) are subject to the provisions of federal bankruptcy law or (iii) are experiencing poor operating results as a result of unfavorable operating conditions, over-leveraged capital structure, catastrophic events, extraordinary write-offs or special competitive or product obsolescence problems. Corporate bankruptcy or distress often causes a company’s securities to trade at a discounted value. Through an analysis of the complex business and legal procedures associated with the situation, a Fund may have the ability to purchase these securities and to exit the investment at an attractive risk-adjusted rate of return. Profits are expected from the market’s lack of understanding of the intrinsic value of the discounted securities and because many institutional investors cannot own below investment grade securities. Distressed securities typically are rated below investment grade (i.e., as junk securities).

Investment in distressed securities may be considered speculative and may present substantial potential for loss as well as gain. A Fund will not invest in the securities of distressed issuers for the purpose of exercising day-to-day management of any issuer’s affairs; however, such investment may nonetheless cause a Fund to have a more active participation in the affairs of the issuer than is generally assumed by an investor. This may subject the Fund to litigation risks. When a company seeks relief under the Federal Bankruptcy Code (or has a petition filed against it), an automatic management of any issuer’s affairs; however, such investment may nonetheless cause a Fund to have a more active participation in the affairs of the issuer than is generally assumed by an investor. This may subject the Fund to litigation risks. When a company seeks relief under the Federal Bankruptcy Code (or has a petition filed against it), an automatic stay prevents all entities, including creditors, from foreclosing or taking other actions to enforce claims, perfect liens or reach collateral securing such claims. Creditors who have claims against the company prior to the date of the bankruptcy filing must petition the court to permit them to take any action to protect or enforce their claims or their rights in any collateral. Such creditors may be prohibited from doing so if the court concludes that the value of the property in which the creditor has an interest will be ‘adequately protected’ during the proceedings. If the bankruptcy court’s assessment of adequate protection is inaccurate, a creditor’s collateral may be wasted without the creditor being afforded the opportunity to preserve it. Thus, even if a Fund holds a secured claim, it may be prevented from.
collecting the liquidation value of the collateral securing its debt, unless relief from the automatic stay is granted by the court. Furthermore, while the Funds intend to scrutinize any security interests that secure the debt they purchase, there can be no assurance that such security interests will not be challenged vigorously and found defective in some respect, or that a Fund will be able to prevail against the challenge.

While the challenges to liens and debt described above normally occur in a bankruptcy proceeding, the conditions or conduct that would lead to an attack in a bankruptcy proceeding could in certain circumstances result in actions brought by other creditors of a debtor, shareholders of a debtor or even the debtor itself in other state or federal proceedings. As is the case in a bankruptcy proceeding, there can be no assurance that such claims will not be asserted or that a Fund will be able successfully to defend against them. To the extent that a Fund assumes an active role in any legal proceeding involving a debtor, a Fund may be prevented from disposing of securities issued by the debtor due to a Fund’s possession of material, non-public information concerning the debtor.

**Variable Amount Master Demand Notes.** Variable amount master demand notes are unsecured demand notes that permit investment of fluctuating amounts of money at variable rates of interest pursuant to arrangements with issuers who meet certain quality criteria.

**Municipal Securities.** The Funds may invest in municipal securities. Municipal securities are issued by the states, territories and possessions of the U.S., their political subdivisions (such as cities, counties and towns) and various authorities (such as public housing or redevelopment authorities), instrumentalities, public corporations and special districts (such as water, sewer or sanitary districts) of the states, territories, and possessions of the U.S. or their political subdivisions. In addition, municipal securities include securities issued by or on behalf of public authorities to finance various privately operated facilities, such as industrial development bonds, that are backed only by the assets and revenues of the non-governmental user (such as hospitals and airports).

Municipal securities are issued to obtain funds for a variety of public purposes, including general financing for state and local governments, or financing for specific projects or public facilities. Municipal securities are classified as general obligation or revenue bonds or notes. General obligation securities are secured by the issuer’s pledge of its full faith, credit and taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. Revenue securities are payable from revenue derived from a particular facility, class of facilities, or the proceeds of a special excise tax or other specific revenue source, but not from the issuer’s general taxing power. Private activity bonds and industrial revenue bonds do not carry the pledge of the credit of the issuing municipality, but generally are guaranteed by the corporate entity on whose behalf they are issued.

Municipal leases are entered into by state and local governments and authorities to acquire equipment and facilities such as fire and sanitation vehicles, telecommunications equipment, and other assets. Municipal leases (which normally provide for title to the leased assets to pass eventually to the government issuer) have evolved as a means for governmental issuers to acquire property and equipment without meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements for the issuance of debt. The debt-issuance limitations of many state constitutions and statutes are deemed to be inapplicable because of the inclusion in many leases or contracts of “non-appropriation” clauses that provide that the governmental issuer has no obligation to make future payments under the lease or contract unless money is appropriated for such purpose by the appropriate legislative body on a yearly or other periodic basis.

**Variable and Floating Rate Securities.** The Funds may invest in variable and floating rate securities, including perpetual floaters. Fixed-income securities that have variable or floating rates of interest may, under certain limited circumstances, have varying principal amounts. These securities pay interest at rates that are adjusted periodically according to a specified formula, usually with reference to one or more interest rate indices or market interest rates (the “underlying index”). The interest paid on these securities is a function primarily of the underlying index upon which the interest rate adjustments are based. These adjustments minimize changes in the market value of the obligation. A perpetual floater is a floating rate security with no stated maturity date. Similar to fixed rate debt instruments, variable and floating rate instruments are subject to changes in value based on changes in market interest rates or changes in the issuer’s creditworthiness. The rate of interest on securities may be tied to U.S. Government Securities or indices on those securities and any other rate of interest or index.
Variable and floating rate demand notes of corporations are redeemable upon a specified period of notice. These obligations include master demand notes that permit investment of fluctuating amounts at varying interest rates under direct arrangements with the issuer of the instrument. The issuer of these obligations often has the right, after a given period, to prepay the outstanding principal amount of the obligations upon a specified number of days’ notice.

Certain variable and floating rate securities have an interest rate floor feature, which prevents the interest rate payable by the security from dropping below a specified level as compared to a reference interest rate (the “reference rate”), such as LIBOR. Such a floor protects the Funds from losses resulting from a decrease in the reference rate below the specified level. However, if the reference rate is below the floor, there will be a lag between a rise in the reference rate and a rise in the interest rate payable by the security, and the Funds may not benefit from increasing interest rates for a significant period of time. Most LIBOR settings are no longer published, and the United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority and LIBOR's administrator, ICE Benchmark Administration, have that a majority of U.S. dollar LIBOR settings will no longer be published after June 30, 2023. Due to this announcement, the nature of any replacement rate and the impact of the transition from LIBOR on the Fund’s transactions and the financial markets generally is unknown.

Certain securities may have an initial principal amount that varies over time based on an interest rate index, and, accordingly, the Funds might be entitled to less than the initial principal amount of the security upon the security’s maturity. The Funds intend to purchase these securities only when Absolute or a Subadviser believes the interest income from the instrument justifies any principal risks associated with the instrument. Absolute or a Subadviser may attempt to limit any potential loss of principal by purchasing similar instruments that are intended to provide an offsetting increase in principal. There can be no assurance that Absolute or a Subadviser will be able to limit the effects of principal fluctuations and, accordingly, the Funds may incur losses on those securities even if held to maturity without issuer default.

The Funds may also invest in inverse floating rate debt instruments (“inverse floaters”). The interest rate on an inverse floater reset in the opposite direction from the market rate of interest to which the inverse floater is indexed. An inverse floater may have greater volatility in market value, in that, during periods of rising interest rates, the market values of inverse floaters will tend to decrease more rapidly than those of fixed rate securities.

There may not be an active secondary market for any particular floating or variable rate instruments, which could make it difficult for the Funds to dispose of the instrument during periods that the Funds are not entitled to exercise any demand rights it may have. The Funds could, for this or other reasons, suffer a loss with respect to those instruments. Absolute or a Subadviser monitors the liquidity of the Funds’ investment in variable and floating rate instruments, but there can be no guarantee that an active secondary market will exist.

Structured Notes. The Funds may invest in structured notes. Structured notes include, but are not limited to, reverse convertible notes, interest rate-linked notes, credit-linked notes, commodity-linked notes and dual currency notes. Structured notes are debt obligations where the interest rate and/or principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption of the note is determined by the performance of an underlying reference instrument, such as an asset, market or interest rate. Structured notes may be positively or negatively indexed; that is, an increase in the value of the reference instrument may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or principal. Further, the rate of return on a structured note may be determined by the application of a multiplier to the percentage change (positive or negative) in value of the reference instrument. Structured notes may be issued by governmental agencies, broker-dealers or investment banks at various levels of coupon payments and maturities and may also be privately negotiated to meet an individual investor’s requirements. Many types of structured notes may also be “replicated” through a combination of holdings in equity and fixed-income securities and derivative instruments such as call or put options.

Zero-Coupon Securities. The Funds may invest in zero-coupon securities. Zero-coupon securities are debt obligations that are issued or sold at a significant discount from their face value (“original issue discount”) and do not pay current interest to holders prior to maturity, a specified redemption date or cash payment date. The discount approximates the total interest the securities will accrue and compound over the period to maturity or the first interest payment date at a rate of interest reflecting the market rate of interest at the time of issuance. The original issue discount on zero-coupon securities must be included ratably in the income of the Funds as the income accrues, even though payment has not been received. The Funds distribute all of its net investment income and may have to sell portfolio securities to distribute accrued income, which may occur at a time when a Subadviser would not have chosen
to sell such securities, and which may result in a taxable gain or loss. Because interest on zero-coupon securities is not paid on a current basis but is in effect deferred and compounded, the value of these securities is subject to greater fluctuations in response to changing interest rates, and may involve greater credit risks, than the value of debt obligations that distribute income regularly.

Zero-coupon securities may be securities that have been stripped of their unmatured interest stream. Zero-coupon securities may be custodial receipts or certificates, underwritten by securities dealers or banks, that evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on certain U.S. Government Securities. The underwriters of these certificates or receipts generally purchase a U.S. Government Security and deposit the security in an irrevocable trust or custodial account with a custodian bank, which then issues receipts or certificates that evidence ownership of the purchased unmatured coupon payments and the final principal payment of the U.S. Government Security. These certificates or receipts have the same general attributes as zero-coupon stripped U.S. Department of the Treasury securities but are not supported by the issuer of the U.S. Government Security. The risks associated with stripped securities are similar to those of other zero-coupon securities, although stripped securities may be more volatile, and the value of certain types of stripped securities may move in the same direction as interest rates.

**Financial Institution Obligations.** The Funds may invest in financial institution obligations. Obligations of financial institutions include certificates of deposit, bankers’ acceptances, time deposits and other short-term debt obligations. Certificates of deposit represent an institution’s obligation to repay funds deposited with it that earn a specified interest rate over a given period. Bankers’ acceptances are negotiable obligations of a bank to pay a draft which has been drawn by a customer and are usually backed by goods in international trade. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits with a banking institution that earn a specified interest rate over a given period. Certificates of deposit and fixed time deposits, which are payable at the stated maturity date and bear a fixed rate of interest, generally may be withdrawn on demand by the Funds but may be subject to early withdrawal penalties which could reduce the Funds’ performance. Although fixed time deposits do not in all cases have a secondary market, there are no contractual restrictions on the Funds’ right to transfer a beneficial interest in the deposits to third parties.

The Funds may invest in Eurodollar certificates of deposit, which are issued by offices of foreign and domestic banks located outside the U.S.; Yankee certificates of deposit, which are issued by a U.S. branch of a foreign bank and held in the U.S.; Eurodollar time deposits, which are deposits in a foreign branch of a U.S. bank or a foreign bank; and Canadian time deposits, which are issued by Canadian offices of major Canadian banks. Each of these instruments is U.S. dollar denominated.

**Risks**

**General.** The market value of the interest-bearing debt securities held by the Funds will be affected by changes in interest rates. There is normally an inverse relationship between the market value of securities sensitive to prevailing interest rates and actual changes in interest rates. The longer the remaining maturity (and duration) of a security, the more sensitive the security is to changes in interest rates. All fixed-income securities, including U.S. Government Securities, can change in value when there is a change in interest rates.

Changes in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal and in the markets’ perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness will also affect the market value of that issuer’s fixed-income securities. As a result, an investment in the Funds is subject to risk even if all fixed-income securities in the Funds’ investment portfolio are paid in full at maturity. In addition, certain fixed-income securities may be subject to extension risk, which refers to the change in total return on a security resulting from an extension or abbreviation of the security’s maturity.

Yields on debt securities are dependent on a variety of factors, including the general conditions of the fixed-income securities markets, the size of a particular offering, the maturity of the obligation and the rating of the issue. Under normal conditions, fixed-income securities with longer maturities tend to offer higher yields and are generally subject to greater price movements than obligations with shorter maturities.

The issuers of debt securities are subject to the provisions of bankruptcy, insolvency and other laws affecting the rights and remedies of creditors that may restrict the ability of the issuer to pay, when due, the principal of and interest on its fixed-income securities. Bankruptcy, litigation or other conditions may impair an issuer’s ability to pay, when due, the principal of and interest on its fixed-income securities.
Interest Rates. The market value of the interest-bearing fixed-income securities held by the Funds will be affected by changes in interest rates. There is normally an inverse relationship between the market value of securities sensitive to prevailing interest rates and actual changes in interest rates. The longer the remaining maturity (and duration) of a security, the more sensitive the security is to changes in interest rates. All fixed-income securities, including U.S. Government Securities, can change in value when there is a change in interest rates. Changes in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal and in the markets’ perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness will also affect the market value of that issuer’s fixed-income securities. As a result, an investment in the Funds is subject to risk even if all fixed-income securities in the Funds’ investment portfolio are paid in full at maturity. In certain interest rate environments, such as when real interest rates are rising faster than nominal interest rates, TIPS may experience greater losses than other fixed income securities with similar durations. In addition, certain fixed-income securities may be subject to extension risk, which refers to the change in total return on a security resulting from an extension or abbreviation of the security’s maturity. The risks associated with rising interest rates may be more pronounced due to the historically low rates that had been in place in recent years.

Credit. The Funds’ investment in fixed-income securities is subject to the credit risk relating to the financial condition of the issuers of the securities that the Funds hold. The Funds may invest in high yield securities that provide poor protection for payment of principal and interest but may have greater potential for capital appreciation than do higher quality securities. These securities also have greater risk of default or price changes due to changes in the issuers’ creditworthiness than do higher quality securities. Changes in the actual or perceived creditworthiness of an issuer, factors affecting an issuer directly (such as management changes, labor relations, collapse of key suppliers or customers, or material changes in overhead), factors affecting the industry in which a particular issuer operates (such as competition or technological advances) and changes in general social, economic or political conditions can increase the risk of default by an issuer, which may affect a security’s credit quality or value. The market for these securities may be thinner and less active than that for higher quality securities, which may affect the price at which the lower rated securities can be sold. In addition, the market prices of these securities may fluctuate more than the market prices of higher quality securities and may decline significantly in periods of general economic difficulty or rising interest rates. Under such conditions, the Funds may have to use subjective rather than objective criteria to value its high yield/high risk securities investments accurately and may rely more heavily on the judgment of a Subadviser to do so. Entities providing credit or liquidity support also may be affected by these types of changes.

Moody’s, S&P and other organizations are private services that provide ratings of the credit quality of debt obligations, including convertible securities. A description of the range of ratings assigned to various types of bonds and other securities is included in Appendix A to this SAI. Absolute or a Subadviser may use these ratings to determine whether to purchase, sell or hold a security. Ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Securities with the same maturity, interest rate and rating may have different market prices. If an issue of securities ceases to be rated or if its rating is reduced after it is purchased by the Fund, Absolute or a Subadviser will determine whether the Funds should continue to hold the obligation. Credit ratings attempt to evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments and do not evaluate the risks of fluctuations in market value. An issuer’s current financial condition may be better or worse than a rating indicates.

Mortgage-Backed Securities. The value of mortgage-backed securities may be significantly affected by changes in interest rates, the markets’ perception of issuers, the structure of the securities and the creditworthiness of the parties involved. The ability of the Funds to successfully utilize mortgage-backed securities depends in part upon the ability of Absolute to forecast interest rates and other economic factors correctly. Some mortgage-backed securities have structures that make their reaction to interest rate changes and other factors difficult to predict.

Prepayments of principal of mortgage-backed securities by mortgagors or mortgage foreclosures affect the average life of the mortgage-backed securities. The occurrence of mortgage prepayments is affected by various factors, including the level of interest rates, general economic conditions, the location and age of the mortgages and other social and demographic conditions. In periods of rising interest rates, the prepayment rate tends to decrease, lengthening the average life of a pool of mortgage-backed securities. In periods of falling interest rates, the prepayment rate tends to increase, shortening the average life of a pool. The volume of prepayments of principal on the mortgages underlying a particular mortgage-backed security will influence the yield of that security, affecting the Funds’ yield. Because prepayments of principal generally occur when interest rates are declining, it is likely that the Fund, to the extent it retains the same percentage of fixed-income securities, may have to reinvest the proceeds of prepayments at lower interest rates than those of their previous investments. If this occurs, the Funds’ yield will
correspondingly decline. Thus, mortgage-backed securities may have less potential for capital appreciation in periods of falling interest rates (when prepayment of principal is more likely) than other fixed-income securities of comparable duration, although they may have a comparable risk of decline in market value in periods of rising interest rates. A decrease in the rate of prepayments may extend the effective maturities of mortgage-backed securities, reducing their sensitivity to changes in market interest rates. To the extent that the Funds purchases mortgage-backed securities at a premium, unscheduled prepayments, which are made at par, result in a loss equal to an unamortized premium.

To lessen the effect of the failures by obligors on Mortgage Assets to make payments, CMOs and other mortgage-backed securities may contain elements of credit enhancement, consisting of either (1) liquidity protection or (2) protection against losses resulting after default by an obligor on the underlying assets and allocation of all amounts recoverable directly from the obligor and through liquidation of the collateral. This protection may be provided through guarantees, insurance policies or letters of credit obtained by the issuer or sponsor from third parties, through various means of structuring the transaction or through a combination of these. The Funds will not pay any additional fees for credit enhancements for mortgage-backed securities, although the credit enhancement may increase the costs of the mortgage-backed securities.

Asset-Backed Securities. Like mortgages-backed securities, the collateral underlying asset-backed securities are subject to prepayment, which may reduce the overall return to holders of asset-backed securities. Asset-backed securities present certain additional and unique risks. Primarily, these securities do not always have the benefit of a security interest in collateral comparable to the security interests associated with mortgage-backed securities. Credit card receivables are in general unsecured. Debtors are entitled to the protection of a number of state and Federal consumer credit laws, many of which give such debtors the right to set-off certain amounts owed on the credit cards, thereby reducing the balance due. Generally, automobile receivables are secured by automobiles. Most issuers of automobile receivables permit the loan servicers to retain possession of the underlying obligations. If the servicer were to sell these obligations to another party, there is a risk that the purchaser would acquire an interest superior to that of the holders of the asset-backed securities. In addition, because of the large number of vehicles involved in a typical issuance and the technical requirements under state laws, the trustee for the holders of the automobile receivables may not have a proper security interest in the underlying automobiles. As a result, the risk that recovery on repossessed collateral might be unavailable or inadequate to support payments on asset-backed securities is greater for asset-backed securities than for mortgage-backed securities. In addition, because asset-backed securities are relatively new, the market experience in these securities is limited and the market’s ability to sustain liquidity through all phases of an interest rate or economic cycle has not been tested.

D. Foreign Securities

Investments in the securities of foreign issuers may involve risks in addition to those normally associated with investments in the securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign issuers are issuers organized and doing business principally outside the United States. All foreign investments are subject to risks of: (1) foreign political and economic instability; (2) adverse movements in foreign exchange rates; (3) the imposition or tightening of exchange controls or other limitations on repatriation of foreign capital; and (4) changes in foreign governmental attitudes towards private investment, including potential nationalization, increased taxation or confiscation of the Funds’ assets.

The governments of certain countries may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on foreign investing in their capital markets or in certain industries. Other risks of investing in such securities include political or economic instability in the country involved, the difficulty of predicting international trade patterns and the possibility of imposition of exchange controls or limitations on the removal of funds or assets.

The prices of such securities may be more volatile than those of domestic securities. With respect to certain foreign countries, there is a possibility of expropriation of assets or nationalization, imposition of withholding taxes on dividend or interest payments, difficulty in obtaining and enforcing judgments against foreign entities or diplomatic developments which could affect investment in these countries. Legal remedies available to investors in certain foreign countries may be less extensive than those available to investors in the United States or other foreign countries.

Securities of issuers traded on exchanges may be suspended, either by the issuers themselves, by an exchange or by government authorities. The likelihood of such suspensions may be higher for securities of issuers in emerging or less-developed market countries than in countries with more developed markets. Trading suspensions may be applied from
time to time to the securities of individual issuers for reasons specific to that issuer or may be applied broadly by exchanges or governmental authorities in response to market events. Suspensions may last for significant periods of time. The Funds’ ability to liquidate its positions or provide liquidity to investors may be compromised and the Funds could incur significant losses.

Dividends and interest payable on foreign securities may be subject to foreign withholding taxes, thereby reducing the income available for distribution or reinvestment by the Fund. Some foreign brokerage commission and custody fees are higher than in the U.S. Foreign accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards differ from those in the U.S. and therefore, less information may be available about foreign companies than is available about issuers of comparable U.S. companies. Foreign securities also may trade less frequently and with lower volume and may exhibit greater price volatility than U.S. securities.

Changes in foreign exchange rates will affect the U.S. dollar value of all foreign currency-denominated securities held by the Fund. Losses and other expenses may be incurred in converting between various currencies in connection with purchases and sales of foreign securities. Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as “currency risk,” means that a stronger U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns. Exchange rates are influenced generally by the forces of supply and demand in the foreign currency markets and by numerous other political and economic events occurring outside the U.S., many of which may be difficult, if not impossible, to predict.

Income from foreign securities may be received and realized in foreign currencies, even though the Funds are required to compute and distribute income in U.S. dollars. Accordingly, a decline in the value of a particular foreign currency against the U.S. dollar after the Funds’ income has been earned and computed in U.S. dollars may require the Funds to liquidate portfolio securities to acquire sufficient U.S. dollars to make a distribution. Similarly, if the exchange rate declines between the time the Funds incur expenses in U.S. dollars and the time such expenses are paid, the Funds may be required to liquidate additional foreign securities to purchase the U.S. dollars required to meet such expenses.

Foreign markets have different clearance and settlement procedures. In certain markets, there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, making it difficult to conduct such transactions. Delays in settlement could result in temporary periods when a portion of the assets of the Funds are uninvested and no return is earned thereon. The inability of the Funds to make intended security purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Funds to miss attractive investment opportunities. Inability to dispose of portfolio securities due to settlement problems could result in losses to the Funds due to subsequent declines in value of the securities or, if the Funds have entered into a contract to sell the securities, could result in possible liability to the purchaser. The inability of the Funds to settle security purchases or sales due to settlement problems could cause the Funds to pay additional expenses, such as interest charges.

