

PENGANA AXIOM INTERNATIONAL FUND HEDGED

DESCRIPTION

The Pengana Axiom International Fund (Hedged) invests in companies that are dynamically growing and changing for the better, more rapidly than generally expected and where the positive changes are not yet reflected in expectations or valuation.

The Global Equity Strategy seeks dynamic growth by concentrating its investments in global developed markets, and may also invest in companies located in emerging markets.

The investment manager is Axiom Investors, a Connecticut-based global equity fund manager formed in 1998 with over US\$19billion in assets under Management.

■ PERFORMANCE TABLE NET PERFORMANCE FOR PERIODS ENDING 30 Sep 2025 1 Pengana Axiom International Fund (Hedged)¹ The Class was established in 1 July 2017. From June 2021 Axiom was appointed as the investment manager for the Fund. Since Since Fund Since Strategy Axiom Appointed June 2021 2Y 1M 17 37 5Y Inception Inception July 2004⁴ July 2017³ Fund: APIR (HHA0002AU)^{2,3} 4.6% 12.7% 23.2% 21.2% 6.7% 7.8% 9.3% Managed by Axiom from June 2021 Current Strategy (Partial Simulation)⁵ 9.6% 11.5% 10.3% Axiom Global Equity Strategy 22.1% Index (Hedged)⁶ 3.6% 16.9% 20.7% 9.2% 13.2% 11.1% 10.2%



TOP HOLDINGS (ALPHABETICALLY)			
Alphabet Inc. Class A	Communication Services		
Amazon.com, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary		
Broadcom Inc.	Information Technology		
Meta Platforms Inc Class A	Communication Services		
Microsoft Corporation	Information Technology		
Morgan Stanley	Financials		
Netflix, Inc.	Communication Services		
NVIDIA Corporation	Information Technology		
Oracle Corporation	Information Technology		
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. Spons	Information Technology		

SECTOR BREAKDOWN		CAPITALISATION BREAKDOWN		REGION BREAKDOWN	
Consumer Discretionary	10.5%	In between 5bn - 10bn USD	0.1%	North America	72.3%
Consumer Staples	1%	In between 10bn - 50bn USD	5%	Europe ex-UK	12.9%
Financials	10.1%	In between 50bn - 150bn USD	20.4%	Emerging Markets	5.5%
Health Care	5.7%	In between 150bn - 500bn USD	20.1%	Japan	5.5%
Industrials	12.8%	Above 500bn USD	50.5%	Cash	3.9%
Information Technology	37.3%	Cash	3.9%		
Real Estate	1.8%				
Communication Services	16.8%				
Cash	3.9%				

■ STATISTICAL DATAVOLATILITY⁸ 15.2%

NUMBER OF STOCKS 44

BETA⁹ 1.07

SEPTEMBER REPORT

COMMENTARY

- The Fund returned 4.6% in September, outperforming the benchmark, which rose 3.6%, as growth stocks rebounded strongly from recent weakness. The Fund's fundamentals remain well ahead of the benchmark, supported by broad-based earnings upgrades and attractive valuations.
- AppLovin, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing (TSMC), and Oracle were leading contributors, while the underweight position in Tesla, alongside Boston Scientific and Amazon, detracted.
- The Fund added to Morgan Stanley, Alphabet and Spotify, initiated a new position in Amphenol, and exited Tradeweb.

Market Review

Global equities advanced in September, with growth stocks outperforming value as investors refocused on company fundamentals and earnings momentum. The Fund's forward 12-month earnings revisions remained well ahead of the benchmark, with nearly 70% of holdings upgraded during the month. Aggregate earnings growth across the portfolio continues to exceed the market. The Fund's price-to-earnings-to-growth (PEG) ratio, which compares valuation to expected earnings growth, fell to 1.2 times from 1.3 times in August, showing that stronger fundamentals more than offset modestly higher valuations. The Fund's currency hedge added value during the month as the US dollar weakened relative to the Australian dollar.

Inflation continued to moderate across major economies, with the US Core PCE Index steady at 2.9% year-on-year. The Federal Reserve cut rates by 25 basis points in line with expectations and signalled a more accommodative stance amid softer employment data. Global monetary policy remained supportive of equity markets.

Economic conditions were steady but uneven across regions. In the US, consumer demand stayed firm, with retail sales growth accelerating in real terms. Europe was stable, with PMIs in expansionary territory, though retail spending softened slightly. In China, early signs of improvement appeared as manufacturing and services activity strengthened, supported by modest policy measures. Commodity prices were broadly unchanged, with lower oil offset by firmer precious metals.

With inflation near central bank targets and growth fundamentals outpacing the benchmark, Axiom remains focused on dynamic companies with strong earnings visibility and positive revision trends.

