



Odyssean Investment Trust PLC

Q3 2021 Update

# Important Information



- Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance
- Investors may not get back the value of their original investment
- The value of the Investment Company and the income derived from it may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed
- Investing in small and mid-sized companies may involve a higher degree of risk than investing in larger sized companies
- Case studies are selected for illustrative purposes only to illustrate the investment strategy and are not investment recommendations
- The Prospectus and the Key Information Document, available at www.oitplc.com, provide more information about the risk profile of the Investment Company

### Executive Summary – Q3 2021

#### NAV growth c.2.4% over the period. Net cash ended the period at 12%

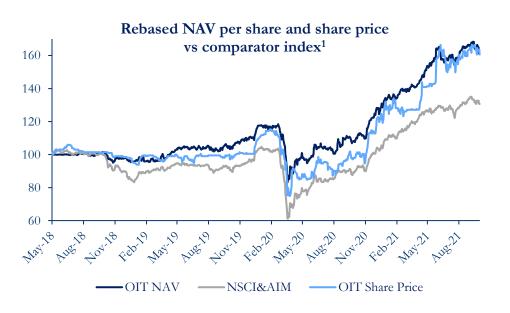
- NAV per share rose 2.4%<sup>1,2</sup> in the period, slightly lagging the NSCI +AIM ex IC index ("Comparator") which rose 2.9% <sup>2,3</sup>
  - Significant volatility of absolute and relative performance over the quarter
- NAV per share growth year to date of 21.1%, remains slightly ahead of the Comparator which has returned 19.9%. Net cash year to date of 7% of portfolio
- Portfolio:
  - Busy reporting period. Portfolio companies broadly trading in-line, benefitting from COVID re-opening
  - No new positions started but further investments made into existing names
  - Two positions exited Vectura (competitive takeover) and Volution (exit into the market)
  - Active engagement with portfolio companies. Clinigen Chairman & Senior NED change & Elliot becomes a shareholder
  - Net cash ended the period at 12% following proceeds from Vectura
- Themes for the Quarter Supply chain challenges; upside from industrial holdings; focus on B2B media
- OIT's shares ended the period trading at c.3% premium to NAV of 158.2p<sup>1,2</sup>.
- c.4.0m OIT shares issued in the quarter. Blocklisting remains in situ

### Performance update



#### NAV up c.2.4% in period with shares trading at a small premium

Performance				0/0			
	Q3-21	YTD -21	LTM	CY20	CY19	Inception to Dec-18	Since inception
NAV Total Return Per Share <sup>1</sup>	+2.4%	+21.1%	+48.4%	+13.1%	+22.0%	-3.7%	+60.8%
Share price return <sup>3</sup>	+5.2%	+26.4%	+63.8%	+14.2%	+17.7%	-4.0%	+63.0%
NSCI + AIM ex IC Total Return <sup>3</sup>	+2.9%	+19.9%	+45.7%	+4.9%	+22.2%	-15.0%	+30.7%
Average cash balance <sup>2</sup>	7%	7%	7%	9%	17%	65%	22%





As at 30st September 2021. Performance measured from COB 1/5/18, share performance since inception assumes IPO price of 100p. Source: ¹Link Asset Services, Bloomberg, Odyssean Capital; Numis Smaller Companies plus AIM ex Investment Companies Total Return Index. Rebased to start NAV ² Link Asset Services, Odyssean Capital ³ Bloomberg. YTD – Year to Date; LTM = Last 12 months. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance and the value of investments can go up and down

### Performance drivers in Q3 2021

#### Key stock contributors



#### Largest positive contributors



- Vectura received further bid approaches, ultimately successful bid from Phillip Morris at 165p per share
- We view the final bid as fair value returning c.40% IRR, 1.7x cash multiple



- A September Q3 trading statement confirmed full year expectations in-line despite a 'challenging environment', and flagged the pipeline of further opportunities looked 'encouraging'
- We remain positive on the potential for Chemring as it continues to display its quality and improving trading momentum