If the Funds invest in foreign securities, they will be subject to the risk that their share prices may be exposed to arbitrage attempts by investors seeking to capitalize on differences in the values of foreign securities trading on foreign exchanges that may close before the time the Funds’ net asset value is determined. If such arbitrage attempts are successful, the Funds’ net asset value might be diluted. The use of fair value pricing in certain circumstances (by adjusting the closing market prices of foreign securities to reflect what the Board believes to be their fair value) may help deter such arbitrage activities. The effect of such fair value pricing is that foreign securities may not be priced on the basis of quotations from the primary foreign securities market in which they are traded, but rather may be priced by another method that the Board believes reflects fair value. As such, fair value pricing is based on subjective judgment, and it is possible that fair value may differ materially from the value realized on a sale of a foreign security. It is also possible that use of fair value pricing will be inaccurate and/or limit an investment adviser’s ability to implement an investment strategy.

**Emerging Markets.** Emerging markets can have more risk than investing in developed foreign markets, an investment in the Funds may have the following additional risks:

- Information about the companies in these countries is not always readily available;
• Stocks of companies traded in these countries may be less liquid and the prices of these stocks may be more volatile than the prices of the stocks in more established markets;

• Greater political and economic uncertainties exist in emerging markets than in developed foreign markets;

• The securities markets and legal systems in emerging markets may not be well developed and may not provide the protections and advantages of the markets and systems available in more developed countries;

• Very high inflation rates may exist in emerging markets and could negatively impact a country’s economy and securities markets;

• Emerging markets may impose restrictions on the Funds’ ability to repatriate investment income or capital and thus, may adversely effect the operations of the Fund;

• Certain emerging markets impose constraints on currency exchange and some currencies in emerging may have been devalued significantly against the U.S. dollar;

• Governments of some emerging markets exercise substantial influence over the private sector and may own or control many companies. As such, governmental actions could have a significant effect on economic conditions in emerging markets, which, in turn, could effect the value of the Funds’ investments;

• Emerging markets may be subject to less government supervision and regulation of business and industry practices, stock exchanges, brokers and listed companies;

• Regulatory authorities in some emerging markets currently do not provide the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board with the ability to inspect public accounting firms as required by U.S. law, including sufficient access to inspect audit work papers and practices, or otherwise do not cooperate with U.S. regulators.

For these and other reasons, the prices of securities in emerging markets can fluctuate more significantly than the prices of securities of companies in developed countries. In times of market stress, regulatory authorities of different emerging market countries may apply varying techniques and degrees of intervention, which can have an effect on prices and may require that the Funds fair value their holdings in those countries. The less developed the country, the greater effect these risks may have on your investment in the Fund. As a result, an investment in the Funds may exhibit a higher degree of volatility than either the general domestic securities market or the securities markets of developed foreign countries.

**Sovereign and Non-U.S. Dollar Denominated Debt Securities.** The Funds may invest in foreign government securities. Foreign government securities include securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments (including political subdivisions) or their authorities, agencies, or instrumentalities or by supra-national agencies. Certain foreign securities may be non-U.S. dollar-denominated securities, including debt obligations denominated in foreign or composite securities. Supra-national agencies are agencies whose member nations make capital contributions to support the agencies’ activities. Examples include the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank), the Asian Development Bank, the European Union, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Different kinds of foreign government securities have different kinds of government support. Foreign government securities of some countries may involve varying degrees of credit risk as a result of financial or political instability in those countries or the possible inability of the Funds to enforce its rights against the foreign government. As with issuers of other fixed-income securities, sovereign issuers may be unable or unwilling to make timely principal or interest payments. Securities based on the same currency may be affected similarly by political, economic and business developments, changes and conditions relevant in the markets.
For purposes of the Funds’ concentration policies, the Funds treat each foreign government or sovereign as its own industry. Holders of U.S. Government and foreign securities not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. or foreign government must look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing the obligation for repayment and may not be able to assert a claim against the U.S. or foreign government in the event that the agency or instrumentality does not meet its commitment. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government or foreign government would provide support if it were not obligated to do so by law. Neither the U.S. Government, foreign government nor any of its agencies or instrumentalties guarantees the market value of the securities they issue.

The Funds may also invest in debt obligations issued by entities that Absolute considers to be comparable to entities in the categories enumerated above or foreign corporations.

E. Foreign Currency Transactions

General. The Funds may invest in foreign currencies and investments in foreign companies will usually involve currencies of foreign countries. The Funds may also temporarily hold funds in bank deposits in foreign currencies during the completion of investment programs. The Funds may conduct foreign currency exchange transactions either on a spot (cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign exchange market or by entering into a forward foreign currency contract. Such forward contracts involve an obligation to purchase or sell a specific amount of a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days (usually less than one year) from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties, at a price set at the time of the contract.

Forward contracts are considered “derivatives” — financial instruments whose performance is derived, at least in part, from the performance of another asset (such as a security, currency or an index of securities). The Funds enter into forward contracts in order to “lock in” the exchange rate between the currency it will deliver and the currency it will receive for the duration of the contract. In addition, the Funds may enter into forward contracts to hedge against risks arising from securities the Funds own or anticipates purchasing, or the U.S. dollar value of interest and dividends paid on those securities.

At or before settlement of a forward currency contract, the Funds may either deliver the currency or terminate its contractual obligation to deliver the currency by purchasing an offsetting contract. If the Funds make delivery of the foreign currency at or before the settlement of a forward contract, it may be required to obtain the currency through the conversion of assets of the Funds into the currency. The Funds may close out a forward contract obligating it to purchase currency by selling an offsetting contract, in which case, it will realize a gain or a loss.

Risks. Foreign currency transactions involve certain costs and risks. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates will affect the value of what the Funds own and the price of the Funds’ shares. Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, an investment in that country loses value because that currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Devaluation of a currency by a country’s government or banking authority also will have a significant impact on the value of any investments denominated in the currency. The Funds incur foreign exchange expenses in converting assets from one currency to another.

To manage currency risk, the Funds may enter into forward currency contracts. A forward currency contract involves an agreement to purchase or sell a specified currency at a specified future price set at the time of the contract. Forward contracts involve a risk of loss if Absolute or a Subadviser is inaccurate in its prediction of currency movements. The projection of short-term currency market movements is extremely difficult, and the successful execution of a short-term hedging strategy is highly uncertain. The precise matching of forward contract amounts and the value of the securities involved is generally not possible. Accordingly, it may be necessary for the Funds to purchase additional foreign currency if the market value of the security is less than the amount of the foreign currency the Funds are obligated to deliver under the forward contract and the decision is made to sell the security and make delivery of the foreign currency. The use of forward contracts as a hedging technique does not eliminate fluctuations in the prices of the underlying securities the Funds own or intend to acquire, but it does fix a rate of exchange in advance. Although forward contracts can reduce the risk of loss due to a decline in the value of the hedged currencies, they also limit any potential gain that might result from an increase in the value of the currencies. There is also the risk that the other party to the transaction may fail to deliver currency when due which may result in a loss to the Fund.
F. Derivatives

Derivatives are financial instruments that have a value which depends upon, or is derived from, the value of something else, such as one or more underlying securities, pools of securities, options, futures, indexes or currencies. All derivatives can create leverage. Gains or losses involving derivative instruments may be substantial, because a relatively small price movement in the underlying securities, instrument, currency or index may result in a substantial gain or loss for a Fund.

Historically, an adviser of a fund trading commodity interests (such as futures contracts, options on futures contracts, nondeliverable forwards, swaps and cash-settled foreign currency contracts) has been excluded from regulation as a commodity pool operator (“CPO”) pursuant to CFTC Regulation 4.5. In 2012, the CFTC amended Regulation 4.5 to dramatically narrow this exclusion.

Under the amended Regulation 4.5 exclusion, a fund’s commodity interests - other than those used for bona fide hedging purposes (as defined by the CFTC) - must be limited such that the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish the positions (after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions and excluding the amount by which options are “in-the-money” at the time of purchase) does not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the fund’s portfolio, or alternatively, the aggregate notional value of the positions, determined at the time the most recent position was established, does not exceed 100% of the liquidation value of the fund’s portfolio (after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). Further, to qualify for the exclusion in amended Regulation 4.5, a fund must satisfy a marketing test, which requires, among other things, that the fund not hold itself out as a vehicle for trading commodity interests.

Absolute will continue to comply with one of the two alternative limitations described above with respect to the Funds and claim an exclusion from the definition of the term “commodity pool operator” under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) with respect to the Fund. The Funds therefore will not be subject to registration or regulation as a CPO under the CEA. Complying with the limitations may restrict Absolute’s ability to use derivatives as part of the Funds’ investment strategies. Although Absolute expects to be able to execute the Funds’ strategies within the limitations, performance could be adversely affected.

Transactions in futures and options by the Funds are subject to limitations established by futures and option exchanges governing the maximum number of futures and options that may be written or held by a single investor or group of investors acting in concert, regardless of whether the futures or options were written or purchased on the same or different exchanges or are held in one or more accounts or through one or more different exchanges or through one or more brokers. Thus, the number of futures or options which the Funds may write or hold may be affected by futures or options written or held by other entities, including other investment companies advised by Absolute. An exchange may order the liquidation of positions found to be in violation of those limits and may impose certain other sanctions.

The Funds may purchase or write put and call options, futures and options on futures to: (1) enhance the Funds’ performance, including by obtaining leverage; or (2) to hedge against a decline in the value of securities owned by the Funds or an increase in the price of securities that the Funds plan to purchase or in order to offset the effects of general stock market movements.

Specifically, the Funds may purchase or write options on securities in which it may invest, on market indices based in whole or in part on such securities or on commodities. Options purchased or written by the Funds are generally traded on an exchange or over-the-counter. The Funds may invest in futures contracts on securities in which it may invest, market indices based in whole or in part on securities in which the Funds may invest and on commodities. The Funds may also purchase or write put and call options on these futures contracts. Options and futures contracts are considered to be derivatives. No assurance can be given that any hedging or income strategy will achieve its intended result.

If the Funds will be financially exposed to another party due to its investments in options or futures, the Funds may, if required, maintain either: (1) offset positions; or (2) cash, receivables and liquid debt or equity securities equal to the value of the positions less any proceeds and/or margin on deposit. Offsetting covered positions may include holding the underlying securities or holding other offsetting liquid securities believed likely to substantially replicate the movement of the future or option investment.
The SEC recently adopted Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act, which, effective August 18, 2022, regulates the use of derivatives, including futures contracts and options thereon, and certain other transactions. Among other things, Rule 18f-4 requires funds that invest in derivative instruments beyond a specified limited amount to apply a value-at-risk (VaR) based limit to their use of certain derivative instruments and financing transactions and to adopt and implement a derivatives risk management program. Consequently, the Funds have established a comprehensive derivatives risk management program to comply with a VaR based leverage limit and appointed a derivatives risk manager. The Funds will also provide additional disclosure both publicly and to the SEC regarding its derivatives positions. In connection with the adoption of Rule 18f-4, the SEC eliminated the asset segregation framework for covering derivatives arising from SEC guidance prior to the adoption of Rule 18f-4.

**Options on Securities.** A call option is a contract under which the purchaser of the call option, in return for a premium paid, has the right to buy the security (or index) underlying the option at a specified price at any time during the term of the option. The writer of the call option, who receives the premium, has the obligation upon exercise of the option to deliver the underlying security against payment of the exercise price. A put option gives its purchaser, in return for a premium, the right to sell the underlying security at a specified price during the term of the option. The writer of the put, who receives the premium, has the obligation to buy, upon exercise of the option, the underlying security (or a cash amount equal to the value of the index) at the exercise price. The amount of a premium received or paid for an option is based upon certain factors including the market price of the underlying security, the relationship of the exercise price to the market price, the historical price volatility of the underlying security, the option period and interest rates.

**Options on Indices.** An index assigns relative values to the securities included in the index, and the index fluctuates with changes in the market values of the securities included in the index. Index cash options operate in the same way as the more traditional options on securities except that index options are settled exclusively in cash equal to the difference between the exercise price and the closing price of the index.

**Options on Foreign Currency.** Options on foreign currency operate in the same way as more traditional options on securities except that currency options are settled exclusively in the currency subject to the option. The value of a currency option is dependent upon the value of the currency relative to the U.S. dollar and has no relationship to the investment merits of a foreign security. Because foreign currency transactions occurring in the interbank market involve substantially larger amounts than those that may be involved in the use of foreign currency options, the Funds may be disadvantaged by having to deal in an odd lot market (generally consisting in transactions of less than $1 million) for the underlying currencies at prices that are less favorable than round lots. To the extent that the U.S. options markets are closed while the market for the underlying currencies are open, significant price and rate movements may take place in the underlying markets that cannot be reflected in the options markets.

**Options on Futures.** Options on futures contracts are similar to options on securities except that an option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right, in return for the premium paid, to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price at any time during the period of the option. Upon exercise of the option, the delivery of the futures position to the holder of the option will be accompanied by transfer to the holder of an accumulated balance representing the amount by which the market price of the futures contract exceeds, in the case of a call, or is less than, in the case of a put, the exercise price of the option on the future.

**Futures Contracts.** A futures contract is a bilateral agreement where one party agrees to accept, and the other party agrees to make, delivery of cash or underlying securities or commodities, as called for in the contract, at a specified date and at an agreed upon price. An index futures contract involves the delivery of an amount of cash equal to a specified dollar amount multiplied by the difference between the index value at the close of trading of the contract and at the price designated by the futures contract. Generally, these futures contracts are closed out prior to the expiration date of the contracts. A public market exists in futures contracts covering certain indexes, financial instruments and foreign currencies.

**Risks of Commodities.** Prices of various commodities may be affected by factors such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and other regulatory developments. The frequency, duration and magnitude of such changes cannot be predicted. The prices of commodities can also fluctuate widely due to supply and demand disruptions in major producing or consuming regions. Certain commodities may be produced in a limited number of countries and may be controlled by a small number of producers or groups of producers. As a result, political,
economic and supply related events in such countries could have a disproportionate impact on the prices of such commodities. No active trading market may exist for certain commodities investments, which may impair the ability of the Funds to sell or to realize the full value of such investments in the event of the need to liquidate such investments. In addition, adverse market conditions may impair the liquidity of commodities investments. Because the Funds’ performance is linked to the performance of potentially volatile commodities, investors should be willing to assume the risks of significant fluctuations in the value of the Funds’ shares.

**Risks of Options Transactions.** There are certain investment risks associated with options transactions. These risks include: (1) dependence on Absolute’s or a Subadviser’s ability to predict movements in the prices of individual securities and fluctuations in the general securities markets; (2) imperfect correlation between movements in the prices of options and movements in the price of the securities (or indices) hedged or used for cover which may cause a given hedge not to achieve its objective; (3) the fact that the skills and techniques needed to trade these instruments are different from those needed to select the securities in which the Funds invest; and (4) lack of assurance that a liquid secondary market will exist for any particular instrument at any particular time, which, among other things, may hinder the Funds’ ability to limit exposures by closing its positions.

Other risks include the inability of the Fund, as the writer of covered call options, to benefit from any appreciation of the underlying securities above the exercise price, and the possible loss of the entire premium paid for options purchased by the Fund. There is no assurance that a counterparty in an over-the-counter option transaction will be able to perform its obligations.

**Risks of Futures Contracts and Options on Futures.** The risk of loss in trading futures contracts and in writing options on futures contracts can be substantial, due to the low margin deposits required, the extremely high degree of leverage involved in futures and options pricing, and the potential high volatility of the futures markets. Futures prices are affected by and may respond rapidly to a variety of factors including (but not limited to) market reports, news reports, interest rates, national and international political and economic events, weather and domestic or foreign trades, monetary or fiscal policies and programs. Such rapid response might include an opening price on an affected futures contract sharply higher or lower than the previous day’s close. In the event of adverse price movements, the Funds would continue to be required to make daily cash payments to maintain its required margin. In such situations, if the Funds have insufficient cash, it may have to sell portfolio securities to meet daily margin requirements (and segregation requirements, if applicable) at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so thus causing the Funds to incur a loss. In addition, on the settlement date, the Funds may be required to make delivery of the instruments underlying the futures positions it holds.

The Funds could suffer losses if it is unable to close out a futures contract or options on futures contract because of an illiquid secondary market. Futures contracts and options on futures contracts may be closed out only on an exchange, which provides a secondary market for such products. However, there can be no assurance that a liquid secondary market will exist for any particular futures product at any specific time. Thus, it may not be possible to close a futures or option position. Moreover, most futures exchanges limit the amount of fluctuation permitted in futures contract prices during a single trading day. The daily limit establishes the maximum amount that the price of a futures contract may vary either up or down from the previous day’s settlement price at the end of a trading session. Once the daily limit has been reached in a particular type of contract, no trades may be made on that day at a price beyond that limit. The daily limit governs only price movement during a particular trading day and therefore does not limit potential losses, because the limit may prevent the liquidation of unfavorable positions. Futures contract prices have occasionally moved to the daily limit for several consecutive trading days with little or no trading, thereby preventing prompt liquidation of future positions and subjecting some futures traders to substantial losses. The inability to close futures and options positions also could have an adverse impact on the ability to hedge a portfolio investment or to establish a substitute for a portfolio investment.

The Funds bear the risk that Absolute or a Subadviser will incorrectly predict future market trends. If Absolute or a Subadviser attempt to use a futures contract or an option on a futures contract as a hedge against, or as a substitute for, a portfolio investment, the Funds will be exposed to the risk that the futures position will have or will develop imperfect or no correlation with the portfolio investment. This could cause substantial losses for the Fund. While hedging strategies involving futures products can reduce the risk of loss, they can also reduce the opportunity for gain or even result in losses by offsetting favorable price movements in other Fund investments.
The Funds may use various futures contracts that are relatively new instruments without a significant trading history. As a result, there can be no assurance that an active secondary market in those contracts will develop or continue to exist. The Funds’ activities in the futures and options markets may result in higher portfolio turnover rates and additional brokerage costs, which could reduce the Funds’ yield.

**Swaps.** The Funds may engage in swaps, including, but not limited to, interest rate, currency and equity swaps, and the purchase or sale of related caps, floors, collars and other derivative instruments. The Funds expect to enter into these transactions to preserve a return or spread on a particular investment or portion of the portfolio’s duration, to protect against any increase in the price of securities the Funds anticipate purchasing at a later date, or to gain exposure to certain markets in the most economical way possible.

Interest rate swaps involve the exchange by the Funds with another party of their respective commitments to receive or pay interest (e.g., an exchange of fixed rate payments for floating rate payments) with respect to a notional amount of principal. Currency swaps involve the exchange of cash flows on a notional amount based on changes in the values of referenced currencies.

The purchase of a cap entitles the purchaser to receive payments on a notional principal amount from the party selling the cap to the extent that a specified index exceeds a predetermined interest rate or amount. The purchase of an interest rate floor entitles the purchaser to receive payments on a notional principal amount from the party selling the floor to the extent that a specified index falls below a predetermined interest rate or amount. A collar is a combination of a cap and a floor that preserves a certain return with a predetermined range of interest rates or values.

The use of swaps involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions. If Absolute or a Subadviser is incorrect in its forecast of market values, interest rates and other applicable factors, the investment performance of the Funds will be less favorable than it would have been if this investment technique was never used. Swaps do not involve the delivery of securities or other underlying assets or principal and are subject to counterparty risk. If the other party to a swap defaults and fails to consummate the transaction, the Funds’ risk of loss consists of the net amount of interest payments that the Funds are contractually entitled to receive.

Under IRS rules, any lump sum payment received or due under the notional principal contract must be amortized over the life of the contract using the appropriate methodology prescribed by the IRS.

Equity swaps or other swaps relating to securities or other instruments are based on changes in the value of the underlying securities or instruments. For example, an equity swap might involve an exchange of the value of a particular security or securities index in a certain notional amount for the value of another security or index or for the value of interest on that notional amount at a specified fixed or variable rate. The Funds will only enter into an equity swap contract on a net basis, i.e., the two parties’ obligations are netted out, with the Funds paying or receiving, as the case may be, only the net amount of the payments. Payments under an equity swap contract may be made at the conclusion of the contract or periodically during its term.

A Subadviser may determine to enter into swap contracts exclusively through one counterparty. In such an arrangement, the Funds’ chosen counterparty may provide the Funds with favorable margin and collateral arrangements, but the Funds will be exposed to more risk with respect to that counterparty, including the risk that the counterparty may default.

If there is a default by the counterparty to a swap contract, the Funds will be limited to contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. There is no assurance that a swap contract counterparty will be able to meet its obligations pursuant to the swap contract or that, in the event of a default, the Funds will succeed in pursuing contractual remedies. The Funds thus assume the risk that it may be delayed in or prevented from obtaining payments owed to it pursuant to a swap contract. However, the amount at risk is only the net unrealized gain, if any, on the swap, not the entire notional amount. Absolute or a Subadviser will closely monitor, subject to the oversight of the Board, the creditworthiness of swap counterparties in order to minimize the risk of swaps.
The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Funds’ obligations over its entitlements with respect to each swap contract will be accrued on a daily basis. To the extent that the Funds cannot dispose of a swap in the ordinary course of business within seven days at approximately the value at which the Funds have valued the swap, the Funds will treat the swap as illiquid and subject to its overall limit on illiquid investments of 15% of the Funds’ net assets.

**Credit Default Swaps.** The Funds may invest in credit default swaps (“CDS”). A credit default swap gives one party (the buyer) the right to recoup the economic value of a decline in the value of debt securities of the reference issuer (including sovereign debt obligations) if the credit event (a downgrade or default) occurs. This value is obtained by delivering a debt security of the reference issuer to the party in return for a previously agreed payment from the other party (frequently, the par value of the debt security). CDS include, but are not limited to, credit default swaps, which are contracts on individual securities, and CDX, which are contracts on baskets or indices of securities. Credit default swaps may require initial premium (discount) payments and periodic payments (receipts) related to the interest leg of the swap or to the default of a reference obligation.

If the Funds are a seller of a CDS contract, the Funds would be required to pay the par (or other agreed-upon) value of a referenced debt obligation to the counterparty in the event of a default or other credit event by the reference issuer, such as a U.S. or foreign corporate issuer, with respect to such debt obligations. In return, the Funds would receive from the counterparty a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided that no event of default has occurred. If no default occurs, the Funds would keep the stream of payments and would have no payment obligations. As the seller, the Funds would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

If the Funds are the buyer of a CDS contract, the Funds would have the right to deliver a referenced debt obligation and receive the par (or other agreed-upon) value of such debt obligation from the counterparty in the event of a default or other credit event (such as a credit downgrade) by the reference issuer, such as a U.S. or foreign corporation, with respect to its debt obligations. In return, the Funds would pay the counterparty a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided that no event of default has occurred. If no default occurs, the counterparty would keep the stream of payments and would have no further obligations to the Fund.

The use of CDSs, like all swap agreements, is subject to certain risks. If a counterparty’s creditworthiness declines, the value of the swap would likely decline. Moreover, there is no guarantee that the Funds could eliminate its exposure under an outstanding swap agreement by entering into an offsetting swap agreement with the same or another party.

