

## KINETICS PORTFOLIOS TRUST

### STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**May 8, 2025**

<b>Name of Portfolio</b>	<b>Ticker Symbol</b>
<b>The Internet Portfolio</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>The Global Portfolio</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>The Paradigm Portfolio</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>The Market Opportunities Portfolio</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>

Each a series (individually, a “Portfolio” and collectively, the “Portfolios”) of Kinetics Portfolios Trust (the “Trust”)

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) provides general information about each of the Portfolios. This SAI is not a Prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the Portfolios’ current Prospectus dated May 8, 2025, as supplemented and amended from time to time, which is incorporated herein by reference. To obtain a copy of the Portfolios’ Prospectus, please write or call the Portfolios at the address or telephone number shown below.

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**Kansas City, MO 64121-9252**  
**Phone: 1-800-930-3828**

This SAI is being filed as a part of the Registration Statement filed by the Trust pursuant to Section 8(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”). Beneficial interests of each series of the Trust are not being registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“1933 Act”), because such interests are issued solely in private placement transactions to eligible investors that do not involve any “public offering” within the meaning of Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act. Accordingly, investments in the Portfolios may currently be made only by regulated investment companies, unregulated foreign investment companies, U.S. and non-U.S. institutional investors, S corporations, segregated asset accounts and certain qualified pension and retirement plans. Neither this SAI nor the Registration Statement as a whole constitutes an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any beneficial interests in the Portfolios.

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## General Information about Kinetics Portfolio Trust

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The Trust is a statutory trust organized pursuant to a Declaration of Trust under the laws of the State of Delaware on March 14, 2000. The Trust's principal business office is located at 470 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016. The Trust is comprised of six series of mutual funds, all of which are non-diversified, open-end management investment companies, except the Global Portfolio and the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio, which are diversified. Kinetics Mutual Funds, Inc. (the "Company") is a Maryland corporation, established on March 26, 1999. The Company is comprised of seven series of mutual funds, all of which are open-end management investment companies (the "Funds"). The Funds (other than the Kinetics Spin-Off and Corporate Restructuring Fund, which is not described in this SAI) and Portfolios are set up in a master/feeder fund structure whereby each Fund is a feeder fund that invests all of its investable assets in a "master" Portfolio. Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC ("Kinetics" or "Adviser" or "Investment Adviser") is a Delaware limited liability corporation that serves as the investment adviser to the Portfolios. The Investment Adviser is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Horizon Kinetics LLC.

### Capitalization

The authorized capitalization of the Trust consists of an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interests. Each investor in a Portfolio is entitled to participate equally in the Portfolio's earnings and assets.

Each investor in a Portfolio is entitled to vote in proportion to the amount of its investment in the Portfolio. Portfolio investors will vote together in certain circumstances (*e.g.*, election of the Trustees and ratification of auditors, as required by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder). One or more Portfolios could control the outcome of these votes. Investors do not have cumulative voting rights, and investors holding more than 50% of the aggregate beneficial interests in the Trust or in a Portfolio, as the case may be, may control the outcome of votes. The Trust is not required and has no current intention to hold annual meetings of investors, but the Trust will hold special meetings of investors when (1) a majority of the Trustees determines to do so or (2) investors holding at least 10% of the interests in a Portfolio (if the meeting relates solely to that Portfolio), or investors holding at least 10% of the aggregate interests in the Trust (if the meeting relates to the Trust and not specifically to a Portfolio) requests in writing a meeting of investors. Changes in fundamental policies or limitations will be submitted to investors for approval.

The Trust is organized as a business trust under the laws of the State of Delaware. Investors in a Portfolio will be held personally liable for its obligations and liabilities, subject, however, to indemnification by the Trust in the event that there is imposed upon an investor a greater portion of the liabilities and obligations than its proportionate beneficial interest in the Portfolio. The Declaration of Trust also provides that, subject to the provisions of the 1940 Act, the Trust may maintain insurance (for example, fidelity bonding and errors and omissions insurance) for the protection of the Portfolios, investors, Trustees, officers, employees, and agents covering possible tort and other liabilities. Thus, the risk of an investor incurring financial loss on account of such liability would be limited to circumstances in which a Portfolio had inadequate insurance and was unable to meet its obligation out of its assets.

### Description of the Portfolios

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With the exception of the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**, the investment objectives listed below are fundamental objectives and therefore cannot be changed without the approval of shareholders.

### **The Internet Portfolio**

The **Internet Portfolio** is a non-diversified portfolio with an investment objective of long-term growth of capital. The Internet Portfolio seeks to obtain current income as a secondary objective. The Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who understand and are willing to accept the risk of loss involved in investing in a mutual fund seeking long-term capital growth. Except during temporary defensive periods, the Internet Portfolio invests at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes in common stocks, convertible securities, warrants and other equity securities having the characteristics of common stocks (such as American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) and International Depositary Receipts (“IDRs”)), of U.S. and foreign companies engaged in the Internet and Internet-related activities and whose businesses are vastly improved through the distribution of content and reduction of costs with the use of the Internet, such as content providers, computer hardware and software, venture capital, Internet service providers, Internet portals, wireless/broadband access, e-commerce, financial services companies, auction houses, and telecommunications. The Internet Portfolio may also invest in ETFs and purchase and write options for hedging purposes and/or direct investment. This Portfolio should not be used as a trading vehicle.

### **The Global Portfolio**

The **Global Portfolio** is a diversified portfolio with an investment objective of long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who understand and are willing to accept the risk of loss involved in investing in a mutual fund seeking long-term capital growth. Except during temporary defensive periods, the Portfolio invests at least 65% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes in equity securities of foreign and U.S. companies listed on publicly traded exchanges in countries around the world, and in ETFs. This Portfolio should not be used as a trading vehicle.

### **The Paradigm Portfolio**

The **Paradigm Portfolio** is a non-diversified portfolio with an investment objective of long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who understand and are willing to accept the risk of loss involved in investing in a mutual fund seeking long-term capital growth. Except during temporary defensive periods, the Portfolio invests at least 65% of its total net assets in common stocks, convertible securities, warrants and other securities having the characteristics of common stocks (such as ADRs, GDRs, and IDRs) of U.S. and foreign companies, and in ETFs. The Portfolio will invest in companies that the Investment Adviser believes are undervalued and that have, or are expected to soon have, high returns on equity, and that are well positioned to reduce their costs, extend the reach of their distribution channels and experience significant growth in their assets or revenues. This Portfolio should not be used as a trading vehicle.

### **The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio**

The **Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio** is a non-diversified portfolio with an investment objective of long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who understand and are willing to accept the risk of loss involved in investing in a mutual fund seeking long-term capital growth. Except during temporary defensive periods, at least 80% of the Portfolio’s net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes will be invested in common stocks, convertible securities, warrants and other securities having the characteristics of common stocks (such as ADRs, GDRs, and IDRs) of U.S. and foreign small capitalization companies that provide attractive valuation opportunities. This Portfolio may also invest in ETFs. This Portfolio should not be used as a trading vehicle.

## **The Market Opportunities Portfolio**

The **Market Opportunities Portfolio** is a non-diversified portfolio with an investment objective of long-term capital growth. The Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who understand and are willing to accept the risk of loss involved in investing in a mutual fund seeking long-term capital growth. Except during temporary defensive periods, the Market Opportunities Portfolio invests at least 65% of its net assets in common stocks, convertible securities, warrants and other equity securities having the characteristics of common stocks (such as ADRs, GDRs and IDRs) of U.S. and foreign companies involved in capital markets or related to capital markets, as well as companies involved in the gaming industry, and in ETFs that invest significantly in such securities. Capital market companies include companies that are engaged in or derive a substantial portion of their revenue from activities with a publicly traded securities exchange, such as equity exchanges and commodity exchanges, including but not limited to clearing firms and brokerage houses. The Market Opportunities Portfolio may also purchase and write options for hedging purposes and/or direct investment. The Portfolio should not be used as a trading vehicle.

## **The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**

The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** is a diversified portfolio with an investment objective of total return. This investment objective is non-fundamental and can be changed without the approval of shareholders upon 60 days' notice to shareholders. The Portfolio utilizes a two-part investment strategy, which includes fixed-income components, including fixed-income ETFs, collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs") and senior secured corporate loans, and derivatives components. Except during temporary defensive periods, the Portfolio will invest at least 65% of its investable assets in fixed income securities (which includes CLO and corporate loans), derivatives and cash or cash equivalents committed as collateral for written options contracts. The Portfolio's option strategy component focuses on the use of options on companies that the Investment Adviser believes have unique business attributes and/or long-term unique fundamental business characteristics. The companies that are targeted for various option strategies undergo a fundamental analysis by the Investment Adviser to understand such business as completely as possible. This Portfolio should not be used as a trading vehicle.

## **Investment Restrictions**

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### **Fundamental Investment Limitations**

The fundamental investment restrictions of a Portfolio may be changed only with the approval of the holders of a majority of a Portfolio's outstanding voting securities. As used in this SAI, "a majority of a Portfolio's outstanding voting securities" means the lesser of (1) 67% of the beneficial interests of a Portfolio represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the outstanding shares are present in person or by proxy, or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding beneficial interests of a Portfolio.

1. Each Portfolio will not act as underwriter for securities of other issuers.
2. Each Portfolio will not make loans amounting to more than 33 1/3% of its total assets (including any collateral posted) or 50% of its total assets (excluding any collateral posted).

3. With respect to 50% of its total assets, each Portfolio will not invest in the securities of any issuer if as a result the Portfolio holds more than 10% of the outstanding securities or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer.
4. Each Portfolio will not borrow money or pledge, mortgage, or hypothecate its assets except to facilitate redemption requests that might otherwise require the untimely disposition of portfolio securities and then only from banks and in amounts not exceeding the lesser of 10% of its total assets valued at cost or 5% of its total assets valued at market at the time of such borrowing, pledge, mortgage, or hypothecation and except that (a) with respect to each Portfolio other than the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**, each Portfolio may enter into futures contracts and related options and (b) with respect to the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**, to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.
5. Each Portfolio (other than the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**), will not invest more than 10% of the value of its net assets in illiquid securities, restricted securities, and other securities for which market quotations are not readily available.
6. The **Internet Portfolio** will not invest in the securities of any one industry except the Internet and Internet-related industries, with the exception of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities, if as a result, more than 20% of the Portfolio's total net assets would be invested in the securities of such industries. Except during temporary defensive periods, at least 80% of the Portfolio's total net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes will be invested in the securities of domestic and foreign companies that are engaged in the Internet and Internet-related activities.
7. The **Paradigm Portfolio** will not invest in the securities of any one industry, with the exception of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities, if as a result, more than 20% of the Portfolio's total net assets would be invested in the securities of such industries.
8. The **Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio** will not invest in the securities of any one industry, with the exception of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities, if as a result, more than 20% of the Portfolio's total net assets would be invested in the securities of such industry. Except during temporary defensive periods, at least 80% of the Portfolio's net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes will be invested in the securities of domestic and foreign small capitalization companies that provide attractive valuation opportunities due to lack of institutional ownership, lack of significant analyst coverage, or short-term earnings disappointments.
9. The **Market Opportunities Portfolio** will not invest in the securities of any one industry, except in the securities of U.S. and foreign companies engaged in capital markets or related to capital markets and in the gaming industry, with the exception of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities, if, as a result, more than 20% of the Portfolio's total net assets would be invested in the securities of such industry.
10. The **Global Portfolio** and the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** will not invest in the securities of any one industry with the exception of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities, if as a result, more than 25% of the Portfolio's total net assets would be invested in the securities of such industry.