- Interim results confirmed trading in line and flagged good progress both on operational efficiencies and development of the new ecommerce platform
- We see significant opportunity for Flowtech as the group makes progress on its self help activities. The potential from the ecommerce opportunity is now more clear, offering a further medium to long term upside

#### Flat performers / Largest negative contributors



- Final full year results were in-line with a return to revenue growth, strong cash generation an improving order book, and positive feedback on the recent acquisition of IPM
- Shares de-rated aggressively late in Q3 on no news.
   This may have been due to profit taking and wage inflation concerns. We remain positive on the medium term potential for NCC given the growth in its end markets



- The bid for Spire from Ramsay Healthcare was voted down by shareholders and fell away. The shares have fallen back on this news
- We believe that the fundamental opportunity for Spire of strong demand (long waiting lists; increased demand for self-pay) and a management team delivering cost savings supports an attractive standalone equity story

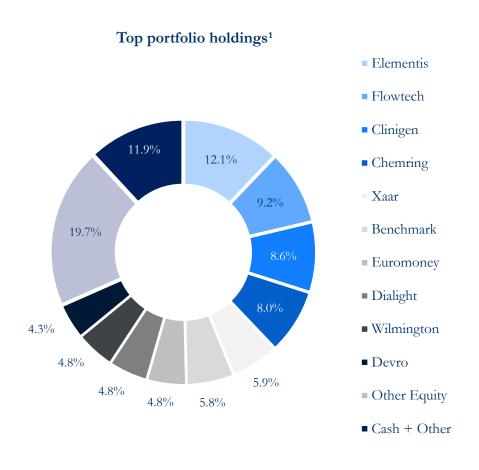


- Xaar delivered an in-line set of interim results, showing revenue growth and pleasing progression on the development product pipeline.
- Shares were very weak on concerns on supply chain and Chinese end demand since mid September. We view these issues as short term. Our equity thesis is based on Xaar delivering revenue growth well above GDP, leveraging past significant investments R&D and better utilising its manufacturing capacity

#### Portfolio

### High conviction portfolio



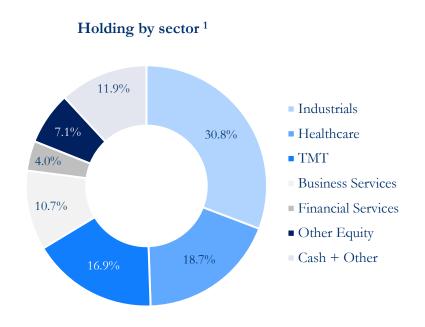


- Top 10 holdings account for 68% of NAV
- No new positions initiated in the period. Two positions fully exited – Vectura (take over) and Volution (sell down)
- Further investments made in Xaar, Dialight and Spire
- Continued sell down of RWS, with profits taken from Chemring and NCC following strong periods for the shares
- Cash balance of c.12% at end period includes proceeds from Vectura

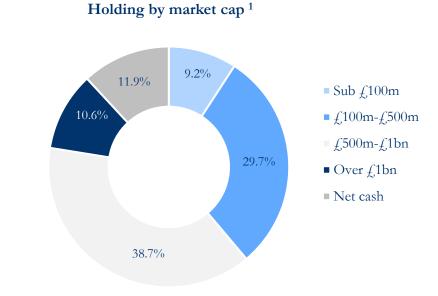
### Portfolio



#### Focused on our core sectors and core market cap range



- Industrials remains the largest sector exposure
- Drop in healthcare exposure following takeover of Vectura
- Net cash balance of c.12%