**Total Return Swaps.** The Funds may invest in total return swaps. Total return swaps are contracts in which one party agrees to make periodic payments to another party based on the change in market value of the assets underlying the contract, which may include a specified security, basket of securities or securities indices during the specified period, in return for periodic payments based on a fixed or variable interest rate or the total return from other underlying assets. Total return swap agreements may be used to obtain exposure to a security or market without owning or taking physical custody of such security or investing directly in such market. Total return swap agreements may effectively add leverage to the Funds’ portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Funds would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

Total return swaps are subject to the risk that a counterparty will default on its payment obligations to the Funds thereunder. Swap agreements also bear the risk that the Funds will not be able to meet its obligation to the counterparty. Generally, the Funds will enter into total return swaps on a net basis (i.e., the two payment streams are netted against one another with the Funds receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments). The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Funds’ obligations over its entitlements with respect to each total return swap will be accrued on a daily basis. If the total return swap transaction is entered into on other than a net basis, the full amount of the Funds’ obligations will be accrued on a daily basis.

**G. Leverage Transactions**

**General.** The Funds may use leverage to increase potential returns. Leverage involves special risks and may involve speculative investment techniques. Leverage exists when cash made available to the Funds through an investment technique is used to make additional Fund investments. Leverage transactions include borrowing for other than temporary or emergency purposes, purchasing securities on margin (borrowing money from a bank to purchase securities), selling securities short (selling securities that are not owned), lending portfolio securities, entering into
repurchase agreements, dollar rolls and purchasing securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis.

**Borrowing and Reverse Repurchase Agreements.** The Funds shall be permitted to borrow from any bank so long as immediately after such borrowings, there is an asset coverage of at least 300% and that in the event such asset coverage falls below this percentage, the Funds shall reduce the amount of its borrowings within three days (excluding Sundays and holidays) to an extent that the asset coverage shall be at least 300%. The Funds may borrow money from a bank to, among other things, finance the purchase of securities for its portfolio. Entering into reverse repurchase agreements, pledging securities, and purchasing securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward delivery basis are not subject to this limitation. A reverse repurchase agreement is a transaction in which the Funds sell securities to a bank or securities dealer and simultaneously commits to repurchase the securities from the bank or dealer at an agreed upon date and at a price reflecting a market rate of interest unrelated to the sold securities.

In a reverse repurchase agreement, the Funds sell portfolio securities to another party and agrees to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price and date, which reflects an interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party will fail to return the securities in a timely manner, or at all, which may result in losses to the Fund. The Funds could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Funds are less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences to the Funds. Reverse repurchase agreements also involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold will decline below the price at which the Funds are obligated to repurchase them. Reverse repurchase agreements may be viewed as a form of borrowing by the Fund. When the Funds enter into a reverse repurchase agreement, any fluctuations in the market value of either the securities transferred to another party or the securities in which the proceeds may be invested would affect the market value of the Funds’ assets. During the term of the agreement, the Funds may also be obligated to pledge additional cash and/or securities in the event of a decline in the fair value of the transferred security. Absolute monitors the creditworthiness of counterparties to reverse repurchase agreements.

**Short Sales.** The Funds may use short sales for hedging and non-hedging purposes. To effect a short sale, the Funds borrow a security from or through a brokerage firm to make delivery to the buyer. The Funds are then obliged to replace the borrowed security by purchasing it at the market price at the time of replacement. Until the security is replaced, the Funds are required to pay the lender any dividends on the borrowed security and may be required to pay loan fees or interest.

The Funds may realize a gain if the security declines in price between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Funds replace the borrowed security. The Funds will incur a loss if the price of the security increases between those dates. The amount of any gain will be decreased, and the amount of any loss will be increased, by the amount of any premium or interest the Funds are required to pay in connection with a short sale. A short position may be adversely affected by imperfect correlation between movements in the prices of the securities sold short and the securities being hedged.

The Funds may also make short sales against-the-box, in which it sells short securities only if it owns or has the right to obtain without payment of additional consideration an equal amount of the same type of securities sold. The effect of short selling is similar to the effect of leverage. Short selling may amplify changes in the Funds’ NAV. Short selling may also produce higher than normal portfolio turnover, which may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund.

**Securities Lending and Repurchase Agreements.** The Funds may lend portfolio securities for income to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions. In a portfolio securities lending transaction, the Funds receive from the borrower an amount equal to the interest paid or the dividends declared on the loaned securities during the term of the loan and the interest on the collateral securities, less any fees (such as finders or administrative fees) the Funds pay in arranging the loan.

The Funds may share the interest it receives on the collateral securities with the borrower. Loans are subject to termination at the option of the Funds or the borrower at any time, and the borrowed securities must be returned when the loan is terminated. The Funds may pay fees to arrange for securities loans.
The Funds may enter into repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements are transactions in which the Funds purchase a security and simultaneously agrees to resell that security to the seller at an agreed upon price on an agreed upon future date, normally, one to seven days later. If the Funds enter into a repurchase agreement, it will maintain possession of the purchased securities and any underlying collateral.

Securities loans and repurchase agreements must be continuously collateralized, and the collateral must have market value at least equal to the value of the Funds’ loaned securities, plus accrued interest or, in the case of repurchase agreements, equal to the repurchase price of the securities, plus accrued interest.

**When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.** The Funds may purchase securities offered on a “when-issued” and “forward commitment” basis (including a delayed delivery basis). Securities purchased on a “when-issued” or “forward commitment basis” are securities not available for immediate delivery despite the fact that a market exists for those securities. A purchase is made on a “delayed delivery” basis when the transaction is structured to occur sometime in the future.

When these transactions are negotiated, the price, which is generally expressed in yield terms, is fixed at the time the commitment is made, but delivery and payment for the securities take place at a later date. Normally, the settlement date occurs within two months after the transaction, but delayed settlements beyond two months may be negotiated.

During the period between a commitment and settlement, no payment is made for the securities purchased by the purchaser and, thus, no interest accrues to the purchaser from the transaction. At the time the Funds make the commitment to purchase securities on a when-issued basis, the Funds will record the transaction as a purchase and thereafter reflect the value each day of such securities in determining its NAV.

**Standby Commitments.** The Funds may acquire the right to sell a security to another party at a guaranteed price and date. Such a right to resell may be referred to as a “standby commitment” or liquidity put, depending on its characteristics.

There can be no assurance that the securities subject to a standby commitment will be issued, and the value of the security, if issued, on the delivery date may be more or less than its purchase price. Since the issuance of the security underlying the commitment is at the option of the issuer, the Funds may bear the risk of a decline in the value of the security and may not benefit from an appreciation in the value of the security during the commitment period.

If the exercise price of a standby commitment held by the Funds should exceed the current value of the underlying securities, the Funds may refrain from exercising the standby commitment in order to avoid causing the issuer of the standby commitment to sustain a loss and thereby jeopardizing the Funds’ business relationship with the issuer. The Funds will enter into standby commitments only with banks and securities dealers that, in the opinion of Absolute or a Subadviser, present minimal credit risks. However, if a securities dealer or bank is unable to meet its obligation to repurchase the security when the Funds exercise a standby commitment, the Funds might be unable to recover all, or a portion of any, loss sustained from having to sell the security elsewhere.

**Dollar Roll Transactions.** Dollar roll transactions are transactions in which the Funds sell securities to a bank or securities dealer, and makes a commitment to purchase similar, but not identical, securities at a later date from the same party. During the period between the commitment and settlement, no payment is made for the securities purchased and no interest or principal payments on the securities accrue to the purchaser, but the Funds assume the risk of ownership. The Funds are compensated for entering into dollar roll transactions by the difference between the current sales price and the forward price for the future purchase, and by the interest earned on the cash proceeds of the initial sale. The Funds may engage in dollar roll transactions for the purpose of acquiring securities for their investment portfolios.

**Leverage Risks.** Leverage creates the risk of magnified capital losses. Leverage may involve the creation of a liability that requires the Funds pay interest (for instance, reverse repurchase agreements) or the creation of a liability that does not entail any interest costs (for instance, forward commitment costs).
The risks of leverage include a higher volatility of the NAV of the Funds’ securities which may be magnified by favorable or adverse market movements or changes in the cost of cash obtained by leveraging and the yield from invested cash. So long as the Funds are able to realize a net return on its investment portfolio that is higher than interest expense incurred, if any, leverage will result in higher current net investment income for the Funds than if the Funds were not leveraged. Changes in interest rates and related economic factors could cause the relationship between the cost of leveraging and the yield to change so that rates involved in the leveraging arrangement may substantially increase relative to the yield on the obligations in which the proceeds of the leveraging have been invested. To the extent that the interest expense involved in leveraging approaches the net return on the Funds’ investment portfolio, the benefit of leveraging will be reduced, and, if the interest expense incurred as a result of leveraging on borrowings were to exceed the net return to investors, the Funds’ use of leverage would result in a lower rate of return than if the Funds were not leveraged. In an extreme case, if the Funds’ current investment income were not sufficient to meet the interest expense of leveraging, it could be necessary for the Funds to liquidate certain of its investments at an inappropriate time.

H. Illiquid and Restricted Securities

The Funds may not acquire securities or invest in repurchase agreements if, as a result, more than 15% of the Funds’ net assets (taken at current value) would be invested in illiquid securities. Generally, an illiquid security is any investment that may not reasonably be expected to be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Illiquid securities may be difficult for a Fund to value or dispose of due to the absence of an active trading market. Illiquid securities include unregistered and “restricted securities,” and repurchase agreements maturing in greater than seven days.

“Restricted securities” generally are securities that may be resold to the public pursuant to an effective registration statement under the 1933 Act or an exemption from registration. Regulation S under the 1933 Act is one exemption from registration. It permits, under certain circumstances, the resale of restricted securities in offshore transactions. Rule 144A under the 1933 Act is another exemption. It permits the resale of certain restricted securities to qualified institutional buyers.

Since its adoption by the SEC in 1990, Rule 144A has facilitated trading of restricted securities among qualified institutional investors. To the extent restricted securities held by a Fund qualify under Rule 144A and an institutional market develops for those securities, the Funds expect that it will be able to dispose of the securities without registering the resale of such securities under the 1933 Act. However, to the extent that a robust market for such 144A securities does not develop, or a market develops but experiences periods of illiquidity, investments in Rule 144A securities could increase the level of a Fund’s illiquidity.

Where an exemption from registration under the 1933 Act is unavailable, or where an institutional market is limited, a Fund may, in certain circumstances, be permitted to require the issuer of restricted securities held by the Funds to file a registration statement to register the resale of such securities under the 1933 Act. In such case, the Funds will typically be obligated to pay all or part of the registration expenses, and a considerable period may elapse between the decision to sell and the time the Funds may be permitted to resell a security under an effective registration statement. If, during such a period, adverse market conditions were to develop, or the value of the security were to decline, the Funds might obtain a less favorable price than prevailed when it decided to sell. Restricted securities for which no market exists are priced at fair value pursuant to a methodology approved by the Board.

Liquidity Risk Management Program

The Funds have adopted and implemented a written liquidity risk management program (the “Program”) as required by Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the 1940 Act. The Program is designed to assess and manage each Fund’s liquidity risk, taking into consideration, among other factors, the Fund’s investment strategy and the liquidity of its portfolio investments during normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions; its short and long-term cash flow projections; and its cash holdings and access to other funding sources. The Board approved the appointment of the Liquidity Administrator Committee, comprising certain Trust officers and employees of Absolute. The Liquidity Administrator Committee maintains Program oversight and reports to the Board on at least an annual basis regarding the Program’s operational effectiveness through a written report.
I. Investment Company Securities (including Exchange-Traded Funds) and Exchange-Traded Products

A Fund at times may invest in shares of other investment companies and exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), including open-end funds, closed-end funds, business development companies (“BDCs”), and interests in unit investment trusts. BDCs are a specialized form of closed-end fund that invest generally in small developing companies and financially troubled businesses. BDCs invest in private companies and thinly traded securities of public companies, including debt instruments. Generally, little public information exists for private and thinly traded companies and there is a risk that investors may not be able to make fully informed investment decisions. Many debt investments in which a BDC may invest will not be rated by a credit rating agency and will be below investment grade quality. Risks faced by BDCs include: competition for limited BDC investment opportunities; the liquidity of a BDC’s private investments; uncertainty as to the value of a BDC’s private investments; risks associated with access to capital and leverage; and reliance on the management of a BDC. A Fund’s investments in BDCs are similar and include portfolio company risk, leverage risk, market and valuation risk, price volatility risk and liquidity risk.

A Fund may invest in investment company securities advised by the Fund’s adviser or sub-adviser. Investments in the securities of other investment companies may involve duplication of advisory fees and certain other expenses. By investing in another investment company, a Fund becomes a shareholder of that investment company. As a result, Fund shareholders indirectly will bear a Fund’s proportionate share of the fees and expenses paid by shareholders of the other investment company, in addition to the fees and expenses Fund shareholders directly bear in connection with a Fund’s own operations. These other fees and expenses are reflected as Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and are included in the Fees and Expenses Table for a Fund in its Prospectus, if applicable. Investment in other investment companies may involve the payment of substantial premiums above the value of such issuer’s portfolio securities.

An investment in an ETF generally presents the same primary risks as an investment in a conventional mutual fund (i.e., one that is not exchange-traded) that has the same investment objective, strategies, and policies. The price of an ETF can fluctuate within a wide range, and a Fund could lose money investing in an ETF if the prices of the securities owned by the ETF go down. In addition, because ETFs are traded on an exchange, ETFs are subject to the following risks that do not apply to conventional funds: (1) investments in ETPs are also subject to brokerage and other trading costs, which could result in greater expenses to the Fund; (2) the market price of the ETF’s shares may trade at a discount or premium to their NAV per share; (3) an active trading market for an ETF’s shares may not develop or be maintained; and (4) trading of an ETF’s shares may be halted if the listing exchange’s officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are de-listed from the exchange, or the activation of market-wide “circuit breakers” (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts stock trading generally.

Under Section 12(d)(1)(A) of the 1940 Act, however, a Fund’s investments in such securities are generally limited to 3% of the outstanding voting stock of any one company, 5% of a Fund’s total assets in any one company, and 10% of a Fund’s total assets in investment companies generally.

There are, however, several exceptions to these “3/5/10 limits.” For example, under Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act, a Fund may invest more than 5% of its total assets in another investment company and more than 10% of its total assets among multiple investment companies, provided that it and its affiliates limit their investment in an acquired fund to 3% of the acquired fund’s outstanding voting securities and the investing fund limits any sales load it charges to 1.5%. Further, the investing fund must comply with certain redemption and voting restrictions. A Fund may also rely on Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act to invest in acquired funds, and under Rule 12d1-4, acquired funds themselves may invest up to 10% of their assets in other funds.

In addition to investing in other funds, a Fund may invest in exchange-traded products (“ETPs”) other than ETFs, including exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”). ETNs are different from ETFs in that they are not secured by an underlying pool of assets, but rather are notes (or debt securities) secured only by the ability of the issuer to pay. As a result, ETN shares are subject to the same risks described for “Corporate Debt Obligations” herein.

A Fund may also invest in ETPs that are neither ETFs nor ETNs. Such ETPs may be organized as commodity pools registered under the Commodity Exchange Act or as grantor trusts. Such ETPs are not registered under the 1940 Act because they invest in, for example, commodities or currencies rather than securities. If a Fund invests in an ETP, including an ETN, it will be subject to substantially similar risks as are discussed above regarding ETFs. Notably, however, the 3/5/10 limits only apply to ETPs that are ETFs. Other types of ETPs are not subject to the 3/5/10 limits.
J. Precious Metal-Related Securities

The Funds may invest in the securities of companies that explore for, extract, process or deal in precious metals (e.g., gold, silver and platinum), and in asset-backed securities indexed to the value of such metals. Such securities may be purchased when they are believed to be attractively priced in relation to the value of a company’s precious metal-related assets or when the values of precious metals are expected to benefit from inflationary pressure or other economic, political or financial uncertainty or instability. Based on historical experience, during periods of economic or financial instability the securities of companies involved in precious metals may be subject to extreme price fluctuations, reflecting the high volatility of precious metal prices during such periods. In addition, the instability of precious metal prices may result in volatile earnings of precious metal-related companies, which may, in turn, adversely affect the financial condition of such companies.

The major producers of gold include the Republic of South Africa, Russia, Canada, the United States, Brazil and Australia. Sales of gold by Russia are largely unpredictable and often relate to political and economic considerations rather than to market forces. Economic, financial, social and political factors within South Africa may significantly affect South African gold production.

K. Cash Instruments

Cash Management and Temporary Defensive Position. For temporary defensive purposes, or to manage cash pending investment or payout, the Funds may invest up to 100% of their total assets in cash or cash equivalents in money-market instruments. The Funds also may invest in money-market instruments to increase liquidity or to provide collateral for margin and similar purposes. Such investments typically offer less potential for gain than other types of investments and may prevent the Funds from achieving their investment objective.

“Money-market instruments” are U.S. government securities and high-quality, short-term debt securities that typically have remaining maturities of one year or less. Securities will be considered “high-quality” if they are rated in one of the two highest short-term rating categories or, if not rated, determined by the Advisor to be of comparable quality. Money market instruments include certain U.S. government and agency securities, short-term corporate securities and commercial paper, bankers’ acceptances and certificates of deposit issued by domestic banks, corporate notes, money-market funds and repurchase agreements collateralized by the foregoing securities.

Although money-market instruments usually have fixed rates of return, the Funds may invest in money-market instruments that have variable or floating rates of interest, such as master demand notes. Master demand notes permit investment of fluctuating amounts at varying rates of interest pursuant to a direct arrangement with the issuer of the instrument. The issuer of these obligations often has the right, after a given period, to prepay the outstanding principal amount of the obligations upon a specified number of days’ notice. Generally, these obligations are not traded, nor is there an established secondary market for them. To the extent that a demand note does not have a seven-day or shorter demand feature and there is no readily available market for it, it will be treated by the Funds as an illiquid security.

L. Master-Feeder

The Funds may seek to achieve its investment objective by converting to a master-feeder structure. A fund operating under a master-feeder structure holds, as its only investment, shares of another investment company having substantially the same investment objective and policies. The Board will not authorize conversion to a master-feeder structure if it would materially increase costs to Fund shareholders. The Board will not convert the Funds to a master-feeder structure without notice to the shareholders.

M. Market Turbulence

The greatest risk of investing in a mutual fund is that its returns will fluctuate, and you could lose money. Turbulence in the financial sector may result in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets. Both domestic and foreign equity markets have experienced significant volatility and turmoil, with issuers that have exposure to the real estate, mortgage and credit markets particularly affected. It is uncertain whether or for how long these conditions could occur.
Reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets may adversely affect many issuers worldwide. This reduced liquidity may result in less money being available to purchase raw materials, goods and services from emerging markets, which may, in turn, bring down the prices of these economic staples. It may also result in emerging market issuers having more difficulty obtaining financing, which may, in turn, cause a decline in their stock prices. These events and possible market turbulence may have an adverse effect on the Fund.

The financial markets in which the Funds invest are subject to price volatility that could cause losses in a Fund. Market volatility may result from varied predictable and unpredictable factors. The recent outbreak of the novel coronavirus, first detected in December 2019, has resulted in disruptions to the economies of many nations, individual companies and the markets in general, the impact of which cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time. The impact of the novel coronavirus, and other such future infectious diseases in certain regions or countries may perform better or worse due to the nature or level of their public health response or due to other factors. Health crises caused by the recent coronavirus outbreak or future infectious diseases may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks in certain countries.

The impact of this virus, and other epidemics and/or pandemics that may arise in the future, has negatively affected and may continue to affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the global securities and commodities markets, including their liquidity, in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time. The impact of any outbreak may last for an extended period of time. This pandemic, other epidemics, and pandemics that may arise in the future could result in continued volatility in the financial markets and lead to increased levels of Fund redemptions, which could have a negative impact on the Funds and could adversely affect the Funds’ performance, resulting in losses to your investment.

Although interest rates were unusually low in recent years in the U.S. and abroad, recently, the Federal Reserve and certain foreign central banks began to raise interest rates as part of their efforts to address rising inflation. In addition, ongoing inflation pressures from tight labor markets and supply chain disruptions could continue to cause an increase in interest rates and/or negatively impact companies. It is difficult to accurately predict the pace at which interest rates might increase, or the timing, frequency or magnitude of any such increases in interest rates. Additionally, various economic and political factors could cause the Federal Reserve or other foreign central banks to change their approach in the future and such actions may result in an economic slowdown both in the U.S. and abroad. Unexpected increases in interest rates could lead to market volatility or reduce liquidity in certain sectors of the market. Deteriorating economic fundamentals may, in turn, increase the risk of default or insolvency of particular issuers, negatively impact market value, cause credit spreads to widen, and reduce bank balance sheets. Any of these could cause an increase in market volatility or reduce liquidity across various markets. Also, regulators have expressed concern that rate increases may cause investors to sell fixed income securities faster than the market can absorb them, contributing to price volatility. Over the longer term, rising interest rates may present a greater risk than has historically been the case due to the prior period of relatively low rates and the effect of government fiscal and monetary policy initiatives and potential market reaction to those initiatives, or their alteration or cessation. Historical patterns of correlation among asset classes may break down in unanticipated ways during times of high volatility, disrupting investment programs and potentially causing losses.

High public debt in the U.S. and other countries creates ongoing systemic and market risks and policymaking uncertainty. There is no assurance that the U.S. Congress will act to raise the nation’s debt ceiling; a failure to do so could cause market turmoil and substantial investment risks that cannot now be fully predicted. Unexpected political, regulatory and diplomatic events within the U.S. and abroad may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy.

In addition, global climate change may have an adverse effect on property and security values. A rise in sea levels, an increase in powerful storms and/or an increase in flooding could cause coastal properties to lose value or become unmarketable altogether. Economists warn that, unlike previous declines in the real estate market, properties in affected coastal zones may never recover their value. Large wildfires have devastated, and in the future may devastate, entire communities and may be very costly to any business found to be responsible for the fire or conducting operations in affected areas. The current
U.S. administration may focus regulatory and public works projects around climate change concerns. Regulatory changes and divestment movements tied to concerns about climate change could adversely affect the value of certain land and the viability of industries whose activities or products are seen as accelerating climate change. Losses related to climate change could adversely affect corporate borrowers and mortgage lenders, the value of mortgage-backed securities, the bonds of municipalities that depend on tax revenues and tourist dollars generated by such properties, and insurers of the property and/or of corporate, municipal or mortgage-backed securities. Since property and security values are driven largely by buyers’ perceptions, it is difficult to know the time period over which these effects might unfold.

Russia’s military invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the resulting responses by the United States and other countries, and the potential for wider conflict have had, and could continue to have, severe adverse effects on regional and global economies and could further increase volatility and uncertainty in the financial markets. The United States and other countries have imposed broad-ranging economic sanctions on Russia and certain Russian individuals, banking entities and corporations as a response to its invasion of Ukraine. The United States and other countries have also imposed economic sanctions on Belarus and may impose sanctions on other countries that provide military or economic support to Russia. These sanctions, as well as any other economic consequences related to the invasion, such as additional sanctions, boycotts or changes in consumer or purchaser preferences or cyberattacks on governments, companies or individuals, may further decrease the value and liquidity of certain Russian securities and securities of issuers in other countries that are subject to economic sanctions related to the invasion.

To the extent that the Funds have exposure to Russian investments or investments in countries affected by the invasion, the Funds’ ability to price, buy, sell, receive or deliver such investments may be impaired. In addition, any exposure that the Funds may have to counterparties in Russia or in countries affected by the invasion could negatively impact the Funds’ investments. The extent and duration of military actions and the repercussions of such actions (including any retaliatory actions or countermeasures that may be taken by those subject to sanctions) are impossible to predict. These events have resulted in, and could continue to result in, significant market disruptions, including in certain industries or sectors such as the oil and natural gas markets, and may further strain global supply chains and negatively affect inflation and global growth. These and any related events could significantly impact the Funds’ performance and the value of an investment in the Funds beyond any direct exposure the Funds may have to Russian issuers or issuers in other countries affected by the invasion.