11. Each Portfolio will not purchase or sell commodities or commodity contracts, or invest in oil, gas or mineral exploration or development programs or real estate except that each Portfolio may purchase and sell securities of companies that deal in oil, gas, or mineral exploration or development programs or interests therein.
12. Each Portfolio will not issue senior securities.

### **Non-Fundamental Investment Limitations**

The following are the Portfolios' non-fundamental operating policies that may be changed by the Board of Trustees of the Trust, without shareholder approval.

1. The **Internet Portfolio and Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio** will not make any changes in their respective investment policies of investing at least 80% of its net assets in the investments suggested by the Portfolio's name without first providing the Portfolio's shareholders with at least 60 days' prior notice.
2. The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** will not invest more than 15% of the value of its total assets in illiquid investments, restricted securities, and other securities for which market quotations are not readily available.

### **Investment Policies and Associated Risks**

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The following paragraphs provide a more detailed description of the Portfolios' investment policies and risks identified in the Prospectus. Unless otherwise noted, the policies described in this SAI pertain to all of the Portfolios. Furthermore, unless otherwise noted, the policies described in this SAI are not fundamental and may be changed by the Board of Trustees of the Trust without shareholder approval.

#### **Common and Preferred Stock; Convertible Securities**

Common stocks are units of ownership of a corporation. Preferred stocks are stocks that often pay dividends at a specific rate and have a preference over common stocks in dividend payments and liquidation of assets. Some preferred stocks may be convertible into common stock. Convertible securities are securities that may be converted into or exchanged for a specified amount of common stock of the same or different issuer within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula.

#### **Short Sales**

The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may enter into short sales. Short sales are transactions in which a fund sells a security it does not own in anticipation of a decline in the market value of that security. To complete such a transaction, the Portfolio must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Portfolio then is obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing it at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be more or less than the price at which the security was sold by the Portfolio. Until the security is replaced, the Portfolio is required to pay to the lender amounts equal to any dividend that accrues during the period of the loan. To borrow the security, the Portfolio also may be required to pay a premium or a negative rebate (short rebate), which would increase the cost of the security sold. The proceeds of the short sale will be retained by the broker, to the extent necessary to meet margin requirements, until the short position is closed out.

The Portfolio will comply with Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act with respect to its use of derivatives and related instruments. Rule 18f-4 treats short sale borrowings as derivatives transactions. Rule 18f-4 prescribes specific value-at-risk leverage limits for certain derivatives users and requires certain derivatives users to adopt and implement a derivatives risk management program (including the appointment of a derivatives risk manager and the implementation of certain testing requirements), and prescribes reporting requirements in respect of derivatives. Subject to certain conditions, if a Portfolio qualifies as a “limited derivatives user,” as defined in Rule 18f-4, it is not subject to the full requirements of Rule 18f-4. In connection with the adoption of Rule 18f-4, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) rescinded certain of its prior guidance regarding asset segregation and coverage requirements in respect of derivatives transactions and related instruments. With respect to reverse repurchase agreements or other similar financing transactions in particular, Rule 18f-4 permits a fund to enter into such transactions if the fund either (i) complies with the asset coverage requirements of Section 18 of the 1940 Act, and combines the aggregate amount of indebtedness associated with all reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions with the aggregate amount of any other senior securities representing indebtedness when calculating the relevant asset coverage ratio, or (ii) treats all reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions as derivatives transactions for all purposes under Rule 18f-4. The Portfolios have adopted procedures for investing in derivatives and other transactions in compliance with Rule 18f-4. Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act may require a Portfolio to observe more stringent asset coverage and related requirements than were previously imposed by the 1940 Act, which could adversely affect the value or performance of the Portfolio. Limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties or issuers, as applicable, with which the Portfolios may engage in derivative transactions could also limit or prevent a Portfolio from using certain instruments.

The Portfolio will incur a loss as a result of the short sale if the price of the security increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Portfolio replaces the borrowed security. The Portfolio will realize a gain if the security declines in price between those dates. This result is the opposite of what one would expect from a cash purchase of a long position in a security. The amount of any gain will be decreased, and the amount of any loss will be increased, by the amount of any premium, negative rebate (short rebate) or amounts in lieu of interest the Portfolio may be required to pay in connection with a short sale.

The use of derivatives is subject to operational and legal risks. Operational risks generally refer to risks related to potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, system failures, inadequate controls, and human error. Legal risks generally refer to risks of loss resulting from insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

## **Warrants**

Each Portfolio may purchase, and the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio may also sell short, warrants and similar rights, which are privileges issued by corporations enabling the owners to subscribe to and purchase a specified number of shares of the corporation at a specified price during a specified period of time. The prices of warrants do not necessarily correlate with the prices of the underlying shares. The purchase of warrants involves the risk that a Portfolio could lose the purchase value of a warrant if the right to subscribe to additional shares is not exercised prior to the warrant’s expiration. Also, the purchase of warrants involves the risk that the effective price paid for the warrant added to the subscription price of the related security may exceed the value of the subscribed security’s market price such as when there is no movement in the level of the underlying security.



## Debt Securities

The Portfolios may invest in (and the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may invest all of its assets in) convertible and non-convertible debt obligations without regard to rating, and as a result, may purchase or hold securities in the lowest rating categories. Debt securities in these lowest investment grade categories are considered to be below investment grade securities that may not have adequate capacity to pay principal or that otherwise generally lack the characteristics of desirable investments. As compared to debt securities with higher ratings, these “high risk” securities are vulnerable to nonpayment and depend to a larger degree upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. With the exception of the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**, at no time will the Portfolios have more than 20% of their respective total assets invested in any debt securities that are rated below investment grade or if the security is unrated, of comparable quality as determined by the Adviser, either at the time of purchase or as a result of a reduction in rating after purchase. Please see “Appendix A” to this SAI for a description of debt security ratings.

The fixed-income securities in which the Portfolios may invest are generally subject to credit risk, extension risk, income risk, inflation risk, interest rate risk, market risk, and prepayment risk.

*Credit Risk.* Fixed-income securities are subject to the risk of an issuer’s (or other party’s) failure or inability to meet its obligations under the security. Multiple parties may have obligations under a fixed income security. An issuer or borrower may fail to pay principal and interest when due. A guarantor, insurer or credit support provider may fail to provide the agreed upon protection. A counterparty to a transaction may fail to perform its side of the bargain. An intermediary or agent interposed between the investor and other parties may fail to perform the terms of its service. Also, performance under a fixed income security may be linked to the obligations of other people who may fail to meet their obligations. The credit risk associated with a fixed income security could increase to the extent that a fund’s ability to benefit fully from its investment in the security depends on the performance by multiple parties of their respective contractual or other obligations. The market value of a fixed income security is also affected by the market’s perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer.

A fund may incur substantial losses on fixed income securities that are inaccurately perceived to present a different amount of credit risk than they actually do by the market, the Adviser or the rating agencies. Credit risk is generally greater where less information is publicly available, where fewer covenants safeguard the investors’ interests, where collateral may be impaired or inadequate, where little legal redress or regulatory protection is available, or where a party’s ability to meet obligations is speculative. Additionally, any inaccuracy in the information used by the fund to evaluate credit risk may affect the value of securities held by a fund. Obligations under debt securities held by a fund may never be satisfied or, if satisfied, only satisfied in part.

Some securities are subject to risks as a result of a credit downgrade or default by a government, or its agencies or, instrumentalities. Credit risk is a greater concern for high-yield debt securities and debt securities of issuers whose ability to pay interest and principal may be considered speculative. Debt securities are typically classified as investment grade-quality (medium to highest credit quality) or below investment grade-quality (commonly referred to as high-yield or junk bonds). Many individual debt securities are rated by a third-party source, such as Moody’s Ratings (Moody’s), Standard & Poor’s Global Ratings (S&P®), or Fitch Ratings (Fitch) to help describe the creditworthiness of the issuer. Generally, a lower rating indicates higher credit risk. Higher yields are ordinarily available from debt securities in the lower rating categories. These ratings are described at the end of this SAI under “Description of Securities Ratings.”

*Extension Risk.* A fund subject to extension risk, which is the risk that the market value of some fixed income securities, particularly mortgage securities and certain asset-backed securities, may be adversely

affected when bond calls or prepayments on underlying mortgages or other assets are less or slower than anticipated. Extension risk may result from, for example, rising interest rates or unexpected developments in the markets for the underlying assets or mortgages. Consequently, the security's effective maturity will be extended, resulting in an increase in interest rate sensitivity to that of a longer-term instrument. Extension risk generally increases as interest rates rise. This is because, in a rising interest rate environment, the rate of prepayment and exercise of call or buy-back rights generally falls and the rate of default and delayed payment generally rises. When the maturity of an investment is extended in a rising interest rate environment, a below-market interest rate is usually locked-in, and the value of the security reduced. This risk is greater for fixed-rate than variable-rate debt securities.

*Income Risk.* A fund is subject to income risk, which is the risk that a fund's income will decline during periods of falling interest rates or when the fund experiences defaults on fixed income securities it holds. A fund's income declines when interest rates fall because, as the fund's higher-yielding fixed income securities mature or are prepaid, a fund must re-invest the proceeds in fixed income securities that have lower, prevailing interest rates. The amount and rate of distribution that a fund's shareholders receive are affected by the income that the fund receives from its portfolio holdings. If the income is reduced, distributions by a fund to shareholders may be less.

Fluctuations in income paid to a fund are generally greater for variable rate fixed income securities. A fund will be deemed to receive taxable income on certain securities which pay no cash payments until maturity, such as zero-coupon securities. A fund may be required to sell portfolio securities that it would otherwise continue to hold in order to obtain sufficient cash to make the distribution to shareholders required for U.S. tax purposes.

*Inflation Risk.* The market price of fixed income securities generally falls as inflation increases because the purchasing power of the future income and repaid principal is expected to be worth less when received by a fund. Fixed income securities that pay a fixed rather than variable interest rate are especially vulnerable to inflation risk because variable-rate debt securities may be able to participate, over the long term, in rising interest rates which have historically corresponded with long-term inflationary trends.

*Interest Rate Risk.* The market value of fixed income securities generally varies in response to changes in prevailing interest rates. Interest rate changes can be sudden and unpredictable. In addition, short-term and long-term rates are not necessarily correlated to each other as short-term rates tend to be influenced by government monetary policy while long-term rates are market driven and may be influenced by macroeconomic events (such as economic expansion or contraction), inflation expectations, as well as supply and demand. During periods of declining interest rates, the market value of debt securities generally increases. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the market value of debt securities generally declines. This occurs because new fixed income securities are likely to be issued with higher interest rates as interest rates increase, making the old or outstanding fixed income securities less attractive. In general, the market prices of long-term fixed income securities or securities that make little (or no) interest payments are more sensitive to interest rate fluctuations than shorter-term fixed income securities. The longer a fund's average weighted portfolio duration, the greater the potential impact a change in interest rates will have on its share price. Also, certain segments of the fixed income markets, such as high-quality bonds, tend to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than other segments, such as lower-quality bonds.

*Market Risk.* All mutual funds are affected by changes in the economy and swings in investment markets. These can occur within or outside the U.S. or worldwide and may affect only particular companies or industries.