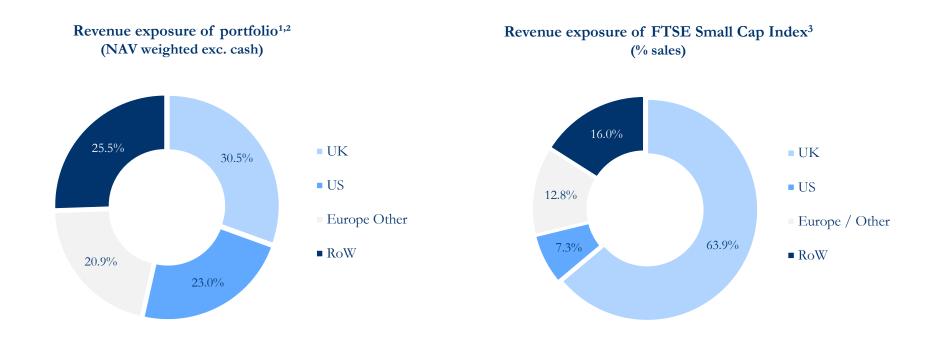


• 77% of invested exposure in core target market cap range of £100m-£1bn

#### Portfolio



#### Portfolio has higher proportion of international earnings than the FTSE Small Cap

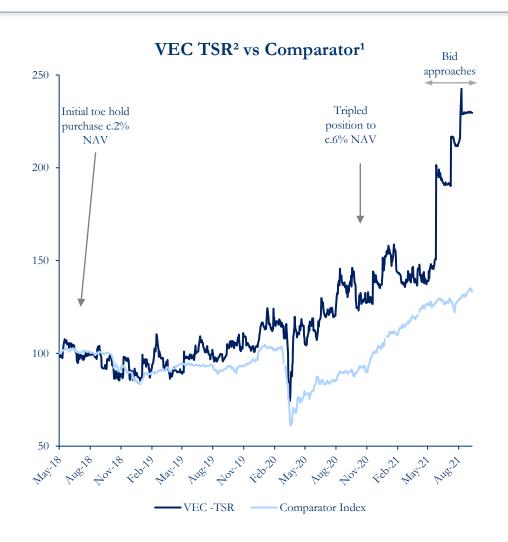


- Portfolio revenue generation is balanced by geographic area, which we believe spreads political risk
- OIT's portfolio overweight international revenues and underweight UK vs FTSE Small Cap
- Little change in underlying FX exposure during quarter

### Vectura Case Study. Takeover in Q3 2021



### Undervalued, over capitalised niche business. Unloved but ended up in a bidding war



We built an initial toehold position in May 2018, materially scaling position in November 2020 on positive trading news which went under appreciated by the market.

Business is a leader in inhaled drug formulation and device development

- Quality Leader in highly technical specialised market, with growth tail winds
- Static Value Value underpinned by sum-of-the-parts on in market products and cash balance sheet. IP/expertise in business has strategic value
- Dynamic Value Deliver pipeline drugs, reduce inefficient R&D spend, improve capital efficiency
- Engagement opportunity Support and monitor planned reduction in R&D and streamlining of group. Board needing refresh

**Outcome** – Approach from PE (Carlyle) and successful bid from trade (Phillip Morris) demonstrate value in the group. Delivered realised 40% IRR and 1.7x cash multiple on our invested capital

Source: Factset as at 10th September 2021

# Top 10 holdings summary

### Niche market leaders. Often with international operations and self-help

Holding	Market position	Self-help/engagement opportunities
ELEMENTIS	Global market leader with high quality industrial talc and high quality hectorite clay US market leader in chromium chemicals	Plant footprint optimisation; more higher value add products; invest in salesforce
FLUIDPOWER	UK market leader in hydraulic and pneumatic components distribution	Integration of past M&A and delivery of synergies. Digital strategy
CLINIGEN GROUP PLC	Global market leader in Managed Access Programmes for unlicensed drugs	Cashflow to reduce debt; back and mid office system investment.  New COO appointed. Reduce complexity/overhead. Break up?
Chemring	Global market leader in specialist countermeasures and niche detection technologies  A UK market leader in niche defence-related cyber security	Capex to continue to improve automation and productivity
X443	Unique product proposition in global market for digital printing heads for industrial printers	Monetise 3D printing JV with Stratasys. Commercialisation of considerable IP and regain of market share
Benchmark*	Global market leader in Salmon genetics. Global market leader in specialist aquaculture nutrition. Global market leader in next generation sea lice treatment	Reorganisation largely complete. BMK08 approval and Cleantreat commercialisation. Broaden shareholder appeal?
Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC	Global B2B information business, with leading positions in commodity pricing data and niche professional markets	Integration of historically separate divisions, back-office IT investment, improve IR, group simplification
Dialight	Global market leader in LED lighting for hazardous industrial environments	Market share recovery through US sales force strengthening, ongoing simplification of product range and manufacturing process, improve IR and liquidity
Wilmington plo	Leader in providing data, networking and training across multiple niche, professional end markets	Technology investment in sales, CRM and centralising of data to drive growth. Improve IR on a complex story
<b>DEVRO</b>	Leading producer of edible collagen food casings	Investment in plant rationalization and efficiency, professionalization of commercial function to drive growth