N. Multi-Manager Strategy Risk

Fund performance may be dependent upon the success of Absolute and/or a Fund’s subadviser in implementing the Fund’s investment strategies in pursuit of its investment objective. A Fund’s performance may depend on the success of Absolute’s methodology in allocating the Fund’s assets to subadviser(s) or acquired fund “Managers” and its selection and oversight of any subadviser or Fund investment in acquired funds. To the extent there are multiple subadvisers and a subadviser’s investment style is not complimentary to another Subadviser, the Fund’s performance could be negatively affected. In addition, a Subadviser could enter into conflicting transactions (e.g. one subadviser purchasing a security at the same time another subadviser sells the same security or the Fund takes a long position in a security they have also sold short), which depending on the performance of such securities and the economic environment, could be beneficial or detrimental to the Fund’s performance. Multi-manager strategies can increase the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate, which could result in higher levels of realized capital gains or losses, higher brokerage commissions and other transaction costs. A Subadviser may have limited experience managing mutual funds, which, unlike other funds these subadvisers manage, are subject to daily inflows and outflows of investor cash and are subject to certain legal and tax-related restrictions on their investments and operations.

O. Cybersecurity Risk

The Fund, and its service providers, may be prone to operational and information security risks resulting from cyber-attacks. Cyber-attacks include, among other behaviors, stealing or corrupting data maintained online or digitally, denial of service attacks on websites, the unauthorized release of confidential information or various other forms of cyber security breaches. Cyber-attacks affecting the Funds or their third-party service providers may adversely impact the Fund. For instance, cyber-attacks may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, impact the Funds’ ability to calculate its NAV, cause the release of private shareholder information or confidential business information, impede trading, subject the Funds to regulatory fines or financial losses and/or cause reputational damage. The Funds
may also incur additional costs for cyber security risk management purposes. While the Funds’ service providers have established business continuity plans in the event of, and risk management systems to prevent, such cyber-attacks, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified. Furthermore, the Funds cannot control the cyber security plans and systems put in place by its service providers or any other third parties whose operations may affect a Fund or its shareholders. Similar types of cyber security risks are also present for issues or securities in which the Funds may invest, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and may cause the Funds’ investment in such companies to lose value.

P. Large Shareholder Transaction Risk

The Funds may experience adverse effects when a large shareholder redeems or purchases large amounts of shares of the Funds. Such redemptions may cause the Funds to sell securities at times when it would not otherwise do so, disrupt the Funds’ operations, or borrow money (at a cost to the Fund), which may negatively impact the Funds’ performance and liquidity. Similarly, large purchases may adversely affect the Funds’ performance to the extent that the Funds are delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would. These transactions may also accelerate the realization of taxable income to shareholders if such sales of investments resulted in gains and may also increase transaction costs.
INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS

A. **Fundamental.** The investment limitations described below have been adopted by the Trust with respect to the Funds and are fundamental, (i.e., they may not be changed without the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Funds). As used in the Prospectus and this SAI, the term “majority of the outstanding shares” of the Funds means the lesser of (1) 67% or more of the outstanding shares of the Funds present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Funds are present or represented at such meeting; or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Funds.

1. **Borrowing Money.** A Fund will not borrow money, except (a) from a bank, provided that immediately after such borrowing there is an asset coverage of 300% for all borrowings of the Fund; or (b) from a bank or other persons for temporary purposes only, provided that such temporary borrowings are in an amount not exceeding 5% of the Fund’s total assets at the time when the borrowing is made. This limitation does not preclude the Fund from entering into reverse repurchase transactions, provided that the Fund has an asset coverage of 300% for all borrowings and repurchase commitments of the Fund pursuant to reverse repurchase transactions.

2. **Senior Securities.** The Funds will not issue senior securities. This limitation is not applicable to activities that may be deemed to involve the issuance or sale of a senior security by a Fund, provided that the Fund’s engagement in such activities is consistent with or permitted by the Investment Company Act of 1940, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff.

3. **Underwriting.** The Funds will not act as underwriter of securities issued by other persons. This limitation is not applicable to the extent that, in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities (including restricted securities), a Fund may be deemed an underwriter under certain federal securities laws.

4. **Real Estate.** The Funds will not purchase or sell real estate. This limitation is not applicable to investments in marketable securities which are secured by or represent interests in real estate. This limitation does not preclude the Funds from investing in mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including REITs).

5. **Commodities.** The Funds will not purchase or sell commodities unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other investments. This limitation does not preclude a Fund from purchasing or selling options or futures contracts, including commodities futures contracts, from investing in securities or other instruments backed by commodities or from investing in companies which are engaged in a commodities business or have a significant portion of their assets in commodities.

6. **Loans.** The Funds will not make loans to other persons, except (a) by loaning portfolio securities, (b) by engaging in repurchase agreements, or (c) by purchasing non-publicly offered debt securities. For purposes of this limitation, the term “loans” shall not include the purchase of a portion of an issue of publicly distributed bonds, debentures or other securities.

7. **Concentration.** A Fund will not invest 25% or more of its total assets in a particular industry. This limitation is not applicable to investments in obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities or repurchase agreements with respect thereto.

8. **Diversification.** The Funds are “diversified” as defined in the 1940 Act. This means that at least 75% of the value of each Fund’s total assets is represented by cash and cash items (including receivables), U.S. government securities, securities of other investment companies, and securities of other issuers, which for purposes of this calculation, are limited in respect of any one issuer to an amount not greater in value than 5% of each Fund’s total assets and to not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer.

With respect to the percentages adopted by the Trust as maximum limitations on the Funds’ investment policies and limitations, an excess above the fixed percentage will not be a violation of the policy or limitation unless the excess
results immediately and directly from the acquisition of any security or the action taken. This paragraph does not apply to the borrowing policy set forth in paragraph 1 above.

Notwithstanding any of the foregoing limitations, any investment company, whether organized as a trust, association or corporation, or a personal holding company, may be merged or consolidated with or acquired by the Trust, provided that if such merger, consolidation or acquisition results in an investment in the securities of any issuer prohibited by the paragraphs above, the Trust shall, within ninety days after the consummation of such merger, consolidation or acquisition, dispose of all of the securities of such issuer so acquired or such portion thereof as shall bring the total investment therein within the limitations imposed by said paragraphs above as of the date of consummation.
A. Board of Trustees

The Trust is governed by its Board of Trustees (the “Board” or “Trustees”). The Board oversees the management and operations of the Trust and the Funds, in accordance with federal law, Ohio law and the stated policies of the Funds. The Board oversees the Trust’s officers and service providers, including Absolute and Subadvisers, which are responsible for the management of the day-to-day operations of each Fund based on policies and agreements reviewed and approved by the Board. In carrying out these responsibilities, the Board regularly interacts with and receives reports from senior personnel of service providers and the Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”). The Board also is assisted by the Trust’s independent auditor (which reports directly to the Trust’s Audit Committee), independent counsel and other experts as appropriate. The Trustees serve until their respective successors have been elected and qualified or until their earlier death, retirement, resignation or removal.

The fund complex includes the funds advised by Absolute Investment Advisers LLC, which are the Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, the Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund, the Absolute Flexible Fund and the Absolute Strategies Fund and the Absolute Select Value ETF (the “Absolute Funds”). The Absolute Funds do not share the same investment adviser with any other series of the Trust.

Board Structure and Related Matters. The Chairman of the Board and more than 75% of the Trustees are “Independent Trustees,” which means that they are not “interested persons” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust or any adviser, sub-adviser or distributor of the Trust.

The Trustees discharge their responsibilities collectively as a Board, as well as through Board committees, each of which operates pursuant to a charter or procedures approved by the Board that delineates the specific responsibilities of that committee. The Board has established three standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee. The members and responsibilities of each Board committee are summarized below.

The Independent Trustees have engaged independent legal counsel to provide advice on regulatory, compliance and other topics. This counsel also serves as counsel to the Trust. In addition, the Board has engaged on behalf of the Trust Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC, to provide a Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) who is responsible for overseeing compliance risks. The CCO is also an officer of the Trust and reports to the Board at least quarterly any material compliance items that have arisen, and annually she provides to the Board a comprehensive compliance report outlining the effectiveness of compliance policies and procedures of the Trust and its service providers. As part of the CCO’s risk oversight function, the CCO seeks to understand the risks inherent in the operations of the Trust’s series and their advisers and sub-advisers. Periodically, the CCO provides reports to the Board that:

- Assess the quality of the information the CCO receives from internal and external sources;
- Assess how Trust personnel monitor and evaluate risks;
- Assess the quality of the Trust’s risk management procedures and the effectiveness of the Trust’s organizational structure in implementing those procedures;
- Consider feedback from and provide feedback regarding critical risk issues to Trust and administrative and advisory personnel responsible for implementing risk management programs; and
- Consider economic, industry, and regulatory developments, and recommend changes to the Trust’s compliance programs as necessary to meet new regulations or industry developments.

The Trustees, under normal circumstances, meet in-person on a quarterly basis, typically for two days of meetings. Trustees also participate in special meetings and conference calls as needed. In addition to Board meetings, Trustees also participate in teleconferences each quarter to review and discuss 15(c) materials and to interview advisers and sub-advisers whose contracts are up for renewal. Legal counsel to the Trust provides
quarterly reports to the Board regarding regulatory developments. Beginning in March 2020, the Trustees have been permitted to conduct quarterly meetings telephonically or by video conference in accordance with relief granted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) to ease certain governance obligations in light of current travel concerns and restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Trustees acknowledge that all actions that require a vote of the Trustees at an in-person meeting will be ratified at the next in-person meeting, as required by the SEC’s relief. The Trustees have since and may continue to rely on the SEC relief if needed, so long as it is available. On a quarterly basis, the Trustees review and discuss some or all of the following compliance and risk management reports relating to the series of the Trust:

1. Fund Performance/Morningstar Report/Portfolio Manager’s Commentary
2. Code of Ethics review
3. NAV Errors, if any
4. Distributor Compliance Reports
5. Timeliness of SEC Filings
6. Dividends and other Distributions
7. List of Brokers, Brokerage Commissions Paid and Average Commission Rate
8. Review of 12b-1 Payments
9. Multiple Class Expense Reports
10. Anti-Money Laundering/Customer Identification Reports
11. Administrator and CCO Compliance Reports
12. Market Timing Reports

The Board has not adopted a formal diversity policy. When soliciting future nominees for Trustee, the Board will make efforts to identify and solicit qualified minorities and women.

On an annual basis, the Trustees assess the Board’s and their individual effectiveness in overseeing the Trust. Based upon its assessment, the Board determines whether additional risk assessment or monitoring processes are required with respect to the Trust or any of its service providers.

Based on the qualifications of each of the Trust’s Trustees and officers, the risk management practices adopted by the Board, including a regular review of several compliance and operational reports, and the committee structure adopted by the Board, the Trust believes that its leadership is appropriate.

The Independent Trustees are identified in the table below, which provides information as to their principal business occupations held during the last five years and certain other information. Each Trustee serves until his or her death, retirement resignation or removal.

Name, Address*, (Year of Birth), Position with Trust**, Term of Position with Trust
Principal Occupation During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships

Daniel J. Condon (1950)
Chair, May 2022 to present; Chair of the Audit Committee and Chair of the Governance & Nominating Committee, May 2020 to May 2022; Independent Trustee, December 2002 to present

Principal Occupation: Retired (2017 - present).

Kenneth G.Y. Grant (1949)
Chair of the Governance & Nominating Committee, May 2022 to present; Chair, January 2017 to May 2022; Independent Trustee, May 2008 to present

Current: Director, Standpoint Multi-Asset (Cayman) Fund, Ltd. (2019 – present); Director, Advisors Charitable Gift Fund (2020 - present), a Donor Advised Fund; Trustee, Peak Income Plus Fund (May 2022 – present).

Previous: EVP, Benefit Plans Administrative Services, Inc., provider of retirement benefit plans administration (2019 – 2020); Director, Northeast Retirement Services (NRS) LLC, a transfer agent and fund administrator; and Director, Global Trust Company (GTC), a non-depository trust company sponsoring private investment products (2003 – 2019); EVP, NRS (2003 – 2019); GTC, EVP (2008 – 2019); EVP, Savings Banks Retirement Association (2003 – 2019), provider of qualified retirement benefit plans.

Freddie Jacobs, Jr. (1970)
Independent Trustee, September 2022 to present

Current: Chief Operating Officer and Chief Risk Officer Northeast Retirement Services LLC (NRS), and its subsidiary Global Trust Company (GTC). NRS is a transfer agent and fund administrator; GTC is a non-depository trust company sponsoring private investment products (2021- present); Chairman Board of Crispus Attucks Fund (2020 – present); Board Member of Camp Harbor View (2020 – present).


Catharine B. McGauley (1977)
Chair of the Pricing & Liquidity Committee, November 2022 to present; Independent Trustee, September 2022 to present


Ronald C. Tritschler (1952)
Chair of the Audit Committee, May 2022 to present; Independent Trustee, January 2007 to present; Interested Trustee, December 2002 to December 2006

Current: Chief Executive Officer, Director and Legal Counsel of The Webb Companies, a national real estate company (2001 – present); Director, Standpoint Multi-Asset (Cayman) Fund, Ltd. (2020 – present; Director of First State Bank of the Southeast (2000 – present); Trustee.


* The business address for each Trustee is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246.

** As of the date of this Report, the Trust consists of 29 series.
The following table provides information regarding the interested Trustee and the officers of the Trust.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name, Address*, (Year of Birth), Position with Trust, Term of Position with Trust</th>
<th>Principal Occupation During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

In addition to the information set forth in the table above, each Trustee possesses other relevant qualifications, experience, attributes or skills. The following provides additional information about these qualifications and experience.

**Daniel J. Condon** – Mr. Condon has been an Independent Trustee of the Trust since its inception in 2002 and currently serves as Chairman of the Board. He served as Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Governance & Nominating Committee of the Board from May 2020 to May 2022. He has also served as trustee of three other registered investment companies. From 1990 to 2002, he served as Vice President and General Manager of an international automotive equipment manufacturing company. From 2002 to 2017 he served as CEO of various multi-national companies. Mr. Condon was a Trustee of Peak Income Plus Fund from May 2022 to February 2023. Mr. Condon received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. from Eastern Illinois University. He also received his registered Professional Engineer license. Mr. Condon was selected as Trustee based on his over 22 years of international business experience.

**Kenneth G.Y. Grant** – Mr. Grant, an Independent Trustee of the Trust since 2008, currently serves as Chairman of the Governance & Nominating Committee of the Board. He served as Chairman of the Board from January 2017 to May 2022. Mr. Grant has over 40 years of executive leadership experience, founding and leading multiple financial services firms. Previously, he was an Executive Vice President of a retirement benefit plan administrator, and a Director, Executive Vice President and Chief Officer Corporate Development for a trust company that sponsors private investment products. He was also a Director, Executive Vice President and Chief Officer Corporate Development for a firm administering more than US$1 trillion in global pension, endowment, corporate, public and other commingled assets. He was also an Executive Vice President of a retirement association serving multiple employers. Mr. Grant is a Trustee, President (since 2023) and member of the Presbytery of Boston, Presbyterian Church (USA), Chair of the Investment Committee of the Massachusetts Council of Churches and previously a member of the Board, Lift Up Africa. He is a Member, Dean’s Advisory Board, Boston University School of Theology and a Director, Oceana Palms Condominium Association, Inc. Mr. Grant has been a Director of Standpoint Multi-Asset (Cayman) Fund, Ltd. since 2019. Mr. Grant has been a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Peak Income Plus Fund since May 2022. He has a B.A. in Psychology from Syracuse University, a ThM in Theology and Ethics from Boston University and a M.B.A. from Clark University. Mr. Grant was selected to serve as a Trustee based primarily on his experience in investment and trust product development and administration, and financial service and retirement plan management.

**Freddie Jacobs Jr.** - Mr. Jacobs has been a Trustee of the Trust since September of 2022, and currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Risk Officer for Northeast Retirement Systems, LLC (NRS) and its subsidiary Global Trust Company (GTC). As Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Jacobs, is responsible for the company’s Operational Services and Technology team. As Chief Risk Officer, Mr. Jacobs is responsible for the company’s overall compliance, risk and fund accounting and finance functions. He has over 25 years of experience in the mutual fund industry. He is Chairman of the board for the Crispus Attucks Fund (since 2020) and has also served on the Board of Sportsmen’s Tennis and Education Center in Boston since 2019. Mr. Jacobs served as a Trustee and Member of the Finance Committee for Buckingham Browne & Nichols from 2017 to June 2023. Prior to joining NRS in 2013 Mr. Jacobs spent two years at JP Morgan where he was responsible for the 40' Act Compliance Reporting Services Team and four years with State Street Bank as a Risk Manager for Investor Services. Prior to State Street's acquisition of Investors Bank and Trust (IBT) Mr. Jacobs was the Director of Operational Risk and Compliance for Mutual Fund Administration at IBT. Mr. Jacobs began his career as an auditor at Arthur Andersen and later worked at U.S. Bancorp Fund Services as an AVP in Fund Administration. Mr. Jacobs was a Trustee of Peak Income Plus Fund from May 2022 to February 2023. Mr. Jacobs graduated from Hampton University with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. He is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in Wisconsin.
Catharine Barrow McGauley - Ms. McGauley has been an Independent Trustee of the Trust since September of 2022 and currently serves as Chair of the Pricing & Liquidity Committee. She has over 20 years of financial services industry experience which includes institutional and individual portfolio management, securities research, and risk management. She currently serves as lead portfolio manager for Atlantic Charter Insurance (ACI), one of Massachusetts’ leading workers’ compensation insurers. Ms. McGauley also currently serves as an investment adviser for a family office and senior analyst/advisor for a large real estate company in Boston and related family. Prior to joining ACI in 2010, Ms. McGauley spent two years as an investment advisor at JP Morgan where she managed over $100 million of investments for high net worth clients. She also spent four years as a portfolio manager with Wilmington Trust/Bigham Legg Advisors where she was a voting member of the firm’s investment committee whose responsibility was to determine the core strategic and tactical allocation of assets in client accounts. In addition, she is an active investment committee member for several charities. Ms. McGauley was a Trustee of Peak Income Plus Fund from May 2022 to February 2023.

Ronald C. Tritschler – Mr. Tritschler has been a Trustee of the Trust since its inception in 2002 and currently serves as Chair of the Audit Committee of the Board. He also has served as trustee of three other registered investment companies. From 1989 to 2021, he was a director, vice president and general counsel of a company that operates convenience stores. Since 2001, Mr. Tritschler has been CEO, director and general counsel of a national real estate company. He also is a director of First State Bank of the Southeast and its holding company, as well as a member of its Directors’ Loan Committee, Audit Committee, and Personnel Committee. Mr. Tritschler is a Director of Mountain Valley Insurance Company, a Member of the Executive Board of The Lexington Chamber of Commerce, and a Member of the Board of the Hartland Executive Home Owners’ Association, and a Member of the Advisory Board for the Baldwin-Wallace University School of Business. Mr. Tritschler has been a Director of Standpoint Multi-Asset (Cayman) Fund, Ltd. since 2020. Mr. Tritschler was a Trustee of Peak Income Plus Fund from May 2022 to February 2023. Mr. Tritschler received a B.A. in Business Administration from Baldwin-Wallace University and his J.D. and M.B.A. from the University of Toledo. Mr. Tritschler was selected to serve as a Trustee based primarily on his substantial business and legal experience.

David R. Carson – Mr. Carson has been an Interested Trustee of the Trust since 2020 and served as President of the Trust from 2016 to 2021. Mr. Carson was a Trustee of Ultimus Managers Trust from January 2021 to April 2023. From 2013 to April 2023, Mr. Carson was a Senior Vice President and Vice President of Client Strategies at Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC, the Trust’s current administrator. Mr. Carson served in other capacities, including chief compliance officer and chief operations officer, for other registered investment companies from 1994 to 2013. Mr. Carson has been a Trustee of Peak Income Plus Fund since May 2022. Mr. Carson has been a Trustee of Mammoth Institutional Credit Access Fund and Mammoth Institutional Equity Access Fund since November 2022.

Independent Trustees Messrs. Condon and Tritschler each have previous experience serving as trustees to other multi-series trusts, which means that they are familiar with issues relating to overseeing multiple advisers and multiple funds. Mr. Grant has experience conducting due diligence on and evaluating investment advisers as an officer of a trust company which sponsors collective investment trusts and manages limited liability investment corporations. This means that he is qualified to review annually each adviser’s qualifications, including the qualification of Absolute to serve as adviser to the Fund. Mr. Jacobs’ experience in the mutual funds industry, including his current role as chief risk officer Northeast Retirement Systems, LLC, and Ms. McGauley’s experience in the financial industry in various portfolio management and risk management roles, provide them with the ability to review advisers’ risk management programs and other investment related risks. Mr. Carson’s experience as an officer of the Trust’s administrator provides the Independent Trustees with insight into the operations of the service providers and their day-to-day administration of the Fund.

Trustee Ownership in the Funds and the Fund Complex. The following table provides information regarding shares of the Funds and other portfolios of the Trust owned by each Trustee as of December 31, 2022.
### Trustee Dollar Range

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustee</th>
<th>Dollar Range of Shares beneficially owned by the Trustee in Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</th>
<th>Dollar Range of Shares beneficially owned by the Trustee in Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</th>
<th>Dollar Range of Shares beneficially owned by the Trustee in Absolute Flexible Fund</th>
<th>Dollar Range of Shares beneficially owned by the Trustee in Absolute Strategies Fund</th>
<th>Aggregate Dollar Range of Shares of All Funds Within the Trust*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David R. Carson</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel J. Condon</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth G.Y. Grant</td>
<td>$100,001 - $500,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freddie Jacobs, Jr.</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catharine B. McGauley</td>
<td>$10,001 - $50,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald C. Tritschler</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* As of the date of this SAI, the Trust consists of 29 series.

### B. Principal Officers of the Trust

The following table provides information regarding the officers of the Trust.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name, Address*, (Year of Birth), Position with Trust, Term of Position with Trust</th>
<th>Principal Occupation During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martin R. Dean (1963)</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> President, Northern Lights Compliance Services (2023 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Previous:</strong> Senior Vice President, Head of Fund Compliance of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2016 – January 2023).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zachary P. Richmond (1980)</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Vice President, Director of Financial Administration for Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2015 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, November 2014 to present</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Assistant Vice President, Compliance Officer of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2019 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Previous:</strong> Chief Operating Officer &amp; CCO at Miles Capital, Inc. (2013 – 2019).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey A. Havens (1965)</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Assistant Vice President, Relationship Management for Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2015 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship Manager, November 2009 to present</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Attorney, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2016 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisabeth A. Dahl (1962)</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC and Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC (2011 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary, May 2017 to present; Assistant Secretary, March 2016 to May 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen L. Preston (1966)</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Assistant Vice President, Financial Administration, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2016 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AML Compliance Officer, May 2017 to present</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC and Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC (2011 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin M. Traegner (1985)</td>
<td><strong>Current:</strong> Attorney, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2016 – present).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Treasurer, November 2020 to present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The business address for each officer is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246.
C. Ownership of Securities of the Adviser and Related Companies

As of the date of this SAI, no Independent Trustee (or any of his or her immediate family members) owned beneficially or of record, securities of any Trust investment adviser, the Trust’s principal underwriter, or any person (other than a registered investment company) directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with any Trust investment adviser or principal underwriter.