*Prepayment risk.* Fixed income securities, especially bonds that are subject to "calls," such as asset-backed or mortgage-backed securities, are subject to prepayment risk if their terms allow the payment of principal and other amounts due before their stated maturity. Amounts invested in a fixed income security that has been "called" or "prepaid" will be returned to an investor holding that security before expected

by the investor. In such circumstances, the investor, such as a fund, may be required to re-invest the proceeds it receives from the called or prepaid security in a new security which, in periods of declining interest rates, will typically have a lower interest rate. Prepayment risk is especially prevalent in periods of declining interest rates and will result for other reasons, including unexpected developments in the markets for the underlying assets or mortgages. For example, a decline in mortgage interest rates typically initiates a period of mortgage refinancing. When homeowners refinance their mortgages, the investor in the underlying pool of mortgage-backed securities (such as a fund) receives its principal back sooner than expected, and must reinvest at lower, prevailing rates. Securities subject to prepayment risk are often called during a declining interest rate environment and generally offer less potential for gains and greater price volatility than other income-bearing securities of comparable maturity.

### **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Transactions**

Each Portfolio may purchase short-term obligations on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis. These transactions are arrangements in which the Portfolios purchase securities with payment and delivery scheduled for a future time. The seller's failure to complete these transactions may cause the Portfolios to miss a price or yield considered advantageous. Settlement dates may be a month or more after entering into these transactions and the market values of the securities purchased may vary from the purchase prices.

The Portfolios may dispose of a commitment prior to settlement if the Adviser deems it appropriate to do so. In addition, each Portfolio may enter into transactions to sell its purchase commitments to third parties at current market values and simultaneously acquire other commitments to purchase similar securities at later dates. A Portfolio may realize short-term profits or losses upon the sale of such commitments.

These transactions are made to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield for a Portfolio. No fees or other expenses, other than normal transaction costs, are incurred. The Portfolios will comply with Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act with respect to these transactions. See the sections entitled "Investment Policies and Associated Risks-Short Sales" above and "Recent Regulatory Developments" below for additional information.

In addition, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") rules include mandatory margin requirements that require a Portfolio to post collateral in connection with its to be announced ("TBA") transactions. There is no similar requirement applicable to a Portfolio's TBA counterparties. The required collateralization of TBA trades could increase the cost of TBA transactions to a Portfolio and impose added operational complexity.

### **Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs)**

Each Portfolio may invest in open-end investment companies whose shares are listed for trading on a national securities exchange or the Nasdaq Market System. ETF shares typically trade like shares of common stock and provide investment results that generally correspond to the price and yield performance of the component stocks of a widely recognized index such as the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index. There can be no assurance, however, that this can be accomplished as it may not be possible for an ETF to replicate the composition and relative weightings of the securities of its corresponding index. ETFs are subject to risks of an investment in a broadly based portfolio of common stocks, including the risk that the general level of stock prices may decline, thereby adversely affecting the value of such investment. Individual shares of an ETF are generally not redeemable at their net asset value ("NAV"), but trade on an exchange during the day at prices that are normally close to, but not the same as, their NAV. There is no assurance that an active trading market will be maintained for the shares of an ETF or that market prices of the shares of an ETF will be close to their NAV. The existence of extreme market volatility or

potential lack of an active trading market for an ETF's shares could result in such shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV.

Leveraged ETFs contain all of the risks that non-leveraged ETFs present. Additionally, to the extent a Portfolio invests in ETFs that achieve leveraged exposure to their underlying indexes through the use of derivative instruments, the Portfolio will indirectly be subject to leveraging risk. The more these ETFs invest in derivative instruments that give rise to leverage, the more this leverage will magnify any losses on those investments. Because leverage tends to exaggerate the effect of any increase or decrease in the value of an ETF's portfolio securities or other investments, leverage will cause the value of an ETF's shares to be more volatile than if the ETF did not use leverage. A leveraged ETF will engage in transactions and purchase instruments that give rise to forms of leverage, including, among others, the use of reverse repurchase agreements and other borrowings, the investment of collateral from loans of portfolio securities, the use of when issued, delayed-delivery or forward commitment transactions or short sales. The use of leverage may also cause a leveraged ETF to liquidate portfolio positions when it would not be advantageous to do so in order to satisfy its obligations or to meet segregation requirements. Certain types of leveraging transactions, such as short sales that are not "against the box," could theoretically be subject to unlimited losses in cases where a leveraged ETF, for any reason, is unable to close out the transaction. In addition, to the extent a leveraged ETF borrows money, interest costs on such borrowed money may not be recovered by any appreciation of the securities purchased with the borrowed funds and could exceed the ETF's investment income, resulting in greater losses. Such ETFs often "reset" daily, meaning that they are designed to achieve their stated objectives on a daily basis. Due to the effect of compounding, their performance over longer periods of time can differ significantly from the performance (or inverse of the performance) of their underlying index or benchmark during the same period of time, which may be enhanced during the periods of increased market volatility. These investment vehicles may be extremely volatile and can potentially expose an investing Portfolio to theoretically unlimited losses. Please see "Investment Company Securities" below for additional information.

### **Investment Company Securities**

Each Portfolio may invest in securities issued by other investment companies to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, a Portfolio's investments in such securities currently are limited to, subject to certain exceptions, (i) 3% of the total voting stock of any one investment company, (ii) 5% of the Portfolio's total assets with respect to any one investment company and (iii) 10% of the Portfolio's total assets with respect to investment companies in the aggregate. Rule 12d1-1 under the 1940 Act permits a Portfolio to invest an unlimited amount of its uninvested cash in a money market fund so long as, among other things, said investment is consistent with the Portfolio's investment objectives and policies.

The SEC has adopted revisions to the rules permitting funds to invest in other investment companies in excess of the limits described above. While new Rule 12d1-4 permits more types of fund of fund arrangements without reliance on an exemptive order or no-action letters, it imposes new conditions, including limits on control and voting of acquired funds' shares, evaluations and findings by investment advisers, fund investment agreements, and limits on most three-tier fund structures. Each Portfolio may also acquire investment company shares received or acquired as dividends, through offers of exchange or as a result of reorganization, consolidation or merger. As a shareholder in an investment company, a Portfolio would bear its pro rata portion of the investment company's expenses, including advisory fees, in addition to its own expenses.

## **Restricted and Illiquid Investments**

Pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act, the Portfolios may invest up to 15% of their net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is an investment that a Portfolio reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions within seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Restricted securities are any securities that are not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“1933 Act”) and are illiquid. For purposes of each Portfolio’s limitation on purchases of illiquid investments described in “Investment Restrictions” above, securities that are not registered under the 1933 Act and are determined to be liquid based upon a review of the trading markets for the specific restricted security will not be included. This practice could increase the level of illiquidity during any period that qualified institutional buyers become uninterested in purchasing these securities.

The Trust has implemented a liquidity risk management program and related procedures to identify illiquid investments pursuant to Rule 22e-4. If the limitation on illiquid investments is exceeded, the condition will be reported to the Board of Trustees of the Trust, and when required, to the SEC.

## **Depository Receipts**

The Portfolios may invest in ADRs and in other forms of depository receipts, such as IDRs and GDRs. Depository receipts are typically issued in connection with a U.S. or foreign bank or trust company and evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. In particular, ADRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs are traded in the United States and the prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. Investments in depository receipts involve certain inherent risks generally associated with investments in foreign securities, including the following:

*Political and Economic Factors.* Individual foreign economies of certain countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the United States economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency, diversification and balance of payments position. The internal politics of certain foreign countries may not be as stable as those of the United States. Governments in certain foreign countries also continue to participate to a significant degree, through ownership interest or regulation, in their respective economies. Action by these governments could include restrictions on foreign investment, nationalization, expropriation of goods or imposition of taxes, and could have a significant effect on market prices of securities and payment of interest. The economies of many foreign countries are heavily dependent upon international trade and are accordingly affected by the trade policies and economic conditions of their trading partners. Enactment by these trading partners of protectionist trade legislation could have a significant adverse effect upon the securities markets of such countries.

*Currency Fluctuations.* A change in the value of any foreign currency against the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding change in the U.S. dollar value of an ADR’s underlying portfolio securities denominated in that currency. Such changes will affect a Portfolio to the extent that the Portfolio is invested in ADRs comprised of foreign securities.

*Taxes.* The interest and dividends payable on certain foreign securities comprising an ADR may be subject to foreign withholding taxes, thus reducing the net amount of income to be paid to the Portfolios and that may ultimately be available for distribution to the Portfolio’s shareholders.

## Derivatives

***Buying Call and Put Options.*** The Portfolios may purchase call options. Such transactions may be entered into in order to limit the risk of a substantial increase in the market price of the security that each Portfolio intends to purchase. Prior to its expiration, a call option may be sold in a closing sale transaction. Any profit or loss from the sale will depend on whether the amount received is more or less than the premium paid for the call option plus the related transaction cost.

The Portfolios may purchase put options. By buying a put, each Portfolio has the right to sell the security at the exercise price, thus limiting its risk of loss through a decline in the market value of the security until the put expires. The amount of any appreciation in the value of the underlying security will be partially offset by the amount of the premium paid for the put option and any related transaction cost. Prior to its expiration, a put option may be sold in a closing sale transaction and any profit or loss from the sale will depend on whether the amount received is more or less than the premium paid for the put option plus the related transaction costs.

***Writing (Selling) Call and Put Options.*** Each Portfolio may write covered options on equity and debt securities and indices. The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may write up to 20% of its assets in put options on equity and, to a limited extent, debt securities and indices, for hedging or non-hedging purposes. The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may also write more than 5% of its net assets on covered call options on equity and debt securities and indices. In the case of call options, so long as a Portfolio is obligated as the writer of a call option, it will own the underlying security subject to the option, however, index options and sector/industry based ETF options will be considered covered if the Portfolio holds a portion of securities substantially correlated with the movement of the index (or, to the extent it does not hold such a portfolio, segregates liquid assets in an amount equal to the value of the option on a daily, marked-to-market basis). In the case of put options, it will, through its custodian, deposit and maintain either cash or securities with a market value equal to or greater than the exercise price of the option.

Covered call options written by a Portfolio give the holder the right to buy the underlying securities from the Portfolio at a stated exercise price. A call option written by a Portfolio is “covered” if the Portfolio owns the underlying security that is subject to the call or has an absolute and immediate right to acquire that security without additional cash consideration (or for additional cash consideration held in a segregated account by its custodian bank) upon conversion or exchange of other securities held in its portfolio or, in the case of index options and sector/industry based ETF options, will be considered covered if the Portfolio holds a portion of securities substantially correlated with the movement of the index. A call option is also covered if a Portfolio holds a call on the same security and in the same principal amount as the call written where the exercise price of the call held (a) is equal to or less than the exercise price of the call written or (b) is greater than the exercise price of the call written if the difference is maintained by the Portfolio in cash and high grade debt securities in a segregated account with its custodian bank. The Portfolios may purchase securities, which may be covered with call options solely on the basis of considerations consistent with the investment objectives and policies of the Portfolios. A Portfolio’s turnover may increase through the exercise of a call option; this will generally occur if the market value of a “covered” security increases and the Portfolio has not entered into a closing purchase transaction.

As a writer of an option, each Portfolio receives a premium less a commission, and in exchange foregoes the opportunity to profit from any increase in the market value of the security exceeding the call option price. The premium serves to mitigate the effect of any depreciation in the market value of the security. The premium paid by the buyer of an option will reflect, among other things, the relationship of the

exercise price to the market price, the volatility of the underlying security, the remaining term of the option, the existing supply and demand, and the interest rates.

The writer of a call option may have no control over when the underlying securities must be sold because the writer may be assigned an exercise notice at any time prior to the termination of the obligation. Exercise of a call option by the purchaser will cause a Portfolio to forego future appreciation of the securities covered by the option. Whether or not an option expires unexercised, the writer retains the amount of the premium. This amount may, in the case of a covered call option, be offset by a decline in the market value of the underlying security during the option period. If a call option is exercised, the writer experiences a profit or loss from the sale of the underlying security. Thus during the option period, the writer of a call option gives up the opportunity for appreciation in the market value of the underlying security or currency above the exercise price. It retains the risk of the loss should the price of the underlying security or foreign currency decline. Writing call options also involves risks relating to a Portfolio's ability to close out the option it has written.