## Cyclical industrial exposure is highly targeted

#### Focus on recovery and mid- term self-help opportunities



- We believe c.30% of NAV has a direct exposure to cyclical industrial end markets Elementis, Flowtech, Xaar, Dialight
- All positions are multi-year, self-help stories which support above market revenue growth and margin progression
- We see a clear value underpin for each position
- We have undertaken further due diligence regarding potential supply chain risks. Early action to build inventory and limited supplier dependency should mitigate this near term challenge
- Each company has successfully increased prices. We believe that some have the potential to over-recover input cost rises

Company	Geographic exposure	Self help to grow above market?	Self help to drive Margins <sup>1</sup> ?	Value underpin
ELEMENTIS	N. America, Europe	✓ Target \$100m from new products	✓ Margins FY21e = 12% Target margins = >17%	Unique mineral assets. Proven trade interest
FLUIDPOWER	UK	<ul><li>✓ e-commerce roll out driving share gain</li></ul>	✓ Margins FY21e = 5% Target margins = >12%	UK market position
X443	Asia, Europe	✓ New products growing TAM. Pricing opportunity	✓ Margins FY21e = -6% Target margins = >15%	IP and manufacturing facility Net cash and working capital
Dialight	North America	✓ Regain lost market share	✓ Margins FY21e = 4% Target margins = >13%	US market position and sales force

## Supply chain risk



Engagement with portfolio companies on this as well as energy issues in China

#### Supply chain challenges

#### Primary Impact: Access to input materials

- What level of inventory is held? Have buffer stocks been built?
- Manufacturing lead times and distance to ship?
- Do you have a diverse range of suppliers for key inputs?



• Management teams able to risk manage & plan e.g. Xaar has secured most raw materials for 2022 production needs

# Secondary Impact: Customer activity impacted by shortages

- Are you selling inputs to your customers' products? Where are their other supply chain bottle necks?
- Level of MRO/consumables vs OEM business?
- Concentration of customers in single end market
   / sector / geography?

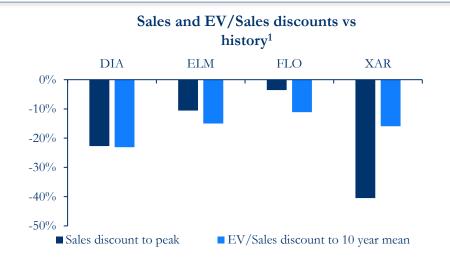


• Risks more difficult for companies to manage – need to be close to customers

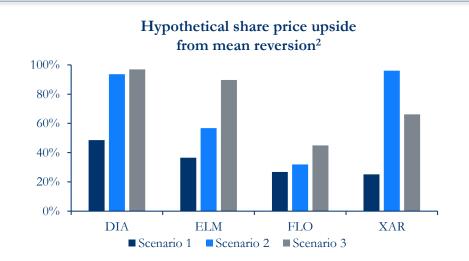
## Cyclical industrials in the portfolio could have good upside



Seemingly neither full recovery, nor self-help, nor M&A interest is priced in



Company	Year of peak sales last 5 years	Comment
Dialight	2017	Healing self-inflicted wounds from flawed outsourcing
Elementis	2018	Chromium and energy weak 2019. Self-inflicted wound in Personal Care
Flowtech	2018	End market weakness Q4 2019
Xaar	2017	Flawed commercial, NPD and R&D strategy under previous team



Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
10 yr. average EV/Sales X Current NTM sales	10 yr. average EV/Sales X Peak sales since 2017	5 yr. peak EV/Sales X Current NTM sales
Conservative valuation, sales not fully recovered	Conservative valuation on previous peak sales	Previous peak valuation based on sales not fully recovered

- Self help at Elementis and Flowtech should drive margins to all time highs next cycle, indicating scope for EV/Sales re-rating
- We believe all companies have scope to recover sales in real terms to previous highs within 3 years. All have been active in raising prices
- Scope for accelerated return/upside from M&A we do not believe that any of these companies has poison pills to frustrate a bid

#### B2B media accounts for c.10% of NAV

### Attractive recovery dynamics. No supply chain risks. Negative working capital

- B2B Media investments have grown to be 10% of NAV
- Fundamentally attractive business models
  - High levels of recurring revenue commonly with significant subscription components
  - Low capital intensity, high cash margins
  - · High IP/reputation/knowledge key to business models and significant barriers to entry
  - "Platform" businesses
- Recovery potential undervalued by the market
  - Covid impacted in-person events and training. Growing evidence that this demand will return and/or monetisation of digital events successful
  - Shares remain relatively unloved compared to more cyclical consumer recovery plays despite limited exposure to supply chain challenges and input cost inflation
  - Typically negative working capital => very high cash conversion during recovery phase

#### Our investment focus

- Opportunities with self-help notably integration of legacy M&A and optimising resource allocation
- Focus on well capitalised businesses with strong balance sheets. Euromoney net cash. Wilmington <1x Net Debt/EBITDA
- Private Equity has been active in the sector historically. Significant synergies exist for trade buyers. Assets can trade at discount to Sum of Parts valuations

### Tenure of Chairmen of top portfolio companies





#### Vintage of Chairmen appointments

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Chemring	NCC	Benchmark	Devro	Flowtech	Clinigen
		Wilmington	Euromoney	Xaar	Dialight
					Elementis
					Spire

- Many top 10 portfolio companies (in bold) have recently-appointed Chairmen
- Benchmark, Chemring, NCC and Wilmington Chairmen in our opinion have overseen a period of self-help & transformation, which we believe in each case is close to completion
- Clinigen, Dialight, Elementis, Flowtech and Xaar, which together account for just under 40% of the NAV and where we see significant self-help and recovery potential, have all appointed new Chairmen since March 2020

# ESG - Portfolio company voting record over Q3 2021



#### Comment

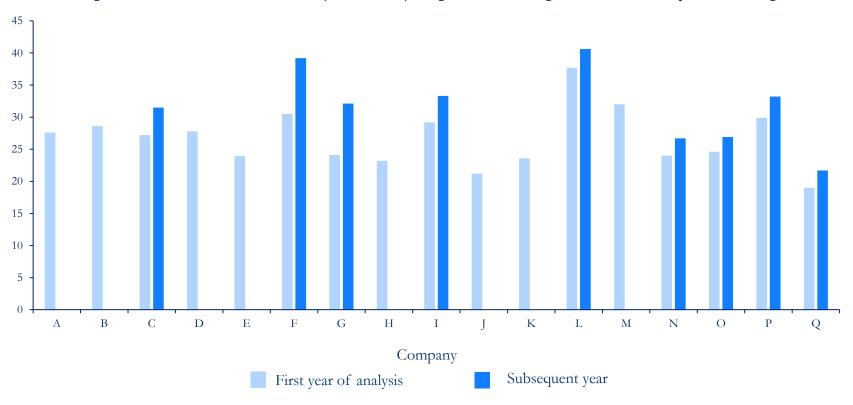
Number of meetings	Quiet summer period. Only OGMs in relation to bids
Number of resolutions	3
Number voted	3
Voted with management	3
Voted against management	0