D. Information Concerning Trust Committees

As part of its efforts to oversee risk management associated with the Trust, the Board has established the Audit Committee, the Pricing & Liquidity Committee (formerly the Pricing Committee), and the Governance & Nominating Committee as described below:

- The Audit Committee currently consists of Messrs. Condon, Jacobs and Tritschler. The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Trust’s accounting and financial reporting policies and practices, internal controls and, as appropriate, the internal controls of certain service providers; overseeing the quality and objectivity of financial statements and the independent audits of the financial statements; and acting as a liaison between the independent auditors and the full Board. The Audit Committee expects to meet four times during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024.

- The Pricing & Liquidity Committee is responsible for reviewing fair valuation determinations and approving those for any series of the Trust that does not have a Valuation Designee. The Pricing & Liquidity Committee currently consists of Messrs. Carson and Grant, and Ms. McGauley. Any one member of the Pricing & Liquidity Committee constitutes a quorum for purposes of reviewing and approving a fair value. In addition to meetings to review or approve fair valuations, the Pricing & Liquidity Committee expects to meet four times during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024.

- The Governance & Nominating Committee consists of all of the Independent Trustees. The Governance & Nominating Committee is responsible for overseeing the composition of the Board and qualifications and independence of its members, compensation, education and other governance matters, as well as succession of Board members. The Committee currently does not accept recommendations of nominees from shareholders. The Governance & Nominating Committee expects to meet four times during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024.

The Audit Committee and the Pricing & Liquidity Committee meet at least quarterly and each Committee reviews reports provided by administrative service providers, legal counsel and independent accountants. The Governance & Nominating Committee meets on an as needed basis. All Committees report directly to the full Board.

E. Compensation of Trustees and Officers

Trustees’ fees and Trustees’ and officers’ expenses are Trust expenses, and the Funds incur their share of such expenses, which are allocated among the series of the Trust in such manner as the Trustees determine to be fair and equitable. The Trust does not compensate its officers.

F. Investment Adviser

Services of Adviser. Absolute serves as investment adviser to the Funds pursuant to the Management Agreement. Absolute has overall supervisory management responsibility for the general management and investment of the Fund’s portfolio. Absolute sets the Fund’s overall investment strategies, identifies securities for investment, determines when securities should be purchased or sold, selects brokers or dealers to execute transactions for the Fund’s portfolio and votes any proxies solicited by portfolio companies.
Absolute may make payments to financial intermediaries that provide shareholder services and administer shareholder accounts. If a financial intermediary were prohibited from continuing to perform all or a part of such services, management of the Fund believes that there would be no material impact on the Fund or shareholders. Financial intermediaries may charge their customers fees for offering these services to the extent permitted by applicable regulatory authorities, and the overall return to those shareholders availing themselves of the services will be lower than to those shareholders who do not. The Funds may occasionally purchase securities issued by financial intermediaries that provide such services; however, in selecting investments for the Funds, no preference will be shown for such securities.

Ownership of Adviser and Subadviser. The following persons/entities control Absolute and Subadviser through equity interests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adviser</th>
<th>Controlling Persons/Entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Investment Advisers, LLC</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subadviser</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kovitz Investment Group Partners, LLC</td>
<td>Focus Financial Partner, LLC (financial services)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information Concerning Accounts Managed by Portfolio Managers. The following table provides information regarding other accounts managed by each portfolio manager as of March 31, 2023:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Portfolio Manager</th>
<th>Number of Other Accounts Managed and Assets by Account Type</th>
<th>Number of Accounts and Assets for Which Advisory Fee is Performance Based</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registered Investment Companies</td>
<td>Other Pooled Investment Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Compson</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Hage</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric C. Hage</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel D. Hirsh</td>
<td>2 ($890 million)</td>
<td>2 ($198 million)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark C. Rosland</td>
<td>1 ($99 million)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell A. Kovitz</td>
<td>2 ($890 million)</td>
<td>2 ($198 million)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conflicts of Interest. Actual or apparent conflicts of interest may arise when the portfolio manager has day-to-day management responsibilities with respect to more than one fund or other account. More specifically, portfolio managers who manage multiple funds and/or other accounts may be presented with the following conflicts:

- The management of multiple client accounts may result in the portfolio manager devoting unequal time and attention to the management of each Fund. Absolute and any Subadvisers may seek to manage such competing interests for the time and attention of the portfolio manager by having the portfolio manager focus on a particular investment discipline.

- If the portfolio manager identifies a limited investment opportunity which may be suitable for more than one account, the Funds may be unable to take full advantage of that opportunity due to an allocation of filled purchase or sale orders across all eligible accounts. To deal with these situations, Absolute/Subadvisers have adopted procedures for allocating portfolio transactions across multiple accounts.

- With respect to securities transactions for the Fund, Absolute/Subadvisers determine which broker to use to execute each order, consistent with their duty to seek best execution of the transaction. However, with respect to certain other accounts (such as other pooled investment vehicles that are not registered mutual funds and other accounts managed for organizations and individuals), Absolute/Subadvisers may be limited by the client with respect to the selection of brokers or may be instructed to direct trades through a particular broker. In these cases, Absolute/Subadvisers may place separate, non-simultaneous
transactions for the Fund and another account which may temporarily affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment of the Fund or the other account.

- Finally, the appearance of a conflict of interest may arise if Absolute/Subadvisers have an incentive, such as a performance-based management fee, which relates to the management of one fund or account but not all funds and accounts with respect to which a portfolio manager has day-to-day management responsibilities.

Absolute/Subadvisers have adopted certain compliance procedures, which are designed to address these types of conflicts. Absolute/Subadvisers have developed and implemented policies and procedures designed to ensure that all clients are treated equitably. In addition, compliance oversight and monitoring ensure adherence to policies designed to avoid conflicts. Absolute’s/Subadvisers’ policies and procedures address trade aggregation and allocation. Additionally, given the nature of Absolute’s/Subadvisers’ investment process and their Funds and/or other accounts, Absolute’s/Subadvisers’ investment management team services are typically applied collectively to the management of all the Funds and/or other accounts following the same strategy.

Fund performance is not a determinative factor in compensation, as it might encourage investment decisions deviating from a Fund’s mandate. To mitigate the potential for conflict to have a team member favor one Fund over another Fund and/or other account, Absolute/Subadvisers have established procedures, including policies to monitor trading and best execution for all funds and/or other accounts.

There is no guarantee that such procedures will detect each and every situation in which a conflict arises.

**Information Concerning Compensation of Portfolio Manager.** The following compensation information has been provided by Absolute:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Portfolio Manager</th>
<th>Compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jay Compson</td>
<td>Base salary and percentage of Adviser profits. The percentage is based on equity participation in the firm. Compensation is not based on the investment performance of the Fund or other advisory accounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Hage</td>
<td>Base salary and percentage of Adviser profits. The percentage is based on equity participation in the firm. Compensation is not based on the investment performance of the Fund or other advisory accounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric C. Hage</td>
<td>Base salary and percentage of Adviser profits. The percentage is based on equity participation in the firm. Compensation is not based on the investment performance of the Fund or other advisory accounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel D. Hirsh</td>
<td>Annual base salary and other compensation from a separate company which receives a management fee in connection with such services (the “Management Co.”). Mr. Hirsh has ownership interests in Management Co., and he may receive distributions from Management Co., which may come indirectly from profits generated by the Adviser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark C. Rosland</td>
<td>Annual base salary and discretionary bonuses from the Adviser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell A. Kovitz</td>
<td>Annual base salary and other compensation from a separate company which receives a management fee in connection with such services (the “Management Co.”). Mr. Kovitz has ownership interests in Management Co., and he may receive distributions from Management Co., which may come indirectly from profits generated by the Adviser.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Portfolio Manager Ownership in the Funds. Absolute has provided the following information regarding the portfolio manager’s ownership in the Funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Portfolio Manager</th>
<th>Dollar Range of Beneficial Ownership in the Fund as of March 31, 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Compson</td>
<td>$100,001 - $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel D. Hirs</td>
<td>$100,001 - $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark C. Rosland</td>
<td>$100,001 - $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell A. Kovitz</td>
<td>Over $500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Hage</td>
<td>Over $1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Hage</td>
<td>Over $1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Strategies Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Compson</td>
<td>$100,001-$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Flexible Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric C. Hage</td>
<td>Over $1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Hage</td>
<td>Over $1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fees. Absolute receives a management fee from the Funds at an annual rate equal to 1.40% of the average annual daily net assets of the Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, the Absolute Flexible Fund and the Absolute Strategies Fund, and 1.00% of the average annual daily net assets of the Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund under the terms of the Management Agreement. The actual management fee paid to Absolute for Predecessor Funds for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023, was 1.24%, by the Predecessor Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, 0.98% by the Predecessor Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund, 0.85% by the Predecessor Absolute Strategies Fund, and 0.46% by the Predecessor Absolute Flexible Fund which commenced operations on June 30, 2022.

Absolute pays any subadvisory fees out of the fees it receives pursuant to the Management Agreement. The aggregate amount paid by Absolute to its Subadvisers for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023, was 0.81% and 0.00% for the Predecessor Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund and the Predecessor Absolute Strategies Fund, respectively.

Absolute has contractually agreed to waive its management fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses, but only to the extent necessary so that the Fund’s total annual operating expenses, excluding portfolio transaction and other investment-related costs (including brokerage fees and commissions); taxes; borrowing costs (such as interest and dividend expenses on securities sold short); acquired fund fees and expenses; fees and expenses associated with investments in other collective investment vehicles or derivative instruments (including for example option and swap fees and expenses); any administrative and/or shareholder servicing fees payable pursuant to a plan adopted by the Board; expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization; extraordinary expenses (such as litigation expenses, indemnification of Trust officers and Trustees and contractual indemnification of Fund service providers); and other expenses that the Trustees agree have not been incurred in the ordinary course of the Fund’s business, do not exceed 1.48% of the Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, 1.20% or 1.45% of the Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund’s Institutional Shares and Investor Shares, respectively, 1.48% of the Absolute Flexible Fund and 1.79% of the Absolute Strategies Fund through at least July 31, 2025 (“Expense Cap”). The Expense Cap may only be terminated with the consent of the Board of Trustees upon 60 days’ written notice to Absolute. Absolute may recoup from the Fund fees waived (other than advisory fees waived by Absolute related to the Funds’ investments in other pooled vehicles sponsored by Absolute) and expenses reimbursed by Absolute pursuant to the Expense Cap if such recoupment is made within three years of the fee waiver or expense reimbursement and does not cause the Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement of the Fund (i.e., after the recoupment has been taken into account) to exceed the lesser of (i) any then-current expense cap and (ii) the expense cap in place at the time the fees/expenses were waived or reimbursed. Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement will increase if exclusions from the Expense Cap apply. Absolute has contractually agreed to waive its investment advisory fees related to any Fund assets invested in pooled vehicles sponsored by Absolute.
In addition to receiving its advisory fee from the Funds, Absolute may also act and be compensated as an investment manager for its clients with respect to assets that such clients have invested in a Fund. If you have a separately managed account with Absolute with assets invested in a Fund, Absolute will not assess or receive any management fee on the portion of the separately managed account invested in the Fund.

Table 1 in Appendix B shows the dollar amount of advisory fees accrued by each Predecessor Fund, the amount of advisory fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed by Absolute, if any, and the actual advisory fees retained by Absolute. The data provided is for the last three fiscal years.

During the years ended March 31, 2021, March 31, 2022, and March 31, 2023, the aggregate amount of subadvisory fees paid to the Subadvisers was $588,626, $1,087,606 and $81,076,463 respectively, for the Predecessor Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund and $73,098, $44,016 and $8, respectively for the Predecessor Absolute Strategies Fund. None of the Subadvisers are affiliates of the Adviser.

Management Agreement. The Funds’ Management Agreement remains in effect for an initial period of two years from the date of its effectiveness, and thereafter the Management Agreement must be approved at least annually by the Board or by majority vote of the shareholders, and in either case by a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Management Agreement or interested persons of any such party (other than as Trustees of the Trust).

The Management Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust with respect to the Funds on 60 days’ written notice when authorized either by vote of the Funds’ shareholders or by a majority vote of the Board, or by Absolute on 60 days’ written notice to the Trust. The Management Agreement terminates immediately upon assignment.

Under the Management Agreement, Absolute is not liable for any error of judgment, mistake of law, or in any event whatsoever except for willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of reckless disregard of its obligations and duties under the Management Agreement.

Absolute is not affiliated with Ultimus, or any company affiliated with Ultimus.

G. Distributor

Distribution Services. Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC (the “Distributor”) is the distributor (also known as principal underwriter) of the shares of the Funds and is located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, OH 45246. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”). An officer of the Trust also is an officer of the Distributor and may be deemed to be an affiliate of the Distributor. The Distributor is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ultimus.

Under a Distribution Agreement with the Trust, the Distributor acts as the agent of the Trust in connection with the continuous offering of shares of the Funds. The Distributor continually distributes shares of the Funds on a best-efforts basis.

Distribution Plan (Investor Shares). The Trust, with respect to the Investor Class shares of the Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund, has adopted a Distribution Plan (the “Plan”) pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. The Plan was approved by a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of the Trust or the Fund, and who have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the Plan or in any other Rule 12b-1 agreement, at an in person meeting on May 16, 2023. The Plan will continue in effect from year to year, provided that each such continuance is approved at least annually by a vote of the Board, including a majority vote of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such continuance.

The Plan provides that the Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund will pay the and/or any registered securities dealer, financial institution or any other person (the “Recipient”) a shareholder servicing fee of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Investor Class shares of Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund in connection with the promotion and distribution of Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund’s Investor Class shares or the provision of personal services.
to shareholders, including, but not necessarily limited to, advertising, compensation to underwriters, dealers and selling personnel, the printing and mailing of prospectuses to other than current Fund or a portion of these fees to any Recipient who renders assistance in distributing or promoting the sale of shares, or who provides certain shareholder services, pursuant to a written agreement. The Plan is a compensation plan, which means that compensation is provided regardless of 12b-1 Expenses actually incurred. It is anticipated that the Plan will benefit Investor Class shareholders because an effective sales program typically is necessary in order for a class of Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund to reach and maintain a sufficient size to achieve efficiently its investment objectives and to realize economies of scale. Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund has not implemented the Plan, but may do so upon 60 days’ notice to shareholders.

Table 2 in Appendix B shows the dollar amount of fees paid by the Predecessor Fund to its distributor, Foreside Fund Services, LLC or its agents under the Rule 12b-1 plan, the amount of fees waived by the distributor, or its agents and the actual fees received by the distributor and its agents under the Rule 12b-1 plan. The data provided is for the previous fiscal year.

H. Other Fund Service Providers

Administrator, Fund Accountant, Transfer Agent, and Compliance Services. Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (“Ultimus”), located at 4221 North 203rd Street, Suite 100, Elkhorn, NE 68022, acts as the Funds’ transfer agent, fund accountant, and administrator. Ultimus is the parent company of the Distributor. One Trustee and certain officers of the Trust are members of management and/or employees of the Distributor or Ultimus.

Ultimus maintains the records of each shareholder’s account, answers shareholders’ inquiries concerning their accounts, processes purchases and redemptions of the Funds’ shares, acts as dividend and distribution disbursing agent, and performs other transfer agent and shareholder service functions. In addition, Ultimus provides the Funds with fund accounting services, which include certain monthly reports, record keeping and other management-related services. Ultimus also provides the Funds with administrative services, including all regulatory reporting and necessary office equipment, personnel and facilities.

Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC (“NLCS”), an affiliate of Ultimus, provides a Chief Compliance Officer to the Trust, as well as related compliance services, pursuant to a consulting agreement between NLCS and the Trust. Under the terms of such agreement, NLCS receives fees from the Funds. Prior to April 1, 2021, Ultimus provided certain compliance services and Buttonwood Compliance Partners, LLC (“Buttonwood”) provided a Chief Compliance Officer to the Trust. Table 3 in Appendix B shows the dollar amount of the fees accrued by each Predecessor Fund for administration services, the amount of fees waived by Apex Fund Services, the Predecessor Fund’s administrator, if any, and the actual fees retained by Apex Fund Services under the Services Agreement. The data provided is for the last three fiscal years.

Custodian. U.S. Bank, NA (the “Custodian”) is the custodian for the Funds. The Custodian safeguards and controls the Funds’ cash and securities, determines income and collects interest on Fund investments. The Custodian may employ subcustodians to provide custody of the Funds’ domestic and foreign assets. The Custodian also maintains certain books and records of the Fund that are required by applicable federal regulations. The Custodian is located 1555 N. Rivercenter Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Legal Counsel. Thompson Hine LLP, 312 Walnut Street, Suite 2000, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202., serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. Cohen & Company, Ltd. (“Cohen”), located at 151 N. Franklin Street, Suite 575, Chicago, Illinois 60606, is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Funds, providing audit and tax services. Cohen audits the annual financial statements of the Funds and provides the Funds with an audit opinion. Cohen also reviews certain regulatory filings of the Funds.
PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

A. How Securities are Purchased and Sold

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities that are fixed-income securities (for instance, money market instruments and bonds, notes and bills) usually are principal transactions. In a principal transaction, the party from which a Fund purchases or to which a Fund sells is acting on its own behalf (and not as the agent of some other party such as its customers). These securities normally are purchased directly from the issuer or from an underwriter or market maker for the securities. There usually are no brokerage commissions paid for these securities.

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities that are equity securities (for instance, common stock and preferred stock) are generally effected if (1) the security is traded on an exchange, through brokers that charge commissions and (2) the security is traded in the over-the-counter markets, in a principal transaction directly from a market maker. In transactions on stock exchanges, commissions are negotiated.

When transactions are executed in an over-the-counter market, Absolute or a Subadviser will seek to deal with the primary market makers, but when necessary, in order to obtain best execution, Absolute or a Subadviser will utilize the services of others.

The price of securities purchased from underwriters includes a disclosed fixed commission or concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter, and prices of securities purchased from dealers serving as market makers reflect the spread between the bid and asked price.

In the case of fixed-income and equity securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, there is generally no stated commission, but the price usually includes an undisclosed commission, markup or markdown.

B. Commissions Paid

Table 4 in Appendix B shows the dollar amount of the aggregate brokerage commissions paid by each Predecessor Fund; the amount of commissions paid to an affiliate of each Predecessor Fund, Absolute, Subadviser or the Distributor; the percentage of brokerage commissions paid to an affiliate of each Predecessor Fund, Absolute, Subadviser or the Distributor; and the percentage of transactions executed by an affiliate of each Predecessor Fund, Absolute, Subadviser or the Distributor. The data provided is for the last three fiscal years.

C. Adviser Responsibility for Purchases and Sales and Choosing Broker-Dealers

Absolute and Subadvisers place orders for the purchase and sale of securities with broker-dealers selected by and at the discretion of Absolute or Subadvisers. The Funds do not have any obligation to deal with a specific broker or dealer in the execution of portfolio transactions. Allocations of transactions to brokers and dealers and the frequency of transactions are determined by Absolute and Subadvisers in their best judgment and in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of each Fund rather than by any formula.

Absolute and Subadvisers seek “best execution” for all portfolio transactions. This means that Absolute and Subadvisers seek the most favorable price and execution available. The Funds may not always pay the lowest commission or spread available. Rather, in determining the amount of commissions (including certain dealer spreads) paid in connection with securities transactions, Absolute and Subadvisers takes into account factors such as size of the order, the difficulty of execution, the efficiency of the executing broker’s facilities (including the research services described below) and any risk assumed by the executing broker. Absolute or Subadvisers may pay a higher commission if, for example, the broker has specific expertise in a particular type of transaction (due to factors such as size or difficulty), or it is efficient in trade execution.

Absolute and Subadvisers may also give consideration to research services furnished to Absolute or Subadvisers by broker-dealers and may cause a Fund to pay these brokers a higher amount of commission or spread than may be charged by other broker-dealers. Research services may include reports that are common in the industry such as industry research reports and periodicals, quotation systems, software for portfolio management and formal databases.
Typically, Absolute or Subadvisers uses the research to manage all client accounts. Therefore, commission dollars spent for research generally benefit all of Absolute’s or Subadvisers’ clients and the Fund’s investors, although a particular client may not benefit from all the research received on each occasion. Absolute and Subadvisers does not reduce their fees because Absolute or Subadvisers receives research.

Table 5 in Appendix B lists each Predecessor Fund’s directed brokerage in return for research services, the amount of transactions so directed, and the amount of commissions earned by the broker-dealer during the past fiscal year.

D. Counterparty Risk

Absolute or Subadvisers monitor the creditworthiness of counterparties to the Funds’ transactions and intends to enter into a transaction only when it believes that the counterparty presents appropriate credit risks.

E. Transactions through Affiliates

Absolute or Subadvisers may effect brokerage transactions through affiliates of Absolute or Subadvisers (or affiliates of those persons) pursuant to procedures adopted by the Trust and in accordance with applicable law.

F. Other Accounts of the Adviser

Investment decisions for the Funds are made independently from those for any other account or investment company that is or may in the future become advised by Absolute, any Subadviser, or their affiliates. Investment decisions are the product of many factors, including basic suitability for the particular client involved. Likewise, a particular security may be bought or sold for certain clients even though it could have been bought or sold for other clients at the same time. In some instances, with any required consent, one client may sell a particular security to another client. In addition, two or more clients may simultaneously purchase or sell the same security, in which event each day’s transactions in such security are, insofar as is possible, averaged as to price and allocated between such clients in a manner which, in Absolute’s or a Subadviser’s opinion, is in the best interest of the affected accounts and is equitable to each and in accordance with the amount being purchased or sold by each. There may be circumstances when purchases or sales of a portfolio security for one client could have an adverse effect on another client that has a position in that security. In addition, when purchases or sales of the same security for a Fund and other client accounts managed by Absolute or a Subadviser occur contemporaneously, the purchase or sale orders may be aggregated in order to obtain any price advantages available to large denomination purchases or sales.

G. Portfolio Turnover

The frequency of portfolio transactions of each Fund (the portfolio turnover rate) will vary from year to year depending on many factors. From time to time, the Fund may engage in active short-term trading to take advantage of price movements affecting individual issues, groups of issues or markets. Higher portfolio turnover rates may result in increased brokerage costs to a Fund and a possible increase in short-term capital gains (taxable to shareholders as ordinary income when distributed to them) or losses. An annual portfolio turnover rate of 100% would occur if all the securities in a Fund were replaced once in a period of one year.

Portfolio turnover rate is defined under the rules of the SEC as the value of the securities purchased or securities sold, excluding all securities whose maturities at time of acquisition were one year or less, divided by the average monthly value of such securities owned during the year. Based on this definition, instruments with remaining maturities of less than one year, including options and futures contracts in which a Fund invests, are excluded from the calculation of portfolio turnover rate.