Portfolio Commentary

The Fund outperformed the benchmark in September. Information technology and consumer staples contributed positively at the sector level, while communication services and consumer discretionary detracted.

AppLovin, a US-based digital advertising company, was a leading contributor after positive industry feedback on advertiser demand for its new e-commerce platform. This supported upward revisions to revenue and profit forecasts. TSMC, the Taiwan-based semiconductor manufacturer, also performed strongly after reporting higher monthly revenues and improved utilisation. Demand for advanced chips used in AI infrastructure continues to accelerate, supporting growth expectations well above consensus. Oracle advanced after reporting strong quarterly results and issuing guidance that exceeded market forecasts. The company announced a large increase in contract value, highlighting continued expansion in its cloud infrastructure business.

The underweight position in **Tesla** detracted as sentiment improved on stronger vehicle sales and speculation around new product launches. Axiom remains cautious on Tesla, viewing its longer-term opportunities in autonomous driving and robotics as too uncertain to model with confidence. **Boston Scientific** declined after recent strength as healthcare investor focus rotated from medical devices towards pharmaceuticals. **Amazon** also lagged despite improving fundamentals in both its retail and cloud businesses. The Fund added to Amazon on the view that earnings are positioned to exceed expectations into 2026.

Portfolio activity balanced new investments with selective profit-taking. The Fund increased positions in Morgan Stanley, Alphabet and Spotify. Morgan Stanley remains well placed to benefit from higher capital markets activity, while Alphabet increased following improving advertising trends and stronger demand for cloud services. Spotify was also added to after price increases across key regions improved profit visibility. Reductions were made to Visa, SAP and Hitachi. Visa's valuation moved towards the top of its historical range, while SAP and Hitachi were trimmed following softer enterprise spending and digital-services demand.

A new position was established in **Amphenol**, a US-based manufacturer of communications connectors and cabling used in data transmission. The company is a key supplier to Nvidia's rack-scale server systems and is expected to benefit from rising data-centre investment and next-generation product cycles. The Fund exited its position in **Tradeweb** as trading volumes began to soften.

During the month, two holdings, TSMC and Intuitive Surgical, were downgraded by MSCI on governance and product-quality concerns, respectively. Engagement with both companies is planned as Axiom continues to advocate for stronger disclosure and risk-management practices.

▼ FEATURES	
APIR CODE	HHA0002AU
REDEMPTION PRICE	A\$ 3.615
FEES*	Management Fee: 1.35% p.a
MINIMUM INITIAL INVESTMENT	\$10,000
FUM AT MONTH END	A\$ 49.16m
STRATEGY INCEPTION DATE	1 July 2004
BENCHMARK	MSCI All Country World Total Return in AUD (Hedged)

S FUND MANAGERS



Bradley Amoils Managing Director/Portfolio Manager



Andrew Jacobson
CEO/Chief Investment Officer

- 1. From 4 June 2021 the capital component of the foreign currency exposure for the Fund is hedged back to Australian dollars.
- 2. Axiom was appointed fund manager as of 5 May 2021. June 2021 represents the first full month of Axiom managing the Fund.
- 3. Inception date 1 July 2017. Figures shown are calculated from the continuous performance of both the current and previous strategies. For performance see row labelled Fund: APIR (HHA0002AU) in the table above which is the continuous performance of both the current and previous strategies.
- 4. Axiom Global Equity Strategy inception 1 Jul 2004.
- 5. Prior to 1 June 2021, the Axiom Global Equity Strategy performance (labeled 'Current Strategy (Partial Simulation)' and shown in the shaded area) includes the strategy performance simulated by Pengana from the monthly gross USD returns of the Axiom Global Equity strategy. The Axiom Global Equity Strategy performance does not include the Pengana ethical screen
- 6. Prior to 4 June 2021 hedged performance has been simulated by Pengana for both the Fund and Index. This was done by: 1) using 3 month rolling forwards to hedge movements in the AUD/USD spot rate, and 2) deducting the Pengana International Ethical Fund (Hedged) management fee of 1.35% p.a. from the Fund's performance.
- From 4 June 2021, index performance is from the MSCI All Country World Total Return in AUD (Hedged). Prior to 4 June 2021, index performance is simulated from the MSCI All Country World Total Return in LISD.
- 7. Performance for periods greater than 12 months are annualised. Net performance figures are shown after all fees and expenses, and assume reinvestment of distributions. No allowance has been made for buy/sell spreads. Please refer to the PDS for information regarding risks. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance, the value of investments can go up and down.
- 8. Annualised standard deviation since inception.
- 9. Relative to the MSCI All Country World Total Return in AUD (Hedged).
- ${}^\star \text{For further information regarding fees please see the PDS available on our website.}$

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