### ESG performance and disclosure



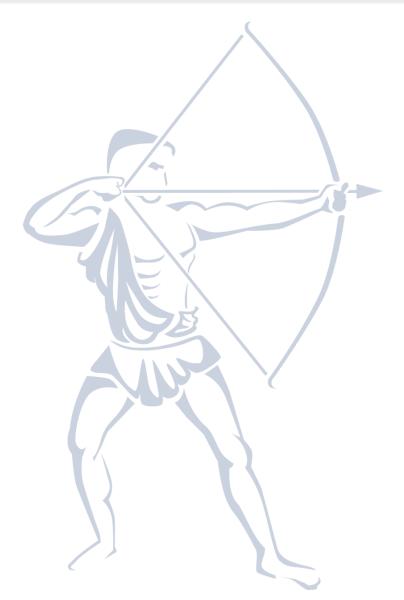
Improving performance. Q4 2021 should see most companies have two years data

#### ESG performance and disclosure (out of 100) of portfolio companies ordered by market cap



• Improving trend of ESG performance and disclosure from our portfolio companies





# Outlook & Data

### Outlook



#### Despite the healthy recovery in the NAV post March 2020 we still see good long-term upside

#### **Overall market conditions**

- UK market has lagged international peers for some time. However some of the rating difference is driven by sector weights
- Despite the success of vaccines, market and individual stock volatility may be high in the short-term. This may lead to more pricing anomalies, which we hope to exploit

#### Opportunities & reasons to be positive

- UK vaccine success has led to widespread restrictions being relaxed on July 19th 2021 reopening momentum continues
- Accommodative fiscal and monetary policy likely to continue for now. Financial repression remains the least worst solution?
- Borrowing remains cheap for corporates and governments
- Portfolio has blend of COVID recovery potential and self help, but we believe it is reasonably priced
- Hot M&A market conditions

#### Risks & reasons to be cautious

- Supply chain disruption and power rationing in China. Inflation & stagflation concerns
- Equity markets, especially highly rated growth stocks, are expensive and dependent on both continuing recovery as well as monetary policy remaining extremely benign. Continued rises in bond yields (i.e. "risk-free rate") may lead to a re-pricing of equities
- Many equities are pricing in a lot of good news already

# Outlook for medium term NAV growth

### Our views on prospects for the key drivers

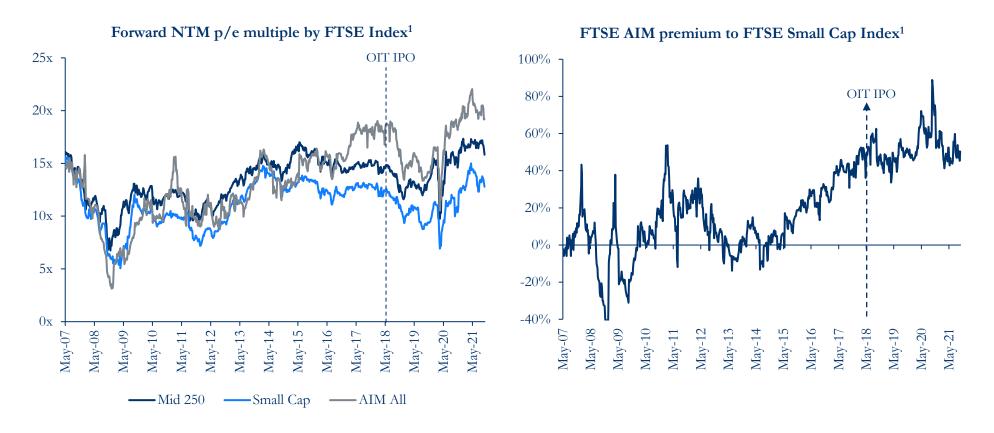


Sales growth	✓	- Earnings growth
Margin improvement	✓	Seeking sustainable >15% annualised return from combined earnings growth & free cashflow yield
Free cash flow	✓	
Re-rating	?	<ul> <li>Is recovery priced in? In some sectors and stocks we believe it is</li> <li>Buoyant market ratings. We are not assuming material re-ratings from here</li> <li>Many examples of quoted companies trading at premia to M&amp;A ratings</li> </ul>
M&A	✓	<ul> <li>Hidden value/under-earners/recovery not priced in/high trade bidder synergies</li> <li>Cost of borrowing remains low for trade and PE buyers</li> <li>More prospects in B2B sectors than B2C?</li> </ul>