The portfolio turnover for the Predecessor Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund decreased from 2021 to 2022 because market volatility dictated that the Fund do less adjusting of hedges than previous periods. Less volatile environments mean the Fund had to make numerous small adjustments to short equity positions to remain delta hedged. More volatile environments mean less frequent adjustments. The new (bond) issue market has also slowed so the Fund is less involved in the primary market, of which positions tend to be held for shorter periods than the secondary market, where positions tend to be held longer. The portfolio turnover for the Predecessor Absolute Capital Opportunities
Fund decreased from 2021 to 2022 because Kovitz Investment Group Partners, LLC, the Fund’s Subadviser, does not move the long stock portfolio around very much. Therefore, turnover depends on the option portfolio. At times, options in the Fund can be long dated expirations and perhaps held longer. At times, options can be shorter expirations and held shorter and then replaced by another option.

H. Securities of Regular Broker-Dealers

From time to time the Funds may acquire and hold securities issued by its “regular brokers and dealers” or the parents of those brokers and dealers. For this purpose, regular brokers and dealers are the ten brokers or dealers that: (1) received the greatest amount of brokerage commissions during a Fund’s last fiscal year; (2) engaged in the largest amount of principal transactions for portfolio transactions of a Fund during the Fund’s last fiscal year; or (3) sold the largest amount of a Fund’s shares during the Fund’s last fiscal year.

Table 6 in Appendix B lists the regular brokers and dealers of each Predecessor Fund whose securities (or the securities of the parent company) were acquired during the past fiscal year and the aggregate value of each Predecessor Fund’s holdings of those securities as of the Predecessor Fund’s most recent fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

I. Portfolio Holdings

The Trust has adopted policies with respect to the disclosure of the Funds’ portfolio holdings. These policies generally prohibit the disclosure of information about the Funds’ portfolio to third parties prior to the day after the information is posted to the Funds’ website unless the information is publicly available on the SEC’s EDGAR system. As described below, the policies allow for disclosure of non-public portfolio information to third parties only if there is a legitimate business purpose for the disclosure. In addition, the policies require that the party receiving the portfolio holdings information execute a non-disclosure agreement that includes a prohibition on trading based on the information, unless the party is already subject to a duty of confidentiality (as determined by the Trust’s CCO). Any arrangement to disclose non-public information about the Funds’ portfolio must be approved by the Trust’s CCO. The Trust and Absolute are prohibited from receiving compensation or other consideration in connection with disclosing information about the Funds’ portfolio to third parties.

Under the Trust’s policies, Absolute is permitted to include Fund portfolio information that has already been made public through the Funds’ website or SEC filing in marketing literature and other communications to shareholders or other parties, provided that, in the case of portfolio information made public solely through the Fund’s website, the information is disclosed no earlier than the day after the date of posting to the website.

The Funds release non-public portfolio holdings information to certain third-party service providers on a daily basis in order for those parties to perform their duties on behalf of the Funds. These service providers include the Funds’ Adviser, Distributor, Transfer Agent, Fund Accounting Agent, Administrator and Custodian. The Funds also periodically disclose portfolio holdings information on a confidential basis to other parties that provide services to the Funds, such as the Funds’ auditors, legal counsel, proxy voting services (if applicable), printers, brokers and pricing services. The lag between the date of the information and the date on which the information is disclosed will vary based on the nature of the services provided by the party to whom the information is disclosed. For example, the information may be provided to the Funds’ auditor within days after the end of the Funds’ fiscal year in connection with the Funds’ annual audit, while the information may be given to legal counsel at any time. Fund service providers are required to keep this information confidential and are prohibited from trading based on the information or otherwise using the information except as necessary in providing services to the Funds.

The Funds may also disclose non-public portfolio holdings information to rating and ranking organizations, such as Morningstar Inc. and Lipper Inc., in connection with those firms’ research on and classification of the Funds and in order to gather information about how the Funds’ attributes (such as performance, volatility and expenses) compared to peer funds. In these instances, information about the Funds’ portfolio would be supplied within approximately 25 days after the end of the month. In addition, any such ratings organization would be required to keep the Funds’ portfolio information confidential and would be prohibited from trading based on the information or otherwise using the information except as necessary.
PURCHASE AND REDEMPTION INFORMATION

A. General Information

You may effect purchases or redemptions or request any shareholder privilege by contacting the transfer agent.

For information concerning the purchase and redemption of shares of the Funds, see “Buying Shares” and “Selling Shares” in the Funds’ Prospectus. For a description of the methods used to determine the share price and value of the Funds’ assets, see “NAV Determination” in the Funds’ Prospectus and in this SAI.

The shares of the Funds may not be available for sale in the state in which you reside. Please check with your investment professional to determine each Fund’s availability.

B. Additional Purchase Information

Shares of each Fund are offered on a continuous basis by the Distributor.

Each Fund reserves the right to refuse any purchase request.

Fund shares are normally issued for cash only. In its discretion, a Fund may accept portfolio securities that meet the investment objective and policies of the Fund as payment for Fund shares. A Fund may allow an in kind purchase provided that, among other things: (i) the purchase will not dilute the interests of its shareholders; (ii) the assets accepted by each Fund consist of securities that are appropriate, in type and amount, for investment by each Fund in light of its investment objective and policies and current holdings; (iii) market quotations are readily available for the securities; (iv) in determining the value of the assets contributed and the corresponding amount of shares issued, the Trust’s Valuation Policy will be applied; (v) the transaction must comply with the Trust’s Affiliated Persons and Transactions Policy if the person investing is an affiliated person; and (vi) Absolute to each Fund discloses to the Board the existence of, and all material facts relating to, any conflicts of interest between Absolute and each Fund in the proposed in-kind purchase.

IRAs. All contributions into an individual retirement account (an “IRA”) through the automatic investing service are treated as IRA contributions made during the year that the contribution is received.

UGMAs/UTMAs. If the custodian’s name is not in the account registration of a gift or transfer to minor (“UGMA/UTMA”) account, the custodian must provide instructions in a manner indicating custodial capacity.

C. Additional Redemption Information

You may redeem Fund shares at NAV.

Each Fund may limit the amount of purchases and refuse to sell shares to any person. If your check or wire does not clear, you will be responsible for any loss incurred by the Fund and charged a $25 fee to defray bank charges. You may be prohibited or restricted from making future purchases in the Fund. Checks must be made payable to the Fund. The Fund and its transfer agent may refuse any purchase order for any reason. Cash, third party checks (except for properly endorsed IRA rollover checks), counter checks, starter checks, traveler’s checks, money orders (other than money orders issued by a bank), credit card checks, and checks drawn on non-U.S. financial institutions will not be accepted. Cashier’s checks, bank official checks, and bank money orders are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may be accepted under certain circumstances. In such cases, a 15 business day hold will be applied to the funds (which means that you may not redeem your shares until the holding period has expired).

Suspension of Right of Redemption. The right of redemption may not be suspended for more than seven days after the tender of Fund shares, except for any period during which: (1) the NYSE is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings) or during which the SEC determines that trading thereon is restricted; (2) an emergency (as determined by the SEC) exists as a result of which disposal by a Fund of its securities is not reasonably practicable or
as a result of which it is not reasonably practicable for the Fund fairly to determine the value of its net assets; or (3) the SEC has entered a suspension order for the protection of the shareholders of the Fund.

**Redemption in Kind.** Redemption proceeds normally are paid in cash. The Trust has filed an election with the SEC, however, pursuant to which a Fund may effect a redemption in portfolio securities at the shareholder’s request or if the shareholder is redeeming more than $250,000 or 1% of the Fund’s total net assets, whichever is less, during any 90-day period. To the extent a Fund satisfies a redemption request by distributing portfolio securities, it will do so pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board. If a Fund pays redemption proceeds in kind, the redeeming shareholder may incur transaction costs to dispose of the securities and may receive less for them than the price at which they were valued for purposes of redemption. In addition, if the Fund redeems shares in this manner, the shareholder assumes the risk of a subsequent change in the market value of those securities, the costs of liquidating the securities (such as brokerage costs) and the possibility of a lack of a liquid market for those securities. In-kind redemptions may take the form of a pro rata portion of the Fund’s portfolio, individual securities, or a representative basket of securities.

**NAV Determination.** The price you pay for your shares is based on each Fund’s NAV per share for the applicable class. The NAV of each class is calculated at the close of trading (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on each day the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) is open for business. The NYSE is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents’ Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The NAV of each class is calculated by dividing the value of its total assets (including interest and dividends accrued but not received) minus liabilities (including accrued expenses) by the total number of shares of the class outstanding. Requests to purchase and sell shares are processed at the applicable NAV next calculated after the Funds receive your order in proper form.

Equity securities generally are valued by using market quotations. Equity securities traded on a securities exchange for which a last-quoted sales price is readily available are generally valued at the last quoted sale price as reported by the primary exchange on which the securities are listed. Lacking a last sale price, an exchange traded security is generally valued by the pricing service at its last bid price. Securities listed on the NASDAQ National Market System are generally valued by a pricing service at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price, which may differ from the last sales price reported.

Options traded on major exchanges are valued at the last quoted sales price on their primary exchange. If there is no reported sale on the valuation date, such options are valued at the mean of the last bid and ask prices.

Fixed income securities for which market quotations are readily available are generally valued based upon the mean of the last bid and ask prices as provided by an independent pricing service. If market quotations are not readily available, the pricing service may use electronic data processing techniques and/or a computerized matrix system based on yield spreads relating to securities with similar characteristics to determine prices for normal institutional-size trading units of debt securities without regard to sale or bid prices to determine valuations. In determining the value of a bond or other fixed income security, matrix pricing takes into consideration recent transactions, yield, liquidity, risk, credit quality, coupon, maturity and type of issue, and any other factors or market data as the independent pricing service deems relevant for the security being priced and for other securities with similar characteristics.

If management or Absolute considers a valuation unreliable due to market or other events (including events that occur after the close of trading but before the calculation of the NAV), the Fund will value its securities at their fair value, as of the close of the regular trading on the NYSE, as determined in good faith by Absolute as the Valuation Designee, in conformity with guidelines adopted by and subject to review of the Board. The Trust maintains a pricing review committee that will review any fair value provided by Absolute, subject to the ultimate review and approval of the Pricing & Liquidity Committee of the Board. Any one member of the Pricing & Liquidity Committee constitutes a quorum for purposes of reviewing and approving a fair value. The full Pricing & Liquidity Committee will review all fair valued securities on a quarterly basis.

Short-term investments in fixed income securities with maturities of less than 60 days when acquired, or which subsequently are within 60 days of maturity, are valued at their market value as determined by an independent third-party pricing agent, unless it is determined that such practice does not approximate fair market value.
**Distributions.** Distributions of net investment income will be reinvested at the NAV of the Funds (unless you elect to receive distributions in cash) as of the last day of the period with respect to which the distribution is paid. Distributions of net realized capital gains will be reinvested at the NAV of the Funds (unless you elect to receive distributions in cash) on the payment date for the distribution. Cash payments may be made more than seven days following the date on which distributions would otherwise be reinvested.
TAXATION

The tax information set forth in the Prospectus and in this section relates solely to federal tax law and assumes that a Fund qualifies for treatment as a RIC (as discussed below). This information is only a summary of certain key federal income tax considerations affecting a Fund and its shareholders and is in addition to the tax information provided in the Prospectus. No attempt has been made to present a complete explanation of the federal tax treatment of the Funds or the tax implications to shareholders. The discussions here and in the Prospectus are not intended as substitutes for careful tax planning.

This “Taxation” section is based on the IRC, the regulations thereunder, published IRS rulings and similar authority on which a Fund may rely, all as in effect on the date hereof, as well as on court decisions publicly available through that date. Future legislative, regulatory, or administrative changes or court decisions may significantly change the tax rules applicable to a Fund and its shareholders. Any of these changes or court decisions may have a retroactive effect.

Each investor should consult his or her own tax advisor as to the federal, state, local, and foreign tax provisions applicable to the investor.

A. Qualification for Treatment as a Regulated Investment Company

Each Fund intends, for each taxable year, to continue to qualify for treatment as a RIC. This qualification does not involve governmental supervision of management or investment practices or policies of the Funds.

The taxable year-end of the Funds is March 31, which is the same as their fiscal year-end.

Consequences of Qualification. As a RIC, a Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on the portion of its investment company taxable income (generally, interest, dividends, other ordinary income, the excess of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss, and net gains and losses from certain foreign currency transactions, net of expenses, all determined without regard to any deduction for dividends paid) and net capital gain (that is, the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss) that it distributes to its shareholders. To qualify to be taxed as a RIC for a taxable year, a Fund must satisfy the following requirements, among others:

- The Fund must distribute at least the sum of 90% of its investment company taxable income plus 90% of its net interest income excludable from gross income under IRC Section 103(a) for the taxable year (“Distribution Requirement”). Certain distributions made by the Fund after the close of its taxable year are considered distributions attributable to that taxable year for purposes of satisfying this requirement.

- The Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income for the taxable year from (1) dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived from its business of investing in securities or those currencies and (2) net income from an interest in a “qualified publicly traded partnership” (“QPTP”) (income described in (1) and (2), collectively “Qualifying Income”) (“Gross Income Requirement”). A QPTP is defined as a “publicly traded partnership” (generally, a partnership the interests in which are “traded on an established securities market” or are “readily tradable on a secondary market (or the substantial equivalent thereof)” that derives less than 90% of its gross income from sources described in clause (1).

- The Fund must satisfy the following asset diversification requirements (“Diversification Requirements”) at the close of each quarter of its taxable year: (1) at least 50% of the value of its total assets must consist of cash and cash items, Government securities, securities of other RICs, and securities of other issuers, with these other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount that does not exceed 5% of the value of the Fund’s total assets and that does not represent more than 10% of the issuer’s outstanding voting securities (equity securities of a QPTP being considered voting securities for these purposes); and (2) no more than 25% of the value of its total assets may be invested in (a) the securities of any one issuer (other than Government securities and securities of other RICs), (b) the securities (other than securities of other RICs) of two or more issuers that the Fund controls (by owning 20% or more of their
voting power) And that are engaged in the same, similar, or related trades or businesses, or (c) the 
securities of one or more QPTPs (“25% Limitation”).

**Failure to Qualify.** If for any taxable year a Fund does not qualify for treatment as a RIC, either (1) by failing to satisfy the Distribution Requirement, even if it satisfied the Gross Income Requirement and the Diversification Requirements, or (2) by failing to satisfy the Gross Income Requirement and/or either Diversification Requirement and being unable, or determining not, to cure the failure in the manner described in the next two paragraphs, then for federal income tax purposes all of its taxable income (including its net capital gain) would be subject to tax at regular corporate rates without any deduction for dividends paid to its shareholders. In addition, for those purposes the dividends would be taxable to the shareholders as ordinary income to the extent of the Fund’s current and accumulated earnings and profits, except that, for (a) individual and certain other non-corporate shareholders (each, an “individual shareholder”), the part thereof that is “qualified dividend income” would be subject to federal income tax at the rates for net capital gain, which are currently a maximum of 15% for a non-corporate shareholder with taxable income not exceeding certain thresholds (which will be adjusted for inflation annually) and 20% for non-corporate shareholders with taxable income exceeding such thresholds, and (b) those dividends would be eligible for the dividends-received deduction available to corporations under certain circumstances. Furthermore, the Fund could be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest, and make substantial distributions before requalifying for RIC treatment.

If a Fund fails to satisfy the Gross Income Requirement for any taxable year, it nevertheless will be considered to have satisfied that requirement for that year if, among other things, the failure “is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect” and the Fund pays a tax in an amount equal to the excess of its gross income that is not Qualifying Income over one-ninth of its gross income that is Qualifying Income.

If a Fund satisfies both Diversification Requirements at the close of its first quarter of its first taxable year, but fails to satisfy either Diversification Requirement at the close of any subsequent taxable year quarter by reason of a discrepancy existing immediately after its acquisition of any security that is wholly or partly the result of that acquisition during that quarter, it will not lose its status for that quarter as a RIC if the discrepancy is eliminated within 30 days after the quarter’s close. If a Fund fails to satisfy either or both Diversification Requirement(s) (other than a de minimis failure, as described in the IRC) for a quarter and the preceding sentence does not apply, it nevertheless will be considered to have satisfied those requirements for that quarter if, among other things, the failure “is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect” and the Fund disposes of the assets that caused the failure within six months after the last day of the quarter in which it identifies the failure in the manner prescribed by the IRS. In that case, the Fund will also be liable for a federal tax equal to the greater of $50,000 or the amount determined by multiplying the net income generated by those assets for the period from the date the failure occurs to the date of disposition thereof by the highest rate of federal income tax applicable to corporations (currently 21%).

Failure to qualify for treatment as a RIC would thus have a negative impact on a Fund’s after-tax performance. It is possible that a Fund will not qualify as a RIC in any given taxable year.

**B. Fund Distributions**

Each Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its investment company taxable income for each taxable year. These distributions will be taxable to a shareholder as ordinary income, but, as described in the Prospectus, a portion of the distributions may be treated as “qualified dividend income” and thus eligible to be taxed to individual shareholders at the lower maximum federal income tax rates applicable to net capital gain.

Each Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its net capital gain (after reduction for any capital loss carryovers, i.e., unutilized realized net capital losses from prior taxable years) for each taxable year. These distributions generally will be made only once a year, usually in December, but a Fund may make a limited number of additional distributions of net capital gain at any time during the year. These distributions will be taxable to a shareholder as long-term capital gains, regardless of how long the shareholder has held his or her shares. These distributions will not qualify for the dividends-received deduction or as “qualified dividend income.”

A distribution by a Fund that does not constitute an ordinary income dividend or capital, or foreign currency gain distribution will be treated as a non-taxable “return of capital.” A return of capital distribution will reduce a
shareholder’s tax basis in Fund shares and will be treated as gain from the sale of the shares to the extent it exceeds
the shareholder’s basis.

Non-U.S. investors not engaged in a U.S. trade or business with which their investment in a Fund is “effectively
connected” will be subject to U.S. federal income tax treatment that is different from that described above. Such non-
U.S. investors may be subject to withholding tax at the rate of 30% (or a lower rate under an applicable tax treaty) on
amounts treated as ordinary dividends from a Fund. Capital gain distributions, if any, are not subject to the 30%
withholding tax.

Exemption from this withholding tax is also provided for dividends properly reported in writing by a Fund to its
shareholders as “interest-related dividends” or as “short-term capital gain dividends” paid by a Fund with respect to
its “qualified net interest income” or “qualified short-term gain,” respectively (all such terms as defined in the IRC).
Non-U.S. investors will need to provide an effective IRS Form W-8BEN or other authorized withholding certificate
to qualify for the exemption.

Each distribution by a Fund will be treated in the manner described above regardless of whether the distribution is
paid in cash or reinvested in additional shares of the Fund (or of another fund). If a shareholder reinvests a distribution
in additional shares, the shareholder will be treated as having received a distribution in an amount equal to the fair
market value of the reinvested shares, determined as of the reinvestment date.

When a shareholder purchases shares of a Fund, the purchase price (NAV) will include any undistributed net
investment income and realized net capital gains and foreign currency gains and any unrealized appreciation in the
value of the assets of the Fund. A distribution of that income or gain (including net gain, if any, from realizing all or
part of that appreciation) will be taxable to a shareholder in the manner described above, even if the distribution
economically constitutes a partial return of invested capital to the shareholder.

Ordinarily, a shareholder is required to take taxable distributions by a Fund into income in the year in which they are
made. A distribution declared in October, November, or December of any year and payable to shareholders of record
on a specified date in one of those months, however, is deemed to be paid by a Fund and received by those shareholders
on December 31 of that year if the distribution is paid in January of the following year.

Each Fund will send information annually to its shareholders regarding the federal income tax status of distributions
made (or deemed made) during the year.

C. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”)

Under FATCA, foreign financial institutions (“FFIs”) and non-financial foreign entities (“NFFEs”) that are Fund
shareholders may be subject to a generally nonrefundable 30% withholding tax on income dividends a Fund pays. As
discussed more fully below, the FATCA withholding tax generally may be avoided (a) by an FFI, if it reports certain
information regarding direct and indirect ownership of financial accounts U.S. persons hold with the FFI, and (b) by
an NFFE that certifies its status as such and, in certain circumstances, reports information regarding substantial U.S
owners.

An FFI may avoid FATCA withholding by becoming a “participating FFI,” which requires the FFI to enter into a tax
compliance agreement with the IRS under the IRC. Under such an agreement, a participating FFI agrees to (1) verify
and document whether it has U.S. account holders, (2) report certain information regarding their accounts to the IRS,
and (3) meet certain other specified requirements.

The U.S. Treasury Department has negotiated intergovernmental agreements (each, an “IGA”) with certain countries
and is in various stages of negotiations with other foreign countries with respect to one or more alternative approaches
to implement FATCA; entities in those countries may be required to comply with the terms of the relevant IGA instead
of U.S. Treasury regulations. An FFI resident in a country that has entered into a Model I IGA with the United States
must report to that country’s government (pursuant to the terms of the applicable IGA and applicable law), which will,
in turn, report to the IRS. An FFI resident in a Model II IGA country generally must comply with U.S. regulatory
requirements, with certain exceptions, including the treatment of recalcitrant accountholders. An FFI resident in one of those countries that complies with whichever of the foregoing applies will be exempt from FATCA withholding.

An NFFE that is the beneficial owner of a payment from a Fund may avoid FATCA withholding generally by certifying its status as such and, in certain circumstances, either that (1) it does not have any substantial U.S. owners or (2) it does have one or more such owners and reports the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of each such owner. The NFFE will report to the Fund or other applicable withholding agent, which may, in turn, report information to the IRS.

Those foreign shareholders also may fall into certain exempt, excepted, or deemed compliant categories established by U.S. Treasury regulations, IGAs, and other guidance regarding FATCA. An FFI or NFFE that invests in a Fund will need to provide the Fund with documentation properly certifying the entity’s status under FATCA to avoid FATCA withholding. The requirements imposed by FATCA are different from, and in addition to, the tax certification rules to avoid backup withholding described in the Prospectus. Foreign investors are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of these requirements to their own situations and the impact thereof on their investment in a Fund.

D. Redemption of Shares

In general, you will realize gain or loss on redemption of Fund shares in an amount equal to the difference between the proceeds of the redemption and your adjusted tax basis in the shares. All or a portion of any loss so realized will be disallowed if you purchase Fund shares (for example, by reinvesting distributions) within 30 days before or after the redemption (i.e., a “wash” sale); if disallowed, the loss would be reflected in an upward adjustment to the basis in the purchased shares. In general, any gain or allowed loss arising from a redemption of shares of the Fund will be considered a capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the shares were held for longer than one year. Any capital loss arising from a redemption of shares held for six months or less, however, will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of distributions of net capital gain, if any, received on such shares. In determining the holding period of shares for this purpose, any period during which your risk of loss is offset by means of an option, short sale, or similar transaction is not counted. Capital losses in any year are deductible only to the extent of capital gains plus, in the case of a non-corporate taxpayer, $3,000 of ordinary income.

E. Federal Excise Tax

A 4% non-deductible federal excise tax (“Excise Tax”) is imposed on a RIC that fails to distribute in each calendar year an amount equal to at least the sum of (1) 98.0% of its ordinary income for the year plus (2) 98.2% of its capital gain net income for the one-year period ended on October 31 of the year plus (3) any ordinary income and capital gain net income for previous years that were not distributed during those years. A Fund will be treated as having distributed any amount on which it is subject to income tax for any taxable year ending in the calendar year.