Each Portfolio may write exchange-traded call options on its securities. Call options may be written on portfolio securities indices, or foreign currencies. With respect to securities and foreign currencies, the Portfolio may write call and put options on an exchange or over-the-counter. Call options on portfolio securities will be covered since the Portfolio will own the underlying securities. Call options on securities indices will be written only to hedge in an economically appropriate way portfolio securities that are not otherwise hedged with options or financial futures contracts and will be "covered" by identifying the specific portfolio securities being hedged. Options on foreign currencies will be covered by securities denominated in that currency. Options on securities indices will be covered by securities that substantially replicate the movement of the index.

A put option on a security, security index, or foreign currency gives the purchaser of the option, in return for the premium paid to the writer (seller), the right to sell the underlying security, index, or foreign currency at the exercise price at any time during the option period. When a Portfolio writes a secured put option, it will gain a profit in the amount of the premium, less a commission, so long as the price of the underlying security remains above the exercise price. However, a Portfolio remains obligated to purchase the underlying security from the buyer of the put option (usually in the event the price of the security falls below the exercise price) at any time during the option period. If the price of the underlying security falls below the exercise price, the Portfolios may realize a loss in the amount of the difference between the exercise price and the sale price of the security, less the premium received. Upon exercise by the purchaser, the writer of a put option has the obligation to purchase the underlying security or foreign currency at the exercise price. A put option on a securities index is similar to a put option on an individual security, except that the value of the option depends on the weighted value of the group of securities comprising the index and all settlements are made in cash.

During the option period, the writer of a put option has assumed the risk that the price of the underlying security or foreign currency will decline below the exercise price. However, the writer of the put option has retained the opportunity for appreciation above the exercise price should the market price of the underlying security or foreign currency increase. Writing put options also involves risks relating to a Portfolio's ability to close out the option that it has written.

The writer of an option who wishes to terminate its obligation may effect a "closing purchase transaction" by buying an option of the same series as the option previously written. The effect of the purchase is that the clearing corporation will cancel the writer's position. However, a writer may not effect a closing purchase transaction after being notified of the exercise of an option. There is also no guarantee that a Portfolio will be able to effect a closing purchase transaction for the options it has written.

Effecting a closing purchase transaction in the case of a written call option will permit a Portfolio to write another call option on the underlying security with a different exercise price, expiration date, or both. Effecting a closing purchase transaction will also permit a Portfolio to use cash or proceeds from the investments. If a Portfolio desires to sell a particular security from its portfolio on which it has written a call option, it will effect a closing purchase transaction before or at the same time as the sale of the security.

A Portfolio will realize a profit from a closing purchase transaction if the price of the transaction is less than the premium received from writing the option. Likewise, a Portfolio will realize a loss from a closing purchase transaction if the price of the transaction is more than the premium received from writing the option. Because increases in the market price of a call option will generally reflect increases in the market price of the underlying security, any loss resulting from the repurchase of a call option is likely to be offset in whole or in part by appreciation of the underlying security owned by the Portfolio.

**Writing Over-The-Counter (“OTC”) Options.** Each Portfolio, except the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**, may engage in options transactions that trade on the OTC market to the same extent that it intends to engage in exchange-traded options. The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may invest to a limited extent in OTC options. Just as with exchange-traded options, OTC options give the holder the right to buy an underlying security from, or sell an underlying security to, an option writer at a stated exercise price. However, OTC options differ from exchange-traded options in certain material respects.

OTC options are arranged directly with dealers and not, as is the case with exchange-traded options, through a clearing corporation. Thus, there is a risk of non-performance by the dealer. Because there is no exchange, pricing is typically done by reference to information obtained from market makers. Since OTC options are available for a greater variety of securities and in a wider range of expiration dates and exercise prices, the writer of an OTC option is paid the premium in advance by the dealer.

A writer or purchaser of a put or call option can terminate it voluntarily only by entering into a closing transaction. There can be no assurance that a continuously liquid secondary market will exist for any particular option at any specific time. Consequently, a Portfolio may be able to realize the value of an OTC option it has purchased only by exercising it or entering into a closing sale transaction with the dealer that issued it. Similarly, when a Portfolio writes an OTC option, it generally can close out that option prior to its expiration only by entering into a closing purchase transaction with the dealer to which it originally wrote the option. If a covered call option writer cannot effect a closing transaction, it cannot sell the underlying security or foreign currency until the option expires or the option is exercised. Therefore, the writer of a covered OTC call option may not be able to sell an underlying security even though it might otherwise be advantageous to do so. Likewise, the writer of a secured OTC put option may be unable to sell the securities pledged to secure the put for other investment purposes while it is obligated as a put writer. Similarly, a purchaser of an OTC put or call option might also find it difficult to terminate its position on a timely basis in the absence of a secondary market.

The staff of the SEC has often taken the position that purchased OTC options and the assets used to “cover” written OTC options are illiquid investments.

**Futures Contracts.** Each Portfolio may buy and sell stock index futures contracts traded on domestic stock exchanges to hedge the value of its portfolio against changes in market conditions. A stock index futures contract is an agreement between two parties to take or make delivery of an amount of cash equal to a specified dollar amount, times the difference between the stock index value at the close of the last trading day of the contract and the price at which the futures contract is originally struck. A stock index futures contract does not involve the physical delivery of the underlying stocks in the index. Although stock index futures contracts call for the actual taking or delivery of cash, in most cases each Portfolio



expects to liquidate its stock index futures positions through offsetting transactions, which may result in a gain or a loss, before cash settlement is required.

Each Portfolio will incur brokerage fees when it purchases and sells stock index futures contracts, and at the time a Portfolio purchases or sells a stock index futures contract, it must make a good faith deposit known as the “initial margin.” Thereafter, a Portfolio may need to make subsequent deposits, known as “variation margin,” to reflect changes in the level of the stock index. Each Portfolio may buy or sell a stock index futures contract so long as the sum of the amount of margin deposits on open positions with respect to all stock index futures contracts does not exceed 5% of each other Portfolio’s net assets.

To the extent a Portfolio enters into a stock index futures contract, it will comply with Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act. See the sections entitled “Investment Policies and Associated Risks- Short Sales” above and “-Recent Regulatory Developments” below for additional information.

***Risks Associated With Options and Futures.*** Although each Portfolio may write covered call options and purchase and sell stock index futures contracts to hedge against declines in market value of their portfolio securities, the use of these instruments involves certain risks. As the writer of covered call options, a Portfolio receives a premium but loses any opportunity to profit from an increase in the market price of the underlying securities, though the premium received may partially offset such loss.

Although stock index futures contracts may be useful in hedging against adverse changes in the value of a Portfolio’s investment securities, they are derivative instruments that are subject to a number of risks. During certain market conditions, purchases and sales of stock index futures contracts may not completely offset a decline or rise in the value of a Portfolio’s investments. In the futures markets, it may not always be possible to execute a buy or sell order at the desired price, or to close out an open position due to market conditions, limits on open positions and/or daily price fluctuations. Changes in the market value of each Portfolio’s investment securities may differ substantially from the changes anticipated by the Portfolio when it established its hedged positions, and unanticipated price movements in a futures contract may result in a loss substantially greater than the Portfolio’s initial investment in such a contract.

Successful use of futures contracts depends upon the Adviser’s ability to correctly predict movements in the securities markets generally or of a particular segment of a securities market. No assurance can be given that the Adviser’s judgment in this respect will be correct.

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the various exchanges have established limits referred to as “speculative position limits” on the maximum net long or net short position that any person may hold or control in a particular futures contract. Additionally, starting January 1, 2023, federal position limits apply to swaps that are economically equivalent to futures contracts that are subject to CFTC set speculative position limits. All positions owned or controlled by the same person or entity, even if in different accounts, must be aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicable position limits have been exceeded, unless an exemption applies. Trading limits are imposed on the number of contracts that any person may trade on a particular trading day. An exchange may order the liquidation of positions found to be in violation of these limits and it may impose sanctions or restrictions. These trading and positions limits will not have an adverse impact on a Portfolio’s strategies for hedging its securities.

***Participatory Notes.*** The **Global Portfolio** may invest in participatory notes issued by banks or broker-dealers that are designed to replicate the performance of certain issuers and markets. Participatory notes are a type of equity-linked derivative, which generally are traded over-the-counter. The performance results of participatory notes will not replicate exactly the performance of the issuers or markets that the notes seek to replicate due to transaction costs and other expenses. Investments in participatory notes involve the same risks associated with a direct investment in the shares of the companies the notes seek to

replicate. In addition, participatory notes are subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the broker-dealer or bank that issues the notes will not fulfill its contractual obligation to complete the transaction with the Portfolio. Participatory notes constitute general unsecured contractual obligations of the banks or broker-dealers that issue them, and the Portfolio is relying on the creditworthiness of such banks or broker-dealers and has no rights under a participatory note against the issuers of the securities underlying such participatory notes. Participatory notes involve transaction costs. Participatory notes may be considered illiquid and, therefore, participatory notes considered illiquid will be subject to the Portfolio's percentage limitation for investments in illiquid investments.

**Regulatory Derivative Rule.** Rule 18f-4 requires that the Portfolios trade derivatives and other transactions that create future payment or delivery obligations (except reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions) subject to a value-at-risk ("VaR") leverage limit and certain derivatives risk management program and reporting requirements. Generally, these requirements apply unless a fund qualifies as a "limited derivatives user," as defined in Rule 18f-4. Under Rule 18f-4, when a Portfolio trades reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions, it needs to aggregate the amount of indebtedness associated with the reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions with the aggregate amount of any other senior securities representing indebtedness when calculating the Portfolio's asset coverage ratio or treat all such transactions as derivatives transactions. Reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions aggregated with other indebtedness do not need to be included in the calculation of whether a fund is a limited derivatives user, but for funds subject to the VaR testing, reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions must be included for purposes of such testing whether treated as derivatives transactions or not. These requirements may limit the ability of a fund to use derivatives and reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions as part of its investment strategies. These requirements may increase the cost of a Portfolio's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors in the Portfolios.

## **Distressed Investments**

Each Portfolio, other than the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio**, may invest up to 5% of its assets in securities of companies that are in financial distress (*i.e.*, involved in bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings). The **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may invest up to 15% of its total assets in securities of companies that are in financial distress. These securities may include, among other things, senior or subordinated fixed income securities, common stock, preferred stock, warrants and other kinds of indebtedness. There can be no assurance that the Adviser will correctly evaluate all the factors that could affect the outcome of an investment in these types of securities. Financially distressed securities involve considerable risk that can result in substantial or even total loss on a Portfolio's investment.

It is often difficult to obtain information as to the true condition of financially distressed securities. These securities are often subject to litigation among the participants in the bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings. Such investments may also be adversely affected by federal and state laws relating to, among other things, fraudulent transfers and other voidable transfers or payments, lender liability and a bankruptcy court's power to disallow, reduce, subordinate or disenfranchise particular claims. These and other factors contribute to above-average price volatility and abrupt and erratic movements of the market prices of these securities. In addition, the spread between the bid and asked prices of such securities may be greater than normally expected and it may take a number of years for the market price of such securities to reflect their intrinsic value.

Securities of financially troubled companies require active monitoring and may, at times, require participation in bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings by the Adviser. To the extent that the Adviser becomes involved in such proceedings, the Adviser may have a more active participation in the affairs of

the issuer than that assumed generally by a shareholder, and such participation may generate higher legal fees and other transaction costs relating to the investment than would normally be the case.