### Ceteris paribus, there seems more value among full list companies



We avoid highly rated "IHT business asset relief favourites" trading on AIM

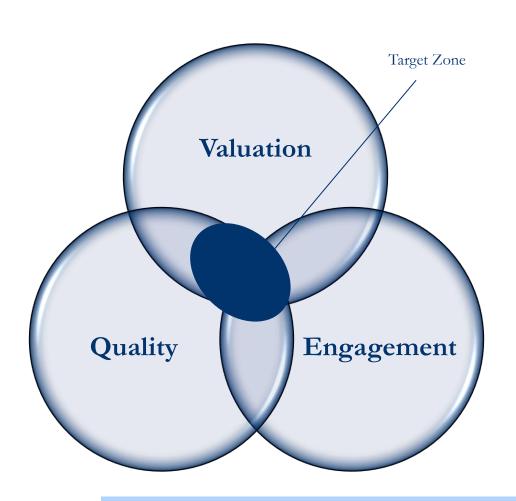


- Forward ratings for Small Cap and AIM peaked at the end of April 2021
- Small Cap and AIM indices have de-rated whereas Mid 250 ratings remain high

### Investment strategy recap – neither growth nor value







#### **Valuation**

- Invest at a significant discount to owner's valuation
- Look for businesses with multiple drivers of equity value growth (sales; margin; rating; free cashflow; M&A)
- "Make money", not beat an index

#### Quality

- Strict quality overlay to complement value focus
- "Good companies"
- Limit downside

#### Engagement

- Seek out "self-help" /transformation situations
- Integrated
- Proactive not reactive
- Tend to engage anyway as a Top 5 shareholder
- We aim to make money (target >15% IRR on every investment) with a favourable risk/reward
- Sector focus (TMT, Healthcare, Industrials, Services)

### Sectors we focus on

#### We focus on four key sectors we know well



- We believe the best investment decisions are made from a base of knowledge and experience
- We focus on sectors where the team has expertise and where we have successfully made money
- Our core sector focus is driven by our investment approach
  - TMT: Software managed services and niche electronics
  - Services: Higher value-add "white collar" and tech enabled services
  - Healthcare: Services, not speculative pharma/biotech
  - Industrials: Niche, high IP products
- Companies with the following characteristics best suit our investment approach:
  - Low cyclicality
  - B2B focus
  - High/improving ROCE/cash margins
  - In-house sector expertise

#### Odyssean: view of main sectors

Low cyclicality	B2B focus	High ROCE/cash margins	Sector expertise
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	0	•	•
•	•	•	0
0	•	•	0
	cyclicality	cyclicality  B2B focus    B2B focus   B2B focus	B2B focus ROCE/cash margins  B2B focus ROCE/cash margins  ROCE/cash margins  ROCE/cash margins  D  D  D  D  D  D  D  D  D  D  D  D  D

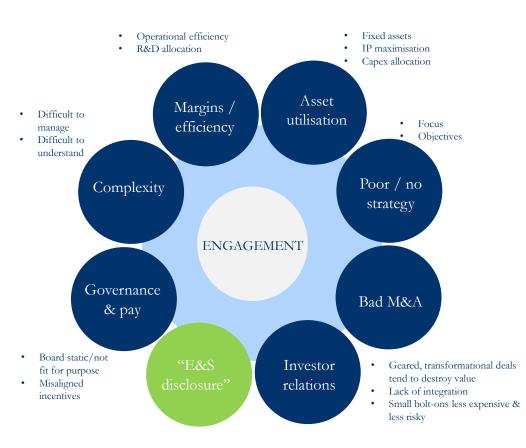
Sectors we focus on

### Corporate engagement

#### Goal to augment returns from stock selection



- We use engagement to create, defend or recover value and to deliver differentiated returns
- The investment team has more than 15 years experience engaging with smaller companies
- Team members are well networked and believe that persuasion with superior knowledge and understanding achieves the best results
- Peers are often open to supporting an engaged shareholder with change proposals
- Historic focus on Governance/financial performance
- Increasing focus on Environmental and Social disclosure and performance