For purposes of calculating the Excise Tax, a Fund (1) reduces its capital gain net income (but not below its net capital gain) by the amount of any net ordinary loss for the calendar year and (2) excludes foreign currency gains and losses realized or sustained after October 31 of any year in determining the amount of ordinary income for that calendar year and includes them in determining the amount of ordinary income for the succeeding calendar year.

Each Fund intends to make sufficient distributions each year of its ordinary income and capital gain net income to avoid liability for the Excise Tax. Each Fund may in certain circumstances be required to liquidate portfolio investments to make distributions sufficient to avoid that liability.

F. Certain Tax Rules Applicable to Fund Transactions

Investments in Derivatives. When a put or call option purchased by a Fund expires unexercised, the premium paid by the Fund generally gives rise to short-term or long-term capital loss at the time of expiration (depending on the length of the exercise period for the option). When a put or call option written by a Fund expires unexercised, the premium received by the Fund generally gives rise to short-term capital gain at the time of expiration. When a Fund exercises a call option, the basis in the underlying security is increased by the amount of the premium it paid for the
option. When a Fund exercises a put option, the gain (or loss) from the sale of the underlying security is decreased (or increased) by the premium it paid for the option. When a put or call option written by a Fund is exercised, the purchase price (or the selling price in the case of a call) of the underlying security is decreased (or increased in the case of a call) for federal income tax purposes by the amount of the premium received.

Some futures contracts, foreign currency contracts, and “nonequity” options (i.e., certain listed options, such as those on a “broad-based” securities index) in which the Fund invests - except any “securities futures contract” that is not a “dealer securities futures contract” (both as defined in the IRC) and any interest rate swap, currency swap, basis swap, interest rate cap, interest rate floor, commodity swap, equity swap, equity index swap, credit default swap, or similar agreement - may be subject to IRC section 1256 (“Section 1256 contracts”). Any Section 1256 contracts a Fund holds at the end of its taxable year (and generally for purposes of the Excise Tax, on October 31 of each year) must be “marked to market” (that is, treated as having been sold at that time for their fair market value) for federal tax purposes, with the result that unrealized gains or losses will be treated as though they were realized. Sixty percent of any net gain or loss realized on these deemed sales, and 60% of any net realized gain or loss from any actual sales of Section 1256 contracts, will be treated as long-term capital gain or loss, and the balance will be treated as short-term capital gain or loss; however, certain foreign currency gains or losses arising from Section 1256 contracts will be treated as ordinary income or loss. These rules may operate to increase the amount that a Fund must distribute to satisfy the Distribution Requirement (i.e., with respect to the portion treated as short-term capital gain, which will be includible in its investment company taxable income and thus taxable to its shareholders as ordinary income when distributed to them), and to increase the net capital gain the Fund recognizes, even though the Fund may not have closed the transactions and received cash to pay the distributions. A Fund may elect not to have the foregoing rules apply to any “mixed straddle” (that is, a straddle, which the Fund clearly identifies in accordance with applicable regulations, at least one (but not all) of the positions of which are Section 1256 contracts), although doing so may have the effect of increasing the relative proportion of short-term capital gain (distributions of which are taxable to its shareholders as ordinary income) and thus increasing the amount of dividends it must distribute.

Any option, futures contract, forward contract or other position entered into or held by a Fund in conjunction with any other position it holds may constitute a “straddle” for federal income tax purposes. In general, straddles are subject to certain rules that may affect the amount, character, and timing of recognition of a Fund’s gains and losses with respect to the straddle positions by requiring, among other things, that (1) any loss realized on disposition of one position of a straddle not be recognized to the extent that the Fund has unrealized gains with respect to the other positions in the straddle, (2) the Fund’s holding period in straddle positions be suspended while the straddle exists (possibly resulting in a gain being treated as short-term rather than long-term capital gain), (3) the losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions that are part of a mixed straddle and are non-Section 1256 contracts be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital loss, and (4) losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions that would otherwise constitute short-term capital losses be treated as long-term capital losses. In addition, the deduction of interest and carrying charges attributable to certain straddle positions may be deferred. Various elections are available to the Funds, which may mitigate the effects of the straddle rules, particularly with respect to mixed straddles. In general, the foregoing rules do not apply to any straddles held by a Fund if all of the offsetting positions consist of Section 1256 contracts.

Investments in Original Issue Discount (“OID”), Inflation-Indexed, and Payment-in-Kind Securities

A Fund may acquire (1) zero-coupon or other securities (such as STRIPS and delayed-interest securities) issued with OID and/or (2) Treasury inflation indexed securities (initially known as Treasury inflation-protection securities, or “TIPS”) or other inflation-indexed securities, on which principal is adjusted based on changes in the Consumer Price Index. As a holder of those securities, a Fund must include in its gross income the OID that accrues on the securities, and the amount of any principal increases on each inflation-indexed security it holds, during the taxable year, even if it receives no corresponding payment on them during the year. Similarly, a Fund must include in its gross income securities it receives as “interest” on payment-in-kind securities. Because each Fund annually must distribute substantially all of its investment company taxable income, including any accrued OID and other non-cash income, to satisfy the Distribution Requirement and avoid imposition of the Excise Tax, that Fund may be required in a particular taxable year to distribute as a dividend an amount that is greater than the total amount of cash it actually receives. Those distributions will be made from that Fund’s cash assets or from the proceeds of sales of portfolio securities, if necessary. A Fund may realize capital gains or losses from those sales, which would increase or decrease its investment company taxable income and/or net capital gain.
Investments in Foreign Currencies and Securities. Gains or losses attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates that occur between the time that a Fund accrues interest, dividends or other receivables or accrues expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time that the Fund actually collects such receivables or pays such liabilities are treated as ordinary income or ordinary losses. Similarly, gains or losses from the disposition of a foreign currency, or from the disposition of a fixed-income security denominated in a foreign currency that are attributable to fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency between the date of acquisition of the asset and the date of its disposition, also are treated as ordinary income or ordinary losses. These gains or losses increase or decrease the amount of a Fund’s investment company taxable income available to be distributed to its shareholders as ordinary income, rather than increasing or decreasing the amount of its net capital gain.

If a Fund owns shares in a foreign corporation that constitutes a “passive foreign investment company” for federal tax purposes (a “PFIC”) and the Fund does not make either of the elections described in the next two paragraphs, it will be subject to federal income tax on a portion of any “excess distribution” it receives from the PFIC and any gain it derives from the disposition of such shares (collectively, “PFIC Income”), even if it distributes the PFIC Income as a taxable dividend to its shareholders. A Fund will also be subject to additional interest charges in respect of deferred taxes arising from the PFIC Income. Any such tax paid by a Fund as a result of its ownership of shares in a PFIC will not give rise to any deduction or credit to the Fund or to any shareholder. A PFIC is any foreign corporation (with certain exceptions) that, in general, meets either of the following tests for a taxable year: (1) at least 75% of its gross income is derived from “passive income” (including interest and dividends); or (2) an average of at least 50% of the value (or adjusted tax basis, if elected) of its assets produce, or are held for the production of, “passive income.” A Fund’s distributions of PFIC Income will not be eligible for the 15% and 20% maximum federal income tax rates on individual shareholders’ “qualified dividend income” described in the Prospectus.

A Fund may elect to “mark to market” its stock in a PFIC. Under such an election, a Fund would include in gross income (and treat as ordinary income) each taxable year an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the PFIC stock as of the close of the taxable year over the Fund’s adjusted basis in the PFIC stock. A Fund would be allowed a deduction for the excess, if any, of that adjusted basis over that fair market value, but only to the extent of any net mark-to-market gains included in gross income by the Fund for prior taxable years. A Fund’s adjusted basis in the PFIC stock would be adjusted to reflect the amounts included in, or deducted from, gross income under this election. Amounts so included, as well as gain realized on the disposition of the PFIC stock, would be treated as ordinary income. The deductible portion of any mark-to-market loss, as well as any loss realized on the disposition of the PFIC stock to the extent that such loss does not exceed the net mark-to-market gains previously included in gross income by a Fund, would be treated as ordinary loss.

A Fund generally would not be subject to the deferred tax and interest charge provisions discussed above with respect to PFIC stock for which a mark-to-market election has been made.

If a Fund purchases shares in a PFIC and elects to treat the PFIC as a “qualified electing fund,” the Fund would be required to include in its gross income each taxable year its pro rata share of the ordinary income and net capital gains of the PFIC, even if the income and gains were not distributed to the Fund. Any such income would be subject to the Distribution Requirement and the calendar year Excise Tax distribution requirement described above. In most instances it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make this election because some of the information required to make this election may not be easily obtainable.

Investors should be aware that determining whether a foreign corporation is a PFIC is a fact-intensive determination that is based on various facts and circumstances and thus is subject to change, and the principles and methodology used therein are subject to interpretation. As a result, (1) a Fund may not be able, at the time it acquires a foreign corporation’s shares, to ascertain whether the corporation is a PFIC, and (2) a foreign corporation may become a PFIC after the Fund acquires shares therein. While a Fund generally will seek not to invest in PFIC shares to avoid the tax consequences detailed above, there are no guarantees that it will be able to do so, and it reserves the right to make such investments as a matter of its investment policy.

Investments in LLCs, LPs And Grantor Trusts. Each Fund may invest in LLCs and LPs that are classified for federal tax purposes as partnerships. Such an LLC or LP in which each Fund invests may be (1) a “publicly traded partnership” (a “PTP”) or (2) a non-PTP at least 90% of the income of which is Qualifying Income. Certain of those PTPs will be QPTPs.
If an LLC or LP in which each Fund invests is a QPTP, all its net income (regardless of source) would be Qualifying Income for the Fund. The value of Each Fund’s investment in QPTPs, together with certain other investments, however, may not exceed 25% of the value of its total assets at the close of any quarter of its taxable year in order to satisfy the 25% Limitation. In addition, if each Fund holds more than 10% of a QPTP’s equity securities, none of those securities will count toward it satisfying the other Diversification Requirement.

With respect to an LLC or LP that is a non-QPTP, (1) if the LLC or LP is treated for federal tax purposes as a corporation, distributions from it to the Fund would likely be treated as “qualified dividend income” and disposition of each Fund’s interest therein would be gain from the disposition of a security, or (2) if the LLC or LP is not treated for those purposes as a corporation, each Fund would be treated as having earned its proportionate share of each item of income and realized gain the LLC or LP earned. In the latter case, each Fund would be able to treat its share of the LLC’s or LP’s income as Qualifying Income only to the extent that income would be Qualifying Income if realized directly by each Fund in the same manner as realized by the LLC or LP.

Certain LLCs and LPs (e.g., private funds) in which each Fund invests may generate income and gains that are not Qualifying Income. Each Fund will monitor its investments in LLCs and LPs to assure its compliance with the requirements for qualification as a RIC.

A Fund also may invest in grantor trusts, including ETFs that invest in commodities. Such a trust is essentially disregarded for federal tax purposes, with the result that a Fund, as an investor therein, will be treated for those purposes as owning a fractional undivided beneficial interest in the trust’s assets and will be required to include its proportionate share of the trust’s income, deductions, and credits in computing its taxable income and credits. Because those trusts ordinarily generate gross income that is not Qualifying Income, a Fund will monitor and limit its investments in them to the extent necessary to preserve its status as a RIC.

**G. State and Local Taxes.**

The tax rules of the various states and their local jurisdictions with respect to an investment in a Fund may differ from the federal income tax rules described above. These state and local rules are not discussed herein. You are urged to consult your tax advisor as to the consequences of state and local tax rules with respect to an investment in a Fund.

**H. Foreign Income Tax.**

Investment income received by a Fund from sources within foreign countries and U.S. possessions and gains that the Fund realizes on the disposition of foreign securities (collectively, “foreign source income”) may be subject to foreign or possession income or other taxes withheld at the source (collectively, “foreign taxes”). The United States has entered into tax treaties with many foreign countries that may entitle a Fund to a reduced rate of foreign taxes imposed by, or exemption from taxes on foreign source income derived from, the particular country. It is impossible to know the effective rate of foreign tax in advance, since the amount of a Fund’s assets to be invested within various countries will vary.

**I. Capital Loss Carryovers (“CLCOs”).**

Each Fund may have capital loss carryovers (“CLCOs”) for a taxable year. Subject to any applicable limitations under the IRC, CLCOs generally may be used to offset any current taxable year net realized capital gain (whether short-term or long-term) and will not expire. All CLCOs are listed in a Fund’s financial statements. Any such losses may not be carried back.
OTHER MATTERS

A. The Trust and Its Shareholders

General Information. Each Fund is a separate series of the Trust. The Trust is an open-end investment management company established under the laws of Ohio by an Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated October 14, 2002, as amended (the “Trust Agreement”). The Trust Agreement permits the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) to issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest of separate series without par value. The Trust and each fund will continue infinitely until terminated. Each fund is a separate mutual fund, and each share of each fund represents an equal proportionate interest in that fund. All consideration received by the Trust for shares of any fund and all assets of such fund belong solely to that fund and would be subject to liabilities related thereto. The other funds of the Trust are described in one or more separate Statements of Additional Information.

Shareholder Voting and Other Rights. Each share of a fund and each class of shares represents an equal proportionate interest in the assets and liabilities belonging to the applicable class of the Fund and is entitled to such dividends and distributions out of income belonging to the applicable class of the Fund as are declared by the Board. Expenses attributable to any class are borne by that class. On matters that affect the Fund as a whole, each class has the same voting and other rights and preferences as any other class. On matters that affect only one class, only shareholders of that class may vote. Each class votes separately on matters affecting only that class, or as expressly required to be voted on separately by state or federal law. Shares of each class of a series have the same voting and other rights and preferences as the other classes and series of the Trust for matters that affect the Trust as a whole. The Funds may offer additional classes of shares in the future.

Any Trustee of the Trust may be removed by vote of the shareholders holding not less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the Trust. The Trust does not hold an annual meeting of shareholders. When matters are submitted to shareholders for a vote, each shareholder is entitled to one vote for each whole share he or she owns and fractional votes for fractional shares he or she owns. All shares of the Funds have equal voting rights and liquidation rights. The Trust Agreement can be amended by the Board, except that certain amendments that could adversely affect the rights of shareholders must be approved by the shareholders affected. All shares of the Funds are subject to involuntary redemption if the Board determines to liquidate the Fund. The Funds will provide notice to the shareholders if the Board determines, in its sole judgment, to liquidate the Funds, but the Funds will not be required to obtain shareholder approval prior to such liquidation. An involuntary redemption will create a capital gain or a capital loss, which may have tax consequences about which you should consult your tax adviser.

B. Fund Ownership

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a Fund. A control person is a shareholder who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. Shareholders owning voting securities in excess of 25% may determine the outcome of any matter affecting and voted on by shareholders of the Fund.

As of July 5, 2023 the Trustees and officers of the Trust in aggregate owned less than 1% of the outstanding shares of beneficial interest of each Fund.

As of July 5, 2023, certain shareholders listed in Table 7 in Appendix B owned of record or beneficially 5% or more of the shares of a Predecessor Fund.

From time to time, certain shareholders may own a large percentage of the shares of a Fund. Accordingly, those shareholders may be able to greatly affect (if not determine) the outcome of a shareholder vote. As of July 5, 2023, the shareholders listed in Table 7 in Appendix B who own more than 25% of a Fund may be deemed to control the Predecessor Fund. “Control” for this purpose is the ownership of 25% or more of a Fund’s voting securities.
C. Proxy Voting Procedures

The Trust, Adviser and Subadviser each have adopted proxy voting policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure that proxies are voted in shareholders’ best interests. As a brief summary, the Trust’s policy delegates responsibility regarding proxy voting to Absolute, subject to Absolute’s proxy voting policy and the supervision of the Board. Copies of the proxy voting procedures of Absolute and Subadviser are included as Appendix D.

Absent mitigating circumstances and/or conflicts of interest, it is Absolute’s general policy to vote proxies consistent with the recommendation of the senior management of the issuer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Absolute often will vote against a management recommendation with respect to stock option and other executive compensation plan matters. Absolute monitors corporate actions of issuers of the Fund’s portfolio securities in a manner consistent with Absolute’s fiduciary duty to vote proxies in the best interests of its clients.

The Trust’s policy provides that, if a conflict of interest between Absolute or its affiliates and the Fund arises with respect to any proxy, Absolute must fully disclose the conflict to the Board and vote the proxy in accordance with the Board’s instructions. The Board shall make the proxy voting decision that in its judgment, after reviewing the recommendation of Absolute, is most consistent with Absolute’s proxy voting policies and in the best interests of Fund shareholders. When the Board is required to make a proxy voting decision, only the Trustees without a conflict of interest with regard to the security in question or the matter to be voted upon shall be permitted to participate in the decision of how a Fund’s vote will be cast.

You may obtain a copy of the Trust’s, Adviser’s, and Subadviser’s proxy voting policies by calling Shareholder Services at (888) 992-2765 or by writing to the Transfer Agent at Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC, 4221 North 203rd Street, Suite 100, Elkhorn, NE 68022, Attn: Unified Series Trust Chief Compliance Officer. A copy of the policies will be mailed to you within three days of receipt of your request. You also may obtain a copy of the policies from Fund documents filed with the SEC, which are available on the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov. A copy of the votes cast by the Fund with respect to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30th is filed by the Fund with the SEC on Form N-PX. The Fund’s proxy voting record is available to shareholders free of charge upon request by calling or writing the Fund as described above or from the SEC’s web site.

D. Code of Ethics

The Trust, Absolute and the Fund’s Distributor as defined herein have each adopted a Code of Ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act, and Absolute’s Code of Ethics also conforms to Rule 204A-1 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. The personnel subject to the Codes are permitted to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds. You may obtain copies of the Codes from the Trust, free of charge, by calling Shareholder Services at (888) 992-2765. You may also obtain copies of the Trust’s Code from documents filed with SEC and available on the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov.

E. Registration Statement

This SAI and the Prospectus do not contain all of the information included in the Trust’s registration statement filed with the SEC under the 1933 Act with respect to the securities offered hereby. The registration statement, including the exhibits filed therewith, may be examined at the office of the SEC in Washington, D.C. The SEC maintains a website (www.sec.gov) that contains this SAI, any material incorporated by reference, and other information regarding the Funds.

F. Financial Statements

Each Predecessor Fund’s Financial Statements and Financial Highlights for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023 are incorporated by reference into this SAI from the Predecessor Funds’ Annual Report to shareholders, have been audited by Cohen, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in its report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon reports of such firm, given upon its authority as an expert in accounting and auditing.
APPENDIX A – DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES RATINGS

Corporate and Municipal Long-Term Bond Ratings

Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) Corporate and Municipal Long-Term Bond Ratings:

The following descriptions of S&P's long-term corporate and municipal bond ratings have been published by Standard & Poor’s Financial Service LLC.

AAA - An obligation rated `AAA’ has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong.

AA - An obligation rated ‘AA’ differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is very strong.

A - An obligation rated ‘A’ is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

BBB - An obligation rated ‘BBB’ exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

BB, B, CCC, CC, and C - Obligations rated ‘BB’, ‘CCC’, ‘CC’, and ‘C’ are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. ‘BB’ indicates the least degree of speculation and ‘C’ the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

BB - An obligation rated ‘BB’ is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions that could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

B - An obligation rated ‘B’ is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated ‘BB’, but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor’s capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

CCC - An obligation rated ‘CCC’ is currently vulnerable to nonpayment, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

CC - An obligation rated ‘CC’ is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The ‘CC’ rating is used when a default has not yet occurred, but S&P Global Ratings expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

C - An obligation rated ‘C’ is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared with obligations that are rated higher.

D - An obligation rated 13’ is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 13’ rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within the next five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or the next 30 calendar days. The ‘D’ rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to ‘D’ if it is subject to a distressed debt reconstructing.
Plus (+) or Minus (-) - The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the rating categories.

NR - This indicates that a rating has not been assigned or is no longer assigned.

Moody’s Investors Service, Inc (“Moody’s”) Long-Term Corporate Bond Ratings:

The following descriptions of Moody’s long-term corporate bond ratings have been published by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. and Moody’s Analytics Inc.

Aaa - Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk. Aa - Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

A - Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

Baa - Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

Ba - Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

B - Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

Caa - Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative, of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

Ca - Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

C - Obligations rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Modifiers: Moody’s appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

Additionally, a “(hyb)” indicator is appended to all ratings of hybrid securities issued by banks, insurers, finance companies, and securities firms. By their terms, hybrid securities allow for the omission of scheduled dividends, interest, or principal payments, which can potentially result in impairment if such an omission occurs. Hybrid securities may also be subject to contractually allowable write-downs of principal that could result in impairment. Together with the hybrid indicator, the long-term obligation rating assigned to a hybrid security is an expression of the relative credit risk associated with that security.

Moody’s U.S. Municipal Long-Term Bond Ratings:

The following descriptions of Moody’s long-term municipal bond ratings have been published by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. and Moody’s Analytics Inc.

Aaa - Issuers or issues rated Aaa demonstrate the strongest creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

Aa - Issuers or issues rated Aa demonstrate very strong creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

A - Issuers or issues rated A present above-average creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.
**Baa** - Issuers or issues rated Baa represent average creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

**Ba** - Issuers or issues rated Ba demonstrate below-average creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

**B** - Issuers or issues rated B demonstrate weak creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

**Caa** - Issuers or issues rated Caa demonstrate very weak creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

**Ca** - Issuers or issues rated Ca demonstrate extremely weak creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

**C** - Issuers or issues rated C demonstrate the weakest creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

Modifiers: Moody’s appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating category from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the issuer or obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

**Fitch Ratings Ltd. (“Fitch”) Corporate Bond Ratings:**

*The following descriptions of Fitch’s long-term corporate bond ratings have been published by Fitch, Inc. and Fitch Ratings Ltd.*

**AAA** - Highest credit quality. ‘AAA’ ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

**AA** - Very high credit quality. ‘AA’ ratings denote expectations of very low credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

**A** - High credit quality. ‘A’ ratings denote expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

**BBB** - Good credit quality. ‘BBB’ ratings indicate that expectations of credit risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

**BB** - Speculative. ‘BB’ ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to credit risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.

**B** - Highly speculative. ‘B’ ratings indicate that material credit risk is present. For performing obligations, default risk is commensurate with the issuer being rated with an Issuer Default Rating (“IDR”) in the ranges ‘BB’ to ‘C’. For non-performing obligations, the obligation or issuer is in default, or has deferred payment, but the rated obligation is expected to have extremely high recovery rates consistent with a Recovery Rating of ‘RR1’ (outstanding recovery prospects given default).

**CCC** - Substantial credit risk. ‘CCC’ ratings indicate that substantial credit risk is present. For performing obligations, default risk is commensurate with an IDR in the ranges ‘B’ to ‘C’. For non-performing obligations, the
obligation or issuer is in default, or has deferred payment, but the rated obligation is expected to have a superior recovery rate consistent with a Recovery Rating of `RR2' (superior recovery prospects given default).

**CC** - Very high levels of credit risk. `CC' ratings indicate very high levels of credit risk. For performing obligations, default risk is commensurate with an IDR in the ranges `B' to `C'. For non-performing obligations, the obligation or issuer is in default, or has deferred payment, but the rated obligation is expected to have a good recovery rate consistent with a Recovery Rating of `RR3' (good recovery prospects given default).