In bankruptcy and other forms of corporate reorganization, there exists the risk that the reorganization will: (1) be unsuccessful (due to, for example, failure to obtain the necessary approvals); (2) be delayed (for example, until various liabilities, actual or contingent, have been satisfied); or (3) result in a distribution of cash or a new security the value of which will be less than the purchase price of the security in respect to which such distribution was made.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”)(*All Portfolios*).** The Portfolios may invest in REITs. A REIT is a corporation or trust that pools the capital of many investors to purchase income property and/or mortgage loans.

A REIT is not taxed on income distributed to its shareholders or unitholders if it complies with regulatory requirements relating to its organization, ownership, assets and income, and with a regulatory requirement that it distribute to its shareholders or unitholders at least 90% of its taxable income for each taxable year. Generally, REITs can be classified as Equity REITs, Mortgage REITs and Hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents and capital gains from appreciation realized through property sales. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both Equity and Mortgage REITs. By investing in REITs indirectly through the Portfolio, shareholders of the Fund will bear not only their proportionate share of the expenses of the Portfolio, but also indirectly, similar expenses of underlying REITs.

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.

In addition, the performance of a REIT may be affected by its failure to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) or its failure to maintain exemption from registration under the 1940 Act.

**Cyber Security Risk (*All Portfolios*).** The Portfolios and their service providers may be prone to operational and information security risks resulting from breaches in cyber security. A breach in cyber security refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause a Portfolio to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption, or lose operational capacity. Breaches in cyber security 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-attacks. Cyber security breaches affecting the Portfolios or their Adviser, custodian, transfer agent, intermediaries and other third-party service providers may adversely impact the Portfolios. For instance, cyber security breaches may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, impact a Portfolio’s ability to calculate its NAV, cause the release of private shareholder information or confidential business information, impede trading, subject a Portfolio to regulatory fines or financial losses and/or cause reputational damage. In addition to administrative, technological and procedural safeguards, the Adviser has established business continuity plans in the event of, and risk management systems to prevent or reduce the impact of, such cyber security incidents. However, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems, including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified, as well as the rapid development of new threats. Furthermore, the Portfolios have limited ability to prevent or mitigate cyber

security incidents involving third-party service providers, and such third-party service providers may have limited indemnification obligations to the Portfolios and the Adviser, and the Portfolios cannot control the cyber security plans and systems put in place by their service providers or any other third-parties whose operations may affect the Portfolios or their shareholders. A Portfolio may also incur additional costs for cyber security risk management purposes. Similar types of cyber security risks are also present for issuers of securities in which a Portfolio may invest, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and may cause a Portfolio's investment in such companies to lose value and therefore negatively impact a Portfolio's NAV.

**Operational Risk (*All Portfolios*).** The Adviser and other service providers may experience disruptions or operating errors that could negatively impact the Portfolios. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from the Portfolios' in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Adviser, through its monitoring and oversight of service providers, seeks to ensure that service providers take appropriate precautions to avoid and mitigate risks that could lead to disruptions and operating errors. However, it is not possible for the Adviser or the other service providers to identify all of the operational risks that may affect a Portfolio or to develop processes and controls to completely eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects.

**Qualified Financial Contracts (*All Portfolios*).** Regulations adopted by federal banking regulators under the Dodd-Frank Act require that certain qualified financial contracts ("QFCs") with counterparties that are part of U.S. or foreign global systemically important banking organizations be amended to include contractual restrictions on close-out and cross-default rights. QFCs include, but are not limited to, securities contracts, commodities contracts, forward contracts, repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements and swaps agreements, as well as related master agreements, security agreements, credit enhancements, and reimbursement obligations. If a covered counterparty of a Portfolio or certain of the covered counterparty's affiliates were to become subject to certain insolvency proceedings, the Portfolio may be temporarily unable to exercise certain default rights, and the QFC may be transferred to another entity. These requirements may impact a Portfolio's credit and counterparty risks.

**Foreign Securities (*All Portfolios except the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio*).** Each Portfolio (with the exception of the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio) may invest in securities of foreign issuers that are denominated or traded in foreign currencies. Investments in foreign securities involve higher costs than investments in U.S. securities, including higher transaction costs as well as the imposition of additional taxes by foreign governments, and potential imposition of tariffs or other trading disruptions. In addition, foreign investments may include additional risks associated with more or less foreign government regulation; less public information; less stringent investor protections; less stringent accounting, corporate governance, financial reporting and disclosure standards; and less economic, political and social stability in the countries in which a Portfolio invests. Volume and liquidity in most foreign bond markets are less than in the United States and, at times, volatility or price can be greater than in the United States. Future political and economic information, the possible imposition of withholding taxes on interest income, the possible seizure or nationalization of foreign holdings, the possible establishment of exchange controls, or the adoption of other governmental restrictions, might adversely affect the payment of principal and interest on foreign obligations. Inability to dispose of Portfolio securities due to settlement problems could result either in losses to a Portfolio due to subsequent declines in value of the securities, or, if the Portfolio has entered into a contract to sell the securities, could result in possible liability to the purchaser. Individual foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth or gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Fixed commissions on foreign securities exchanges are generally higher than negotiated commissions on U.S. exchanges, although the Portfolios endeavor to achieve the most favorable net results on their portfolio transactions. There is

generally less government supervision and regulation of securities exchanges, brokers, dealers and listed companies than in the United States.

Settlement mechanics (*e.g.*, mail service between the United States and foreign countries) may be slower or less reliable than within the United States, thus increasing the risk of delayed settlements of portfolio transactions or loss of certificates for portfolio securities. Foreign markets also have different clearance and settlement procedures, and 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. Such delays in settlement could result in temporary periods when a portion of the assets of a Portfolio is uninvested and no return is earned thereon. The inability of a Portfolio to make intended security purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Portfolio to miss attractive investment opportunities.

Although the Portfolios may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Portfolios value their securities and other assets in U.S. dollars. As a result, the NAV of a Portfolio's shares may fluctuate with U.S. dollar exchange rates as well as the price changes of the Portfolio's securities in the various local markets and currencies. Thus, an increase in the value of the U.S. dollar compared to the currencies in which a Portfolio makes its investments could reduce the effect of increases and magnify the effect of decreases in the price of the Portfolio's securities in their local markets. Conversely, a decrease in the value of the U.S. dollar may have the opposite effect of magnifying the effect of increases and reducing the effect of decreases in the prices of a Portfolio's securities in its foreign markets. In addition to favorable and unfavorable currency exchange rate developments, a Portfolio is subject to the possible imposition of exchange control regulations or freezes on convertibility of currency. To the extent consistent with their investment objectives and strategies, the Portfolios may invest in obligations of foreign branches of U.S. banks (Eurodollars) and U.S. branches of foreign banks (Yankee dollars) as well as foreign branches of foreign banks. These investments involve risks that are different from investments in securities of U.S. banks, including potential unfavorable political and economic developments, different tax provisions, seizure of foreign deposits, currency controls, interest limitations or other governmental restrictions which might affect payment of principal or interest. To the extent consistent with their investment objectives and strategies, the Portfolios may also invest in Yankee bonds, which are issued by foreign governments and their agencies and foreign corporations but pay interest in U.S. dollars and are typically issued in the United States.

European countries can be significantly affected by the tight fiscal and monetary controls that the European Economic and Monetary Union ("EMU") imposes for membership. Europe's economies are diverse, its governments are decentralized, and its cultures vary widely. Several EMU countries have faced budget issues, some of which may have negative long-term effects for the economies of those countries and other EMU countries. There is continued concern about national-level support for the euro and the accompanying coordination of fiscal and wage policy among EMU member countries. Member countries are required to maintain tight control over inflation, public debt, and budget deficit to qualify for membership in the EMU. These requirements can severely limit the ability of EMU member countries to implement monetary policy to address regional economic conditions.

Recently, various countries have seen significant internal conflicts and in some cases, civil wars may have had an adverse impact on the securities markets of the countries concerned. In addition, the occurrence of new disturbances due to acts of war or terrorism or other political developments cannot be excluded. Nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, currency blockage, political changes, government regulation, political, regulatory or social instability or uncertainty or diplomatic developments, including tariffs and trading disruptions, the imposition of sanctions or other similar measures, could adversely affect the Portfolios' investments. The imposition of, or an increase in, tariffs or trade restrictions between the U.S. and foreign countries, or even the threat of such developments, could lead to a significant

reduction in international trade, which could have a negative impact on the economies of the U.S. and foreign countries.

Recent examples of the above include conflict, loss of life and disaster connected to ongoing armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine in Europe and Israel and other countries in the Middle East. The extent, duration and impact of these conflicts, related sanctions and retaliatory actions are difficult to ascertain, but could be significant and have severe adverse effects on the region, including significant adverse effects on the regional or global economies and the markets for certain securities and commodities. These impacts could negatively affect the Portfolios' investments in securities and instruments that are economically tied to the applicable region, and include (but are not limited to) declines in value and reductions in liquidity. In addition, to the extent new sanctions are imposed or previously relaxed sanctions are reimposed (including with respect to countries undergoing transformation), complying with such restrictions may prevent the Portfolios from pursuing certain investments, cause delays or other impediments with respect to consummating such investments or divestments, require divestment or freezing of investments on unfavorable terms, render divestment of underperforming investments impracticable, negatively impact the Portfolios' ability to achieve their investment objectives, prevent the Portfolios from receiving payments otherwise due, increase diligence and other similar costs to the Portfolios, render valuation of affected investments challenging, or require the Portfolios to consummate an investment on terms that are less advantageous than would be the case absent such restrictions. Any of these outcomes could adversely affect the Portfolios' performance with respect to such investments, and thus the Portfolios' performance as a whole.

**Crypto Asset Investments (*All Portfolios, except the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio*)**

The Internet Portfolio, Global Portfolio, Paradigm Portfolio, Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio and the Market Opportunities Portfolio may invest indirectly in crypto assets.

Crypto assets (also referred to as “virtual currencies” and “digital currencies”) are digital assets designed to act as a medium of exchange. Although crypto assets are an emerging asset class, they are not presently widely accepted as a medium of exchange. There are thousands of crypto assets, the most well-known of which is bitcoin.

Bitcoin or BTC was the first decentralized crypto asset. It is created and transmitted through the operations of the peer-to-peer bitcoin network, a decentralized network of computers that operates on cryptographic protocols. The bitcoin network allows people to transfer bitcoin through recordation of such transfers on a public transaction ledger known as a blockchain. The Portfolios may invest indirectly in bitcoin through a Delaware statutory trust, Grayscale Bitcoin Trust ETF (“Grayscale Bitcoin Trust”) and through other pooled investment vehicles that provide exposure to crypto assets. The Grayscale Bitcoin Trust is a Bitcoin ETF and enables investors to gain exposure to bitcoin in the form of a security while avoiding the challenges of buying, storing, and safekeeping bitcoin, directly.

In addition to the general risks of investing in other investment vehicles, the value of the Portfolios' indirect investments in crypto assets are subject to fluctuations in the value of the crypto asset, which can be highly volatile. The value of crypto assets is determined by the supply and demand for crypto assets in the global market for the trading of crypto assets, which consists primarily of transactions on crypto asset trading platforms. The price of a crypto asset could drop precipitously (including to zero) for a variety of reasons including but not limited to regulatory changes, a crisis of confidence in the crypto asset network or a change in user preference to competing crypto assets. The Portfolios' exposure to crypto assets can result in substantial losses to the Portfolios.