- Poor ESG ratings due to lack of disclosure
- Enhanced disclosure drives improvement in E&S performance
- Lack of IR strategy
- Poor financial disclosure/liquidity

### Portfolio construction



### Our strategy is more similar to Private Equity than other Public Equity funds

	Typical Long Only	Odyssean Strategy	Typical Private Equity
Number of positions	50-100	Up to 25	10-15
Typical position size	1%	3-8% at cost, max 20%	10%
Typical holding period	Variable	3-5 years	3-5 years
Due diligence	Light to Medium	Medium to High	High/Forensic
Typical target ownership	0.5-3%	2-20%	Majority/Supermajority
Sectors	Own most/All	Focus on a few	Focus on a few
Control	No control	Influencing stake	Full control
Approach to risk	Diversification & tracking error	Focus & due diligence	Focus & due diligence
Investment mindset	Outperform index	Absolute return	Absolute return
Engagement	Negligible	Medium/High	Medium/High
Typical cash balance	0-5%	8-12%	n/a

# Odyssean Investment Trust - key company facts



NAV	£148m <sup>1</sup>
Shares in issue	93,299,553 <sup>1</sup>
Domicile	UK Full listing, London Stock Exchange
Board	Fully independent. Owns c.1% of issued share capital. Will use all fees, post tax, to buy shares
AIFM	Internally managed, small registered UK AIFM. Portfolio Management delegated to Odyssean Capital
Discount control/realisation opportunity	Opportunity for shareholders to rollover or realise all of their investment at NAV less costs, every 7 <sup>th</sup> year post IPO (May 2018) 50% of profit from takeovers to be used to buy back shares if the average discount exceeds 5% for 60 days prior to exit
Gearing	No structural gearing envisaged. Ability to gear up to 10% for short term liquidity purposes. Net cash balances likely to be maintained to enable agile purchases of blocks of stock
Fees	Management fee lower of 1.0% of net assets/market capitalisation. Performance fee 10% of NAV TR outperformance vs (comparator index +1% p.a.) on a rolling three year basis with a high water mark. 50% of performance fees paid in shares/used to buy shares if at a discount
Comparator index	Numis Smaller Companies ex Investment Trusts plus AIM index
Ticker	OIT
ISIN	GB00BFFK7H57

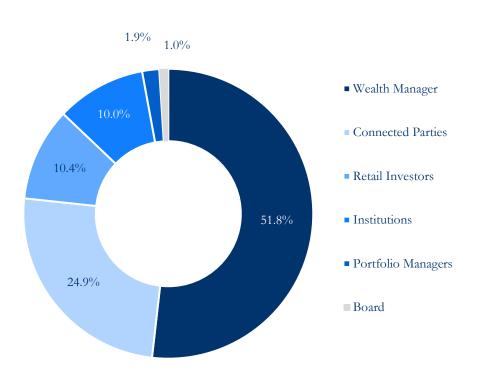
<sup>1</sup>As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### OIT shareholder base

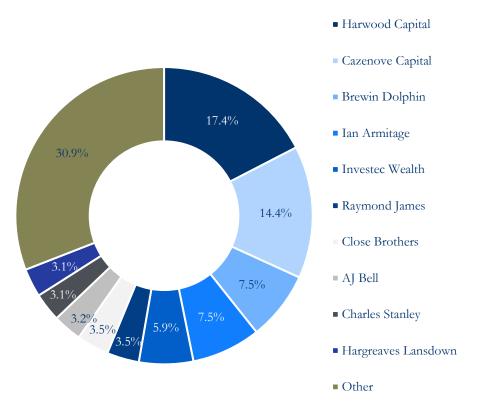
### As at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021<sup>1</sup>







#### Disclosable shareholders



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