**C** - Exceptionally high levels of credit risk. `C' indicates exceptionally high levels of credit risk. For performing obligations, default risk is commensurate with an IDR in the ranges `B' to `C'. For non-performing obligations, the obligation or issuer is in default, or has deferred payment, and the rated obligation is expected to have an average, below-average or poor recovery rate consistent with a Recovery Rating of `RR4' (average recovery prospects given default), `RR5' (below average recovery prospects given default) or `RR6' (poor recovery prospects given default).

Defaulted obligations typically are not assigned `RD' or `D' ratings but are instead rated in the `CCC' to `C' rating categories, depending upon their recovery prospects and other relevant characteristics. This approach better aligns obligations that have comparable overall expected loss but varying vulnerability to default and loss.

**Plus (+) or Minus (-)** The modifiers “+” or “-” may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the `AAA' obligation rating category, or to corporate finance obligation ratings in the categories below `CCC'.

The terms “investment grade” and “speculative grade” have established themselves over time as shorthand to describe the categories `AAA' to `BBB' (investment grade) and `BB' to `D' (speculative grade). The terms “investment grade” and “speculative grade” are market conventions, and do not imply any recommendation or endorsement of a specific security for investment purposes. “Investment grade” categories indicate relatively low to moderate credit risk, while ratings in the “speculative” categories signal either a higher level of credit risk or that a default already occurred.

**Fitch’s Municipal Bond Long-Term Ratings:**

The following descriptions of Fitch’s long-term municipal bond ratings have been published by Fitch, Inc. and Fitch Ratings Ltd.

**AAA** - Highest credit quality. `AAA’ ratings denote the lowest expectation of default risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

**AA** - Very high credit quality. `AA’ ratings denote expectations of very low default risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

**A** - High credit quality. `A’ ratings denote expectations of low default risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

**BBB** - Good credit quality. `BBB’ ratings indicate that expectations of credit risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

**BB** - Speculative. `BB' ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to default risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time.

**B** - Highly speculative. `B’ ratings indicate that material default risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is vulnerable to deterioration in the business and economic environment.
CCC - Substantial credit risk. ‘CCC’ ratings indicate that there is a very low margin for safety, and that default is a real possibility.

CC - Very high levels of credit risk. ‘CC’ ratings indicate default of some kind appears probable.

C - Exceptionally high levels of credit risk. ‘C’ ratings indicate default appears imminent or inevitable.

D - Default. ‘D’ ratings indicate a default. Default generally is defined as one of the following:

- failure to make payment of principal and/or interest under the contractual terms of the rated obligation;
- the bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other winding-up or cessation of the business of an issuer/obligor where payment default on an obligation is a virtual certainty; or
- distressed exchange of an obligation, where creditors were offered securities with diminished structural or economic terms compared with the existing obligation to avoid a probable payment default.

Plus (+) or Minus (-) - The modifiers “+” or “-” may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA’ Long-Term Rating category, or to Long-Term Rating categories below ‘CCC’.

Municipal Short-Term Bond Ratings

S&P’s Municipal Short-Term Bond Ratings:

The following descriptions of S&P’s short-term municipal ratings have been published by Standard & Poor’s Financial Service LLC.

SP-1 - Strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service is given a plus (+) designation.

SP-2 - Satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

SP-3 - Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

D - ‘D’ is assigned upon failure to pay the note when due, completion of a distressed exchange offer, or the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions.

Moody’s Municipal Short-Term Ratings:

The following descriptions of Moody’s short-term municipal ratings have been published by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. and Moody’s Analytics Inc.

MIG 1 - This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

MIG 2 - This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

MIG 3 - This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.
SG - This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

**Fitch’s Municipal Short-Term Credit Ratings:**

The following descriptions of Fitch’s municipal short-term credit ratings have been published by Fitch, Inc. and Fitch Ratings Ltd.

**F1** - Highest short-term credit quality. Indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added “+” to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

**F2** - Good short-term credit quality. Good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

**F3** - Fair short-term credit quality. The intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

**B** - Speculative short-term credit quality. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

**C** - High short-term default risk. Default is a real possibility.

**RD** - Restricted default. Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically, applicable to entity ratings only.

**D** - Default. Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

**Short-Term Credit Ratings**

**S&P’s Short-Term Credit Ratings:**

The following descriptions of S&P’s short-term credit ratings have been published by Standard & Poor’s Financial Service LLC.

**A-1** - A short-term obligation rated ‘A-1’ is rated in the highest category by S&P Global Ratings. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on these obligations is extremely strong.

**A-2** - A short-term obligation rated ‘A-2’ is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is satisfactory.

**A-3** - A short-term obligation rated ‘A-3’ exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to weaken an obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**B** - A short-term obligation rated ‘B’ is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties that could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

**C** - A short-term obligation rated is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**D** - A short-term obligation rated ‘D’ is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the ‘D’ rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace
period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation’s rating is lowered to 13’ if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

**Dual Ratings** — Dual ratings may be assigned to debt issues that have a put option or demand feature. The first component of the rating addresses the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest as due, and the second component of the rating addresses only the demand feature. The first component of the rating can relate to either a short-term or long-term transaction and accordingly use either short-term or long-term rating symbols. The second component of the rating relates to the put option and is assigned a short-term rating symbol (for example, ‘AAA/A-1+’ or ‘A-1+/A-1’). With U.S. municipal short-term demand debt, the U.S. municipal short-term note rating symbols are used for the first component of the rating (for example, SP-1+/A-1+).

**Moody’s Short-Term Ratings:**

*The following descriptions of Moody’s short-term credit ratings have been published by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. and Moody’s Analytics Inc.*

**P-1** — Ratings of Prime-1 reflect a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

**P-2** — Ratings of Prime-2 reflect a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

**P-3** — Ratings of Prime-3 reflect an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

**NP** - Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

**Fitch’s Short-Term Ratings:**

*The following descriptions of Fitch’s short-term credit ratings have been published by Fitch, Inc. and Fitch Ratings Ltd.*

**F1** - Highest short-term credit quality. Indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added “+” to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

**F2** - Good short-term credit quality. Good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

**F3** - Fair short-term credit quality. The intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

**B** - Speculative short-term credit quality. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

**C** - High short-term default risk. Default is a real possibility.

**RD** - Restricted default. Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically, applicable to entity ratings only.

**D** - Default. Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a specific short-term obligation.
APPENDIX B – MISCELLANEOUS TABLES

Table 1— Investment Management Fees

The following table shows the dollar amount of fees accrued with respect to each Predecessor Fund, the amount of fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed by Absolute, if any, and the actual fees retained by Absolute. The data is for the last three fiscal years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Advisory Fees Accrued</th>
<th>Advisory Fees Waived and/or Expenses Reimbursed</th>
<th>Advisory Fees Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$1,855,215</td>
<td>$215,615</td>
<td>$1,639,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$1,887,325</td>
<td>$216,003</td>
<td>$1,671,322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$1,130,625</td>
<td>$7,404</td>
<td>$1,123,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$10,643,542</td>
<td>$1,936,343</td>
<td>$8,707,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$6,591,400</td>
<td>$1,300,864</td>
<td>$5,290,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$2,824,748</td>
<td>$423,179</td>
<td>$2,401,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Strategies Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$464,595</td>
<td>$183,839</td>
<td>$280,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$731,809</td>
<td>$294,109</td>
<td>$437,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$1,219,031</td>
<td>$461,575</td>
<td>$757,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Flexible Fund</strong>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$218,532</td>
<td>$146,612</td>
<td>$71,920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Predecessor Absolute Flexible Fund commenced operations on June 30, 2022.

Table 2 — Distribution Fees (Investor Shares)

The following table shows the dollar amount of the fees accrued by Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund’s Investor Shares, pursuant to the 12b-1 Distribution Plan, the amount of fee that was waived by its previous distributor or its agents, if any, and the actual fees received by the distributor or its agents. The data is for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Plan Fees Accrued</th>
<th>Plan Fees Waived</th>
<th>Plan Fees Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$387,014</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$387,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$24,375</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$24,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3 — Administration Fees

The following table shows the dollar amount of fees accrued with respect to each Predecessor Fund, the amount of fees waived by Apex Fund Services, the administrator to the Predecessor Funds, if any, and the actual fees retained by Apex Fund Services. The data is for the last three fiscal years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Administration Fees Accrued</th>
<th>Administration Fees Waived</th>
<th>Administration Fees Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$100,085</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$100,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$117,750</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$117,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$108,930</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$108,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$544,339</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$544,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$429,724</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$429,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$290,462</td>
<td>$61,750</td>
<td>$228,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Strategies Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$45,117</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$45,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$59,319</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$59,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$112,039</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$112,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Flexible Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$22,977</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$22,977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 — Commissions

The following table shows the aggregate brokerage commissions of each Predecessor Fund. The data is for the last three fiscal years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Aggregate Brokerage Commissions ($) Paid</th>
<th>Total Brokerage Commissions ($) Paid to Affiliate of Fund, Adviser, Subadviser or Distributor</th>
<th>% of Brokerage Commissions Paid to Affiliate of Fund, Adviser, Subadviser or Distributor</th>
<th>% of Transactions Executed by Affiliate of Fund, Adviser, Subadviser or Distributor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$194,605</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2022</td>
<td>$241,782</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$70,460</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$233,501</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$160,268</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2020</td>
<td>$44,624</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Strategies Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$499,730</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$461,168</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2020</td>
<td>$204,243</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absolute Flexible Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
<td>$2,116</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5 — Directed Brokerage

The following table lists each Predecessor Fund’s directed brokerage in return for research services, the amount of transactions so directed and the amount of commissions generated therefrom. The data is for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount Directed</th>
<th>Amount of Commissions Generated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</td>
<td>$425,166,107</td>
<td>$194,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</td>
<td>$833,777,046</td>
<td>$233,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Strategies Fund</td>
<td>$8,182,221,174</td>
<td>$499,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Flexible Fund*</td>
<td>$1,758,815</td>
<td>$2,116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Absolute Flexible Fund commenced operations on June 30, 2022.

Table 6 — Control Persons and 5% Shareholders

The following table lists as of July 5, 2023: (1) the shareholders who owned 25% or more of the outstanding shares of the Predecessor Funds and thus may be deemed to be a control person of the Fund; and (2) the persons who owned
beneficially or of record 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Funds. The Funds believe that these shares were owned of record by such holders for their fiduciary, agency or custodial accounts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name and Address</strong></td>
<td><strong>% of Fund</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSHING LLC</td>
<td>51.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 PERSHING PLAZA JERSEY CITY, NJ 07399</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES</td>
<td>21.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT, 4TH FLOOR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>499 WASHINGTON BLVD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLES SCHWAB &amp; CO INC</td>
<td>13.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211 MAIN ST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSOLUTE STRATEGIES FUND</td>
<td>7.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTN FUND ACCOUNTING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 CANAL PLAZA SUITE 600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PORTLAND, ME 04101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name and Address</strong></td>
<td><strong>% of Fund</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investor Shares</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES</td>
<td>90.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 LIBERTY STREET</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW YORK, NY 10281</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLES SCHWAB &amp; CO INC</td>
<td>6.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 MONTGOMERY ST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Institutional Shares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Address</th>
<th>% of Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TD AMERITRADE INC FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS PO BOX 2226 OMAHA, NE 68103-2226</td>
<td>19.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLES SCHWAB &amp; CO INC SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS 101 MONTGOMERY ST SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104</td>
<td>18.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT, 4TH FLOOR 499 WASHINGTON BLVD JERSEY CITY, NJ 07310</td>
<td>15.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENGEL CO C/O FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY INTLATTN ATTN MUTUAL FUND PROCESSING TEAM 280 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10017</td>
<td>5.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPL FINANCIAL OMNIBUS CUSTOMER ACCOUNT ATTN LINDSAY O TOOLE 4707 EXECUTIVE DR SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-3091</td>
<td>5.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARIL CO FBO NG CO RELIANCE TRUST COMPANY WI 4900 W BROWN DEER ROAD MILWAUKEE, WI 53223</td>
<td>5.38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Absolute Strategies Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Address</th>
<th>% of Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS ONE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 LIBERTY STREET NEW YORK, NY 10281</td>
<td>58.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TD AMERITRADE INC FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS PO BOX 2226 OMAHA, NE 68103-2226</td>
<td>17.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name and Address</td>
<td>% of Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Flexible Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund</td>
<td>73.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Strategies Fund</td>
<td>25.26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C – ADVISER/SUBADVISER PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES

ABSOLUTE INVESTMENT ADVISERS LLC PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES

I. GENERAL STATEMENT

Absolute Investment Advisers LLC (the “Adviser”) has discretion to vote the proxies received by Absolute Strategies Fund, Absolute Capital Opportunities Fund, Absolute Convertible Arbitrage Fund and the Absolute Flexible Fund (the “Funds”), a series of Forum Funds (the “Trust”), a registered investment company. Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders and reasonable care and diligence must be undertaken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised.

The authority and responsibility for voting proxies with respect to portfolio securities of the Funds has been delegated to the Subadvisers for each portion of the Funds that hold the securities being voted, under Subadvisory Agreements between the Adviser and each Subadviser. The Funds’ CCO and/or Board and the Adviser review and evaluate each Subadviser’s proxy voting policy as part of its initial due diligence and ongoing oversight. As such, the Adviser generally does not vote proxies, if such action would occur, the Adviser will vote those proxies in the best interest of the Funds’ shareholders and in accordance with these policies and procedures. The Adviser’s only clients are the Funds and as such the Adviser does not vote proxies for any client other than the Funds.

II. POLICIES FOR VOTING PROXIES

In its role as investment adviser to the Funds, Adviser has adopted these proxy voting policies. To the extent that these policies do not cover potential voting issues with respect to proxies received by the Funds, the Adviser shall act to promote the Funds’ investment objectives, subject to the provisions of the Trust’s policies regarding resolution of a conflict of interest with respect to the Adviser.

(A) Routine Matters

As the quality and depth of management is a primary factor considered when investing in an issuer, the recommendation of the issuer’s management on any issue will be given substantial weight. The position of the issuer’s management will not be supported in any situation where it is determined not to be in the best interests of the Fund’s shareholders.

(1) Election of Directors. Proxies should be voted for a management-proposed slate of directors unless there is a contested election of directors or there are other compelling corporate governance reasons for withholding votes for such directors. Management proposals to limit director liability consistent with state laws and director indemnification provisions should be supported because it is important for companies to be able to attract qualified candidates.

(2) Appointment of Auditors. Management recommendations will generally be supported.

(3) Changes in State of Incorporation or Capital Structure. Management recommendations about reincorporation should be supported unless the new jurisdiction in which the issuer is reincorporating has laws that would materially dilute the rights of shareholders of the issuer. Proposals to increase authorized common stock should be examined on a case-by-case basis. If the new shares will be used to implement a poison pill or another form of anti-takeover device, or if the issuance of new shares could excessively dilute the value of outstanding shares upon issuance, then such proposals should be evaluated to determine whether they are in the best interest of the Fund’s shareholders.

(B) Non-Routine Matters

(1) Corporate Restructurings, Mergers and Acquisitions. These proposals should be examined on a case-by-case basis.
(2) Proposals Affecting Shareholder Rights. Proposals that seek to limit shareholder rights, such as the creation of dual classes of stock, generally should not be supported.

(3) Anti-takeover Issues. Measures that impede takeovers or entrench management will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis taking into account the rights of shareholders and the potential effect on the value of the company.

(4) Executive Compensation. Although management recommendations should be given substantial weight, proposals relating to executive compensation plans, including stock option plans, should be examined on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the long-term interests of management and shareholders are properly aligned.

(5) Social and Political Issues. These types of proposals should generally not be supported if they are not supported by management unless they would have a readily determinable, positive financial effect on shareholder value and would not be burdensome or impose unnecessary or excessive costs on the issuer.

(C) Conflicts of Interest

The Adviser recognizes that under certain circumstances it may have a conflict of interest in voting proxies on behalf of the Funds. A “conflict of interest,” means any circumstance when the Adviser (including officers, directors, agents and employees) knowingly does business with, receives compensation from, or sits on the board of, a particular issuer or closely affiliated entity, and, therefore, may appear to have a conflict of interest between its own interests and the interests of fund shareholders in how proxies of that issuer are voted.

If the Adviser determines that it has a conflict of interest with respect to voting proxies on behalf of the Funds, then the Adviser shall contact the Trust’s Chairman of the Board. In the event that the Chairman determines that he has a conflict of interest, the Chairman shall submit the matter for determination to another member of the Board who is not an “interested person” of the Trust, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. In making a determination, the Chairman will consider the best interests of Funds’ shareholders and may consider the recommendations of the Adviser or independent third parties that evaluate proxy proposals. The Adviser will vote the proposal according to the determination and maintain records relating to this process.

(D) Abstention

The Adviser may abstain from voting proxies in certain circumstances. The Adviser or the Chairman of the Board may determine, for example, that abstaining from voting is appropriate if voting may be unduly burdensome or expensive, or otherwise not in the best economic interest of the Funds’ shareholders, such as when foreign proxy issuers impose unreasonable or expensive voting or holding requirements or when the costs to the Funds to effect a vote would be uneconomic relative to the value of the Funds’ investment in the issuer.

III. RECORDKEEPING

The Portfolio Manager or their staff will maintain files relating to the Adviser’s proxy voting procedures in an easily accessible place. Records will be maintained and preserved for 5 years from the end of the fiscal year during which the last entry was made on a record, with records for the first two years kept in the offices of the Adviser. Records of the following will be included in the files:

A. Copies of the proxy voting procedures and policies, and any amendments thereto.

B. A copy of each proxy statement that the Adviser receives, provided however that the Adviser may rely on obtaining a copy of proxy statements from the SEC’s EDGAR system for those proxy statements that are so available.

C. A record of each vote that the Adviser casts.
D. A copy of any document the Adviser created that was material to making a decision how to vote proxies, or that memorializes that decision, including the resolution of any conflict.

E. A copy of each written client request for information on how the Adviser voted such client’s proxies, and a copy of any written response to any (written or oral) client request for information on how the Adviser voted its proxies.

With respect to the Subadvisers of the Fund, the Adviser does not maintain records on behalf of the Subadvisers. Each Subadviser is responsible for maintaining their proxy voting records in accordance with applicable Rules.

IV. DISCLOSURE

Clients may contact the Adviser to obtain information on how the Adviser voted such client’s proxies and to request a copy of these procedures and policies. If a client requests this information, the Compliance Officer will prepare a written response to the client that lists, with respect to each voted proxy that the client has inquired about, (1) the name of the issuer, (2) the proposal voted upon and (3) how the Adviser voted the client’s proxy.
Proxy Voting

Policy

Individual Clients

KIG, as a matter of policy and practice, subject to ERISA, generally will not vote proxies on behalf of individual advisory clients unless KIG accepts and agrees, on a client-by-client basis, to have such authority. KIG may offer assistance as to proxy matters upon a client’s request, but the individual client generally retains the proxy voting responsibility. KIG’s policy of having no proxy voting responsibility is disclosed to clients. Accordingly, customers will receive information directly from issuers with respect to their voting responsibilities.

Institutional Clients (including Investment Companies)

KIG will vote proxies if the client delegates, and KIG agrees to accept, such authority.

Background

Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders and reasonable care and diligence must be undertaken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised, and KIG believes that the passive holding of corporate stocks (whether on its own behalf or on the behalf of its clients) without assessment of the financial performance of a corporation and its management does not fulfill KIG’s obligation as a shareholder.

Responsibility

KIG’s Chief Compliance Officer has the responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of KIG’s Proxy Policy to ensure that KIG exercises its authority appropriately, the Policy is reviewed on a periodic basis, and that KIG maintains required records related to such votes.

Procedures

For clients for whom KIG has accepted the responsibility to vote proxies:

In order to discharge its obligations, guided by the primary objective of maximization of shareholder wealth, the investment team or the lead portfolio manager or analyst for a portfolio company will review proxies for that company, and make a recommendation as to how KIG should vote its shares with respect to that proxy. KIG will vote its shares and its clients’ shares with respect to such proxies.

On issues of corporate governance, KIG will generally vote proxies in accordance with the following general guidelines:

Ratify auditors unless previous auditor was dismissed for a disagreement with management;

Ratify directors unless governance issue has been raised or there is a lack of diversity on the board;

Vote against golden parachutes for executives;

Vote for proposals requiring a majority of independent directors;
Vote for proposals requiring nominating and/or compensation committees to be composed exclusively of independent directors;

Vote against incentive payments not related to financial performance;

Vote against incentive payments that are tied to social and environmental performance;

Vote against proposals to approve multiple amendments to charter or by-laws if the amendment reduces shareholders’ rights;

Vote against proposals to adopt or ratify shareholders rights plan (poison pill) and for management proposal to redeem a shareholders rights plan (poison pill);

Vote against proposals recognizing the standing of stakeholders other than shareholders in governance and control.

MG will generally engage the use of a third-party service provider to assist it in discharging its proxy voting responsibilities, and in this regard, may adopt the proxy voting guidelines of such third-party service provider.

Notwithstanding the use of a third-party service provider, MG may direct such third-party service provider to vote in a particular manner on certain proxy matters (on an “ad hoc” basis) and in the best interests of its clients (including investment company shareholders) and in accordance with guidelines set forth above.

KIG will disclose to its clients and investment company shareholders how clients and such shareholders can obtain information from MG about how KIG has voted its proxies.

MG will disclose to such clients and shareholders KIG’s Proxy Policy and furnish a copy to a client and shareholder upon request.

For other (generally, non-institutional) clients:

MG discloses its proxy voting policy of not voting proxies in its (ADV) Disclosure Document, advisory agreement or other client information.

KIG’s advisory agreements provide that MG has no proxy voting responsibilities and that the advisory clients expressly retain such voting authority.

KIG’s new client information materials may also indicate that advisory clients retain proxy voting authority.

MG has verified that provisions have been made (through its affiliated broker-dealer’s clearing firm) to ensure that clients receive proxy materials directly.

Conflicts of Interest

If KIG agrees to vote proxies on behalf of clients (including investment company shareholders), material conflicts of interest may arise that can affect how KIG votes. If MG has a business relationship with an issuer soliciting proxies, MG may have an incentive to vote in a particular manner that is not in the clients’ or shareholders’ best interests. MG will address such conflicts in the following manner:

MG will first determine if it has a material business relationship with the issuer;

If a material business relationship exists, KIG will research the specific proxy matter and ascertain how the third-party service provider, if engaged, intends to vote such proxies;

If the third-party service provider’s intended vote is not in the best interests of the clients and shareholders, subject to the applicable proxy voting policy of the Board of Trustees of the investment company, KIG will “override” or direct
the third-party service provider to vote in a manner that is consistent with the clients’ and shareholders’ best interests; and

KIG will disclose to such clients and shareholders if a material business relationship exists with a particular issuer. If a conflict of interest exists with respect to a specific proxy matter, KIG will disclose the conflict to the client and shareholder and how it (or the third-party service provider) intends to vote on such matter.

In addition, on a periodic basis, the compliance staff or its designate will judgmentally and randomly select a sampling of votes that the third-party provider has cast. The staff will review such votes to assist in determining whether or not such votes are in the applicable clients’ best interests.

**Records**

MG will monitor proxy votes and maintain records of such votes (including those cast by third-party service providers) as required by applicable law and regulations. In addition, KIG will provide proxy voting reports to clients (including investment company shareholders) as required by applicable law and regulations or upon request.