Crypto assets facilitate decentralized, peer-to-peer financial exchange and value storage, without the oversight of a central authority or banks. The value of crypto assets is not backed by any government, corporation, or other identified body. Crypto assets are also susceptible to theft, loss and destruction.

Crypto assets trade on crypto asset trading platforms. The regulatory environment for crypto asset trading platforms continues to evolve and is less stringent than that for trading platforms for traditional assets. As a result, crypto asset trading platforms may be more exposed to fraud and failure than established, regulated exchanges for securities, derivatives and other currencies. These crypto asset trading platforms can cease operating temporarily or even permanently, resulting in the potential loss of users' crypto assets or other market disruptions. Crypto asset trading platforms may be more exposed to the risk of market manipulation than exchanges for more traditional assets. Crypto asset trading platforms that are regulated typically must comply with minimum net worth, cybersecurity, and anti-money laundering requirements, but are not typically required to protect customers or their markets to the same extent that regulated securities exchanges or futures exchanges are required to do so. Furthermore, crypto asset trading platforms may be operating out of compliance with regulations, and many crypto asset trading platforms lack certain safeguards established by more traditional exchanges to enhance the stability of trading on the exchange, such as measures designed to prevent sudden drops in value of items traded on the exchange (i.e., "flash crashes"). As a result, the prices of crypto assets on crypto asset trading platforms may be subject to larger and more frequent sudden declines than assets traded on more traditional exchanges.

Currently, there is relatively limited use of crypto assets in the retail and commercial marketplace, which contributes to price volatility. A lack of expansion by crypto assets into retail and commercial markets, or a contraction of such use, may result in increased volatility or a reduction in the value of crypto assets, either of which could adversely impact the value of the Portfolios' investments. In addition, to the extent market participants develop a preference for one crypto asset over another, the value of the less preferred crypto assets would likely be adversely affected. Crypto assets are a new technological innovation with a limited history; it is a highly speculative asset and future regulatory actions or policies may limit, perhaps to a materially adverse extent, the value of the Portfolios' indirect investment in crypto assets and the ability to exchange a crypto asset or utilize it for payments.

The crypto asset industry is a newer, speculative, and still-developing industry that faces many risks. The crypto asset industry may still be experiencing a bubble or may experience a bubble again in the future. For example, in the first half of 2022, each of Celsius Network, Voyager Digital Ltd., and Three Arrows Capital declared bankruptcy, resulting in a loss of confidence in participants of the digital asset ecosystem and negative publicity surrounding digital assets more broadly. In November 2022, FTX Trading Ltd. ("FTX"), one of the largest digital asset platforms by volume at the time, halted customer withdrawals amid rumors of the company's liquidity issues and likely insolvency, which were subsequently corroborated by its CEO. Shortly thereafter, FTX's CEO resigned and FTX and many of its affiliates filed for bankruptcy in the United States, while other affiliates have entered insolvency, liquidation, or similar proceedings around the globe, following which the U.S. Department of Justice brought criminal fraud and other charges, and the SEC and CFTC brought civil securities and commodities fraud charges, against certain of FTX's and its affiliates' senior executives, including its former CEO. In addition, several other entities in the crypto asset industry filed for bankruptcy following FTX's bankruptcy filing, such as BlockFi Inc. and Genesis Global Capital, LLC. In response to these events, the prices of crypto assets experienced extreme volatility and other entities in the crypto asset industry been negatively affected. It is possible that similar events could occur in the future, which would undermine confidence in the crypto asset industry and negatively affect the value of crypto assets. It is not possible to predict at this time all of the risks that they may pose to the Portfolios, its service providers or to the crypto asset industry as a whole.

Factors affecting the further development of crypto assets include, but are not limited to, continued worldwide growth or possible cessation or reversal in the adoption and use of crypto assets and other digital assets; government and quasi-government regulation or restrictions on or regulation of access to and operation of digital asset networks; changes in consumer demographics and public preferences; maintenance and development of open-source software protocol; availability and popularity of other forms or methods of buying and selling goods and services; the use of the networks supporting digital assets, such as those for developing smart contracts and distributed applications; general economic conditions and the regulatory environment relating to digital assets; negative consumer or public perception; and general risks tied to the use of information technologies, including cyber risks. A hack or failure of one crypto asset may lead to a loss in confidence in, and thus decreased usage and/or value of, other crypto assets.

Crypto asset markets in the U.S. exist in a state of regulatory uncertainty. Regulatory changes or actions by Congress as well as U.S. federal or state agencies may adversely affect the value of the Portfolios' indirect investments in crypto assets. As digital assets have grown in both popularity and market size, a number of state and federal agencies have issued consumer advisories regarding the risks posed by digital assets to investors. In addition, the Securities and Exchange Commission, U.S. state securities regulators and several foreign governments have issued warnings and instituted legal proceedings in which they argue that certain digital assets may be classified as securities and that both those digital assets and any related initial coin offerings are subject to securities regulations. Additionally, U.S. state and federal, and foreign regulators and legislatures have taken action against virtual currency businesses or enacted restrictive regimes in response to adverse publicity arising from hacks, consumer harm, or criminal activity stemming from virtual currency activity.

The Portfolios' exposure to crypto assets may change over time and, accordingly, such exposure may not be represented in a Portfolio at any given time. Many significant aspects of the tax treatment of investments in crypto assets are uncertain, and a direct or indirect investment in crypto assets may produce non-qualifying income.

Blockchain technology is a relatively new and untested technology which operates as a distributed ledger. The risks associated with blockchain technology may not fully emerge until the technology is widely used. Blockchain systems could be vulnerable to fraud, particularly if a significant minority of participants colluded to defraud the rest. Access to a given blockchain requires an individualized key, which, if compromised, could result in loss due to theft, destruction or inaccessibility. There is little regulation of blockchain technology other than the intrinsic public nature of the blockchain system. Any future regulatory developments could affect the viability and expansion of the use of blockchain technology.

The adoption of blockchain and the development of competing platforms or technologies could affect its usage. There are currently a number of competing blockchain platforms with competing intellectual property claims. The uncertainty inherent in these competing technologies could cause companies to use alternatives to blockchain. In addition, blockchain networks may undergo technological developments or upgrades. Certain upgrade proposals to a blockchain may not be accepted by all the participants in an ecosystem. If one significant group adopts a proposed upgrade and another does not – or if groups adopt different upgrades – this can result in a “fork” of the blockchain, wherein two distinct sets of users and validators or users and miners run two different versions of a protocol. If the versions are sufficiently different such that the two versions of the protocol cannot simultaneously maintain and update a shared record of the blockchain database, it is called a “hard fork.” A hard fork can result in the creation of two competing blockchains, each with its own native crypto assets.



Technological developments may lead to technical or other flaws (including undiscovered flaws) in the underlying blockchain technology, including in the process by which transactions are recorded to a blockchain, or by which the validity of a copy of such blockchain can be proven, or the development of new or existing hardware or software tools or mechanisms that could negatively impact the functionality of the blockchain systems, all of which could negatively impact Portfolio shares

Most of the Portfolios contributed all or a portion of their holdings in crypto assets to a wholly-owned and controlled subsidiary of each Portfolio organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands (individually, a “Cayman Subsidiary” and collectively, the “Cayman Subsidiaries.” Each of the Internet, Global, and Market Opportunities Portfolios is also the sole shareholder of its respective wholly owned subsidiary organized under Delaware law (collectively, the “Delaware Subsidiaries,” and together with the Cayman Subsidiaries, the “Subsidiaries”) and contributed a portion of its holdings in crypto assets to its Delaware Subsidiary. Any net gains that a Delaware Subsidiary recognizes on future sales of the contributed shares of crypto assets will be subject to federal and state corporate income tax, but the dividends that a Delaware Subsidiary pays to each Portfolio (*i.e.*, those gains, net of the tax paid and any other expenses of the Delaware Subsidiary, such as its management and advisory fees) will be eligible to be treated as “qualified dividend income” under the Code. In the future, each Portfolio may seek to gain additional exposure to the crypto assets that may not produce qualifying income for the corresponding feeder fund under the Code, if held directly, including, potentially, other pooled investment vehicles that provide exposure to crypto assets, by investing up to 25% of the value of its total assets at the time of investment in its Subsidiaries.

Generally, a Subsidiary invests primarily in the Grayscale Bitcoin Trust, but may, potentially, invest in other pooled investment vehicles that provide exposure to crypto assets. The Subsidiaries are corporations for U.S. federal income tax purposes and do not, and will not, seek to qualify as RICs.

## Temporary Investments

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Due to the changing nature of the Internet and related companies, the national economy and market conditions, the **Internet Portfolio** may, as a temporary defensive measure, invest without limitation, in short-term debt securities and money market securities with a rating of A2-P2 or higher. These ratings are described at the end of the SAI under “Description of Securities Ratings.”

To respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the **Global Portfolio**, the **Paradigm Portfolio**, the **Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio**, the **Market Opportunities Portfolio** and the **Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio** may invest up to 100% of their assets in high quality U.S. short-term debt securities and money market instruments.

In order to have funds available for redemption and investment opportunities, each Portfolio may also hold a portion of its assets in cash or U.S. short-term money market instruments. Certificates of deposit purchased by the Portfolios will be those of U.S. banks having total assets at the time of purchase in excess of \$1 billion, and bankers’ acceptances purchased by the Portfolios will be guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks having total assets at the time of purchase in excess of \$1 billion. Each Portfolio anticipates that not more than 15% of its total assets will be so invested or held in cash at any given time, except when the Portfolio is in a temporary defensive posture.

## Portfolio Turnover

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Most of the direct investors in the Portfolios are entities that have elected to be treated as RICs for federal tax purposes. For these entities to qualify for the beneficial tax treatment afforded RICs, and to be relieved of federal tax liabilities, the RICs must distribute substantially all of their net income to shareholders generally on an annual basis and the Portfolios will have to provide those funds. Thus, the Portfolios may have to dispose of portfolio securities under disadvantageous circumstances to generate cash or borrow cash in order for the Funds to satisfy the distribution requirement. The Portfolios do not trade in securities for short-term profits but, when circumstances warrant, securities may be sold without regard to the length of time they have been held. Portfolio turnover rates may vary depending on the volume of buying and selling activities. Rates over 100% annually are considered high. The table below shows the portfolio turnover rates for the past two fiscal years.

	Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2024	Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023
<b>Portfolio turnover rate for:</b>		
The Internet Portfolio	43%	19%
The Global Portfolio	34%	16%
The Paradigm Portfolio	2%	0%
The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio	6%	2%
The Market Opportunities Portfolio	7%	5%
The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio	37%	37%

## Management of the Portfolios

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### Board of Trustees

The management and affairs of the Portfolios are overseen by the Board of Trustees of the Trust. The Board consists of seven individuals, five of whom are not “interested persons” of the Trust as that term is defined in the 1940 Act (“Independent Trustees”). The Board establishes policies for the operation of the Portfolios and appoints the officers who conduct the daily business of the Portfolios. The Board has appointed Mr. Jay Kesslen as its Anti-Money Laundering Officer.

The Board believes that each of the Trustee’s experience, qualifications, attributes and skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees lead to the conclusion that each Trustee should serve in such capacity. Among the attributes common to all Trustees is the ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the other Trustees, the Adviser, other service providers, counsel and the independent registered public accounting firm, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties as Trustees. A Trustee’s ability to perform his duties effectively may have been attained through the Trustee’s business, consulting, public service and/or academic positions; experience as a board member of the Trust, other investment funds, or non-profit entities or other organizations; education or professional training; and/or other life experiences. In addition to these shared characteristics, specific details regarding each Trustee’s principal occupations during the past five years are included in the table below.

Officers and Trustees of the Trust are listed below with their ages, addresses, present positions with the Trust and principal occupations over at least the last five years. Each Trustee may be contacted by writing

to the Trustee at c/o Kinetics Mutual Funds, Inc., 470 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016. Each Trustee of the Trust also serves as a Director of the Company and each Officer of the Trust also serves in the same capacity for the Company.

### Independent Trustees

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Company/ Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>	<b># of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(1)</sup> Overseen by Director/ Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Director/ Trustee<sup>(2)</sup></b>
Steven T. Russell (61) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Independent Director/ Independent Trustee	Indefinite/ 24 years	Professor of Business Law, Suffolk County Community College (1997 to Present); Lawyer, Private Practice (2010 to present.)	13	N/A
Douglas Cohen, CPA (63) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Independent Director/ Independent Trustee	Indefinite/ 24 years	Chief Financial Officer, Sunrise Credit Services, Inc. (2005 to 2021).	13	N/A
William J. Graham (63) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Independent Director/ Independent Trustee	Indefinite/ 24 years	Attorney, William J. Graham, PC (2001 to present); Assistant Town Attorney, Town of Islip (2016 to 2021).	13	N/A

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Company/ Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>	<b># of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(1)</sup> Overseen by Director/ Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Director/ Trustee<sup>(2)</sup></b>
Joseph E. Breslin (71) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Independent Director/ Independent Trustee	Indefinite/ 24 years	Counsel, White Oak Global Advisors, LLC (2016 to present).	13	Trustee, Forethought Variable Insurance Trust (23 portfolios); Trustee, BluArc Multi-Strategy Fund (2014-2017); Chairman and Trustee, Northern Lights Fund Trust IV (21 portfolios); Trustee, Hatteras Alternative Mutual Funds Trust (5 portfolios) (2004-2016); Trustee, Underlying Funds Trust (5 portfolios) (2004-2016); Trustee, Director, Hatteras Master Fund, L.P. (2013-2016); Director, Hatteras Core Alternatives TEI Fund, L.P. (2013-2016); Director, Hatteras Core Alternatives Fund, L.P. (2013-2016); Director, Hatteras Core Alternatives Institutional Fund, L.P. (2013-2016); and Director, Hatteras Core Alternatives TEI Institutional Fund, L.P. (2013-2016).

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Company/ Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>	<b># of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(1)</sup> Overseen by Director/ Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Director/ Trustee<sup>(2)</sup></b>
James M. Breen (66) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Independent Director/ Independent Trustee	Indefinite/ 16 years	Security Consultant and Licensed Florida Private Investigator (2019 to present); Special Agent, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) (2015 to 2019); Vice President, HBES Consulting, Inc. (2014 to present).	13	N/A

## Interested Trustees & Officers

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with the Company/ Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>	<b># of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(1)</sup> Overseen by Director/ Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Director/ Trustee<sup>(2)</sup></b>
Murray Stahl <sup>(3)(4)</sup> (71) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Director/ Trustee & Secretary	Indefinite/ 24 years	Chairman, FRMO Corp. (2001 to present) (provides consulting services to private investment funds and research services with respect to marketable securities); Chairman and Chief Investment Officer, Horizon Kinetics LLC, (including Horizon Asset Management LLC (an SEC -registered investment adviser) (1994 to present); Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC and Kinetics Advisers, LLC (2000 to present); CEO, Horizon Kinetics LLC (2015 to present).	13	Director and Officer, RENN Fund, Inc. (closed- end investment company) (2017 to present). Director of Texas Pacific Land Corp. (2021 to present)
Peter B. Doyle <sup>(3)</sup> (62) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Director/ Trustee, President & Chairman of the Board	Indefinite/ 22 years	Vice President, FMRO Corp. (2001 to present) (provides consulting services to private investment funds and research services with respect to marketable securities); Managing Director, Horizon Kinetics LLC (including Horizon Asset Management LLC (investment adviser) (1994 to present); Kinetics Asset Management LLC and Kinetics Advisers LLC (1999 to present); and President of Kinetics Mutual Funds, Inc. (1998 to present). Co-Portfolio Manager of the RENN Fund, Inc. (2021 to present)	13	Director and Officer, FRMO Corp.

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with the Company/ Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>	<b># of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(1)</sup> Overseen by Director/ Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Director/ Trustee<sup>(2)</sup></b>
Steven Bregman (66) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Co-Portfolio Manager and Investment Team Member	Indefinite/ 8 years	President, Horizon Kinetics Holding Corporation, (including Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC (investment adviser) (1994 to present); Kinetics Asset Management LLC and Kinetics Advisers, LLC (2000 to 2019; President and CFO of FRMO Corp. (2001 to present) (provides consulting services to private investment funds and research services with respect to marketable securities); Co-Portfolio Manager of RENN Fund, Inc. (closed end investment company) (since 2021).	13	Director of Winland Electronics, Inc (electronics) (since 2020). Director and Officer of FRMO Corp. (since 2001).

- <sup>(1)</sup> The term “fund complex” refers to the Company and the Trust, which hold themselves out as related for investment purposes.
- <sup>(2)</sup> “Other Directorships Held” includes only directorships of companies required to register or file reports with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (that is, “public companies”) or investment companies registered under the 1940 Act.
- <sup>(3)</sup> Directors/Trustees who are considered “interested persons” as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act because of their association with the Adviser and its affiliates.
- <sup>(4)</sup> Murray Stahl is a member of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Texas Pacific Land Corporation (“TPL”), a large holding in certain client accounts and funds, including certain funds managed by the Adviser, including the Portfolios.

## Officers

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with the Company/Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>
Russell W. Grimaldi (45) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Chief Compliance Officer	Indefinite/1 month	Chief Compliance Officer, Horizon Kinetics Holding Corporation (including Horizon Kinetics Asset Management (2011 to present), Chief Compliance Officer, Renn Fund, Inc. (2024 to present).
Jay H. Kesslen (52) c/o Horizon Kinetics Asset Management LLC 470 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016	Vice President and Assistant Secretary	Indefinite/20 years	General Counsel, Horizon Kinetics LLC (including Horizon Asset Management LLC (investment adviser) (2011 to present); Chief Compliance Officer, LLC (2000 to present), Kinetics Advisers LLC (2000 to present), Kinetics Funds Distributor LLC (2000 to present), KBD Securities LLC (2000 to present); FRMO Corp. (2014 to present), RENN Fund, Inc. (2017 to present).

## Leadership Structure and Oversight Responsibilities

Overall responsibility for oversight of the Portfolios rests with the Board of Trustees of the Trust. The Trust, on behalf of each Portfolio, has engaged the Adviser to manage the Portfolios on a day-to-day basis. The Board is responsible for overseeing the Adviser and other service providers in the operations of the Portfolios in accordance with the provisions of the 1940 Act, applicable provisions of state and other laws and the Trust's Declaration of Trust and By-laws. The Board meets in-person at regularly scheduled meetings four times each year. In addition, the Board may hold special in-person or telephonic meetings or informal conference calls to discuss specific matters that may arise or require action between regular meetings. The Independent Trustees have also engaged independent legal counsel to assist them in performing their oversight responsibility. The Independent Trustees meet with their independent legal counsel in-person during each quarterly in-person board meeting. As described below, the Board has established an Audit Committee and a Pricing Committee, and may establish ad hoc committees or working groups from time to time to assist them in fulfilling their oversight responsibilities.

The Board has appointed Peter B. Doyle, an interested Trustee, to serve in the role of Chairman. The Chairman's role is to preside at all meetings of the Board and to act as liaison with the Trust's service providers, counsel and other Trustees generally between meetings. The Chairman may also perform such other functions as may be delegated by the Board from time to time. The Board does not have a lead independent Trustee. The Board has determined that the Board's leadership structure is appropriate because it allows the Board to exercise informed and independent judgment over matters under its purview and it allocates areas of responsibility among committees of Trustees and the full Board in a manner that enhances effective oversight.

The Portfolios are subject to a number of risks, including investment, compliance, operational and valuation risks, among others. Risk oversight forms part of the Board's general oversight of the Portfolios



and is addressed as part of various Board and committee activities. Day-to-day risk management functions are subsumed within the responsibilities of the Adviser and other service providers (depending on the nature of the risk), which carry out the Portfolios' investment management and business affairs. The Adviser and other service providers employ a variety of processes, procedures and controls to identify various events or circumstances that give rise to risks, to lessen the probability of their occurrence and/or to mitigate the effects of such events or circumstances if they do occur. The Adviser and other service providers have their own independent interests in risk management, and their policies and methods of risk management will depend on their functions and business models. The Board recognizes that it is not possible to identify all of the risks that may affect the Portfolios or to develop processes and controls to eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects. The Board requires senior officers of the Trust, including the President, Treasurer and Chief Compliance Officer, and the Adviser, to report to the full Board on a variety of matters at regular and special meetings of the Board, including matters relating to risk management. The Board and the Audit Committee also receive regular reports from the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm on internal control and financial reporting matters. The Board also receives reports from certain of the Trust's other primary service providers on a periodic or regular basis, including the Trust's custodian, distributor and administrator. The Board may, at any time and in its discretion, change the manner in which it conducts risk oversight.

## Board Committees

The Board has two standing committees as described below:

<b>Audit Committee</b>		
<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings during Past Fiscal Year</u></b>
James M. Breen Joseph E. Breslin Douglas Cohen, CPA* William J. Graham Steven T. Russell	Responsible for advising the full Board with respect to accounting, auditing and financial matters affecting the Portfolios.	The Committee met two times during the year ended December 31, 2024.
<b>Pricing Committee</b>		
<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings during Past Fiscal Year</u></b>
James M. Breen Joseph E. Breslin* Douglas Cohen, CPA William J. Graham Steven T. Russell	Responsible for (1) monitoring the valuation of the Portfolios' securities and other investments; and (2) as required by the Portfolios' valuation policies, when the full Board is not in session, overseeing the fair value determination of illiquid and other holdings by the Portfolios' valuation designee, which determinations shall be reported to the full Board.	The Committee met two times during the year ended December 31, 2024.

\* Designates the Chairperson of the respective Committee.

## Board Interest in the Portfolios

As of December 31, 2024, no Trustee held any interest in the Portfolios. However, as of December 31, 2024, the Trustees owned the following amounts of each series of the Company (other than the Kinetics Spin-off and Corporate Restructuring Fund):

Name of Director/Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Funds/Portfolios Overseen by Director/Trustee
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### **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES**

Steven T. Russell	Internet Fund	None	None
	Global Fund	None	
	Paradigm Fund	None	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	None	
	Market Opportunities Fund	None	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	None	
Douglas Cohen, CPA	Internet Fund	None	Over \$100,000
	Global Fund	None	
	Paradigm Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000	
	Market Opportunities Fund	None	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	None	
William J. Graham	Internet Fund	None	Over \$100,000
	Global Fund	None	
	Paradigm Fund	\$50,001 - \$100,000	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	\$50,001 - \$100,000	
	Market Opportunities Fund	None	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	None	
Joseph E. Breslin	Internet Fund	None	Over \$100,000
	Global Fund	None	
	Paradigm Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	None	
	Market Opportunities Fund	\$50,001 - \$100,000	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	None	
James M. Breen	Internet Fund	None	None
	Global Fund	None	
	Paradigm Fund	None	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	None	
	Market Opportunities Fund	None	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	None	

Name of Director/Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Funds/Portfolios Overseen by Director/Trustee
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### **INTERESTED TRUSTEES**

Murray Stahl	Internet Fund	None	Over \$100,000
	Global Fund	None	
	Paradigm Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Market Opportunities Fund	\$50,001 - \$100,000	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000	
Peter B. Doyle	Internet Fund	Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000
	Global Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Paradigm Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Small Cap Opportunities Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Market Opportunities Fund	Over \$100,000	
	Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	Over \$100,000	

### **Compensation**

Effective January 1, 2024, for their service as Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Trust, the Independent Directors/Independent Trustees receive an aggregate fee of \$60,000 per year and \$3,750 per Board meeting attended, with an additional \$2,000 for each Pricing and/or Audit Committee meeting attended, as well as reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at such meetings. In addition, each Committee Chairman of the Company and the Trust (such as the Audit Committee or Pricing Committee) receives an additional fee of \$5,000 per year for his service as chairman.

Prior to January 1, 2024, for their service as Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Trust, the Independent Directors/Independent Trustees received an aggregate fee of \$50,000 per year and \$3,750 per Board meeting attended, with an additional \$2,000 for each Pricing and/or Audit Committee meeting attended, as well as reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at such meetings. In addition, each Committee Chairman of the Company and the Trust (such as the Audit Committee or Pricing Committee) received an additional fee of \$5,000 per year for his service as chairman.

The “interested persons” who serve as Directors of the Company or Trustees of the Trust receive no compensation for their service as Directors or Trustees. None of the executive officers receive compensation from the Funds or the Portfolios except the Company’s/Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer. The following table provides compensation information for the Directors/Trustees for the year ended December 31, 2024.

## Kinetics Portfolios Trust

### Compensation Table

<b>Name and Position</b>	<b>Aggregate Compensation From Portfolios</b>	<b>Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Fund/Portfolio Expenses</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement</b>	<b>Total Compensation from Portfolios and Fund Complex Paid to Directors/ Trustees<sup>(2)</sup></b>
<b><u>Interested Trustees</u></b>				
Murray Stahl <sup>(1)</sup>	None	None	None	None
Peter B. Doyle <sup>(1)</sup>	None	None	None	None
<b><u>Independent Trustees</u></b>				
Steven T. Russell	\$31,514	None	None	\$60,000
Douglas Cohen, CPA	\$33,975	None	None	\$65,000
William J. Graham	\$31,514	None	None	\$60,000
Joseph E. Breslin	\$36,441	None	None	\$65,000
James M. Breen	\$31,514	None	None	\$60,000

<sup>(1)</sup> “Interested person” as defined under the 1940 Act.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes compensation paid by the Company

### Control Persons and Principal Holders of Securities

Each Portfolio is a master fund in a master/feeder structure in which feeder funds invest the majority of their investable assets in a Portfolio of the Trust. A control person is one who owns beneficially either directly or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or who acknowledges or asserts the existence of control. Therefore, each feeder fund is a control person because it owns the majority of the beneficial interests of a Portfolio. Set forth in the table below are the feeder funds that invest in a Portfolio.

<b>Name of Record Holder (Feeder Fund)</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Beneficial Interest as of March 31, 2025</b>
The Internet Fund	The Internet Portfolio	99.97%
The Global Fund	The Global Portfolio	99.92%
The Paradigm Fund	The Paradigm Portfolio	96.20%
The Small Cap Opportunities Fund	The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio	99.96%
The Market Opportunities Fund	The Market Opportunities Portfolio	99.97%
The Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio	98.40%

### Management Ownership

The percentage of each Portfolio’s interests owned or controlled by the executive officers and/or Trustees of the Portfolios is less than 1% of the interest of each Portfolio as of March 31, 2025.

## Proxy Voting Policies

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The Trust, on behalf of the Portfolios, has delegated the voting of portfolio securities to the Adviser. The Adviser has adopted policies and procedures for the voting of proxies on behalf of client accounts, including the Portfolios, for which the Adviser has voting discretion. Pursuant to these policies and procedures, the Adviser's guiding principles in voting proxies is to ensure that the manner in which proxies are voted is in the best interest of its clients and the value of the investment. To this end, an independent third party proxy service, Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. ("ISS"), has been retained by the Adviser for their fundamental research on the proxy question and subsequent recommendations. Proxies are voted by ISS in accordance with their proxy voting guidelines with the intent of serving the best interests of the Adviser's clients.

ISS will inform the Adviser's proxy administrator of any proxies that do not fall within the adopted guidelines. The Adviser's proxy administrator will send the proxies in question to the relevant Portfolio's portfolio manager for review, documentation of vote rationale, and signature. In the event the designated portfolio manager is unavailable, the proxy will be forwarded to the Chief Investment Strategist for execution.

ISS also updates and revises the Guidelines on a periodic basis, and the revisions are reviewed by the Adviser to determine whether they are consistent with the Adviser's guiding principles. ISS also assists the Adviser in the proxy voting process by providing operational, recordkeeping and reporting services.

The Adviser is responsible for reviewing its relationship with ISS and for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of the various services provided by ISS. The Adviser may hire other service providers to replace or supplement ISS with respect to any of the services the Adviser currently receives from ISS.

The Adviser has implemented procedures that are intended to prevent conflicts of interest from influencing proxy voting decisions. These procedures include the Adviser's use of ISS as an independent third party and a review and approval process for individual decisions that do not follow ISS recommendations.

### More Information

The Portfolios' actual voting records relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available without charge, upon request by calling toll-free at 1-800-930-3828 or by accessing the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, a copy of the Trust's proxy voting policies and procedures are also available by calling toll-free at 1-800-930-3828 and will be sent within three business days of receipt of a request.

## Investment Adviser

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The Board of the Trustees of the Trust, on behalf of the Portfolios, approved advisory contracts (collectively, the "Advisory Agreement") with Kinetics. This Advisory Agreement continues on a year-to-year basis provided that specific approval is voted at least annually by the Board of Trustees of the Trust or by the vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Portfolios, as applicable. In either event, it must also be approved by a majority of the Trustees of the Portfolios who are neither parties to the Advisory Agreement nor "interested persons" of the Trust as defined in the 1940 Act at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Adviser's investment decisions

are made subject to the direction and supervision of the Board of Trustees. The Advisory Agreement may be terminated at any time, without the payment of any penalty, by the Board of Trustees or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Portfolios. Ultimate decisions as to a Portfolio's investment policies are made by the Portfolio's officers and the Board of Trustees.

Under the Advisory Agreement, Kinetics furnishes investment advice to the Portfolios by continuously reviewing the securities portfolios and recommending to the Portfolios to what extent securities should be purchased or sold. Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser:

- (1) renders research, statistical and advisory services to the Portfolios;
- (2) makes specific recommendations based on the Portfolios' investment requirements;
- (3) pays the salaries of those of the Portfolios' employees who may be officers or directors or employees of the Adviser.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board of Trustees' approval of the Advisory Agreement for each Portfolio is available in the Portfolios' Form N-CSR for the period ended June 30, 2023.

### Advisory Fees

The Investment Adviser conducts investment research and supervision for each Portfolio and is responsible for the purchase and sale of securities for each Portfolio. Horizon provides certain research services to the Portfolios and does not receive a fee for such services. For the above advisory services, except with respect to the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio, each Portfolio has agreed to pay to Kinetics an annual fee of 1.25% of each Portfolio's average daily net assets. All fees are computed on the average daily closing net asset value ("NAV") of the Portfolios and are payable monthly. Effective as of April 30, 2023, the Investment Adviser has agreed to reduce the management fee for the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio from 1.25% to 1.00%. Additionally, effective as of April 30, 2023, the Investment Adviser has agreed to waive 0.75% of the 1.00% management fee for the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio through April 30, 2025.

During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, the advisory fees expensed to the Adviser were as follows:

<b>Advisory Fees</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
The Internet Portfolio	\$3,259,047	\$2,024,221	\$2,118,754
The Global Portfolio	\$379,531	\$302,272	\$345,839
The Paradigm Portfolio	\$13,022,350	\$10,675,542	\$11,462,128
The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio	\$4,337,380	\$4,330,935	\$3,895,500
The Market Opportunities Portfolio	\$2,121,973	\$1,582,609	\$1,639,501
The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio	\$33,081	\$149,673	\$234,606

The Adviser has voluntarily agreed to waive advisory fees allocated to the Funds and to reimburse expenses of the Funds in order to keep total annual Fund operating expenses at a certain percentage for each Fund, as described in the Funds' Prospectuses. During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, Kinetics waived advisory fees and reimbursed other Fund expenses in the following amounts:

	2024		2023		2022	
<b>Waiver and Reimbursements</b>	<b>Advisory Fee Waiver</b>	<b>Expense Reimbursements</b>	<b>Advisory Fee Waiver</b>	<b>Expense Reimbursements</b>	<b>Advisory Fee Waiver</b>	<b>Expense Reimbursements</b>
The Internet Fund	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
The Global Fund	\$ 198,353	\$ 0	\$ 178,171	\$ 0	\$ 188,097	\$ 0
The Paradigm Fund	\$ 174,303	\$ 0	\$ 355,617	\$ 0	\$ 261,851	\$ 0
The Small Cap Opportunities Fund	\$ 164,624	\$ 0	\$ 261,281	\$ 0	\$ 154,733	\$ 0
The Market Opportunities Fund	\$ 549,141	\$ 0	\$ 457,854	\$ 0	\$ 466,220	\$ 0
The Multi-Disciplinary Income Fund	\$ 52,698	\$ 0	\$ 81,659	\$ 0	\$ 151,419	\$ 0

Fees of the custodian, administrator, fund accountant and transfer agent are paid by the Funds or by the Portfolios or by the Funds and the Portfolios jointly, as more fully described below. The Funds pay all other expenses, including:

- fees and expenses of directors not affiliated with the Adviser;
- legal and accounting fees;
- interest, taxes, and brokerage commissions; and
- record keeping and the expense of operating its offices.

## Portfolio Managers

### *Investment Professionals for the Adviser*

#### *Mr. Peter B. Doyle*

Mr. Doyle serves as a Co-Portfolio Manager of the Internet Portfolio, Paradigm Portfolio, Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio, and Market Opportunities Portfolio, and a member of the investment team for the Global Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Doyle as of December 31, 2024:

<b>Category of Account</b>	<b>Total Number of Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance</b>	<b>Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)</b>
Other Registered Investment Companies	6	\$1,111.93	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	10	\$1482.25
Other Accounts	121	\$205.84	0	\$0

#### *Mr. Steven Tuen*

Mr. Tuen is a Co-Portfolio Manager for the Global Portfolio and a member of the investment team for the Internet Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Tuen as of December 31, 2024:

<b>Category of Account</b>	<b>Total Number of Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance</b>	<b>Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)</b>
Other Registered Investment Companies	1	\$3.75	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

*Mr. Murray Stahl*

Mr. Stahl serves as Chief Investment Officer for Horizon Kinetics LLC, the parent company to the Adviser, the Co-Portfolio Manager for the Internet Portfolio, Global Portfolio, Market Opportunities Portfolio, Paradigm Portfolio, Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio and, Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Stahl as of December 31, 2024:

<b>Category of Account</b>	<b>Total Number of Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance</b>	<b>Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)</b>
Other Registered Investment Companies	4	\$257.44	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	16	\$1,817.50
Other Accounts	665	\$2,059.51	16	\$122.61

*Mr. Steven Bregman*

Mr. Bregman serves as the Co-Portfolio Manager for the Paradigm Portfolio and as a member of the investment teams of the Internet Portfolio, Global Portfolio, Market Opportunities Portfolio, Internet Portfolio and Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Bregman as of December 31, 2024:

<b>Category of Account</b>	<b>Total Number of Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance</b>	<b>Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)</b>
Other Registered Investment Companies	4	\$1093	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	10	\$940.88
Other Accounts	1,000	\$1,142.46	2	\$0.83



*Mr. James Davolos*

Mr. Davolos is the Co-Portfolio Manager for the Internet Portfolio and is a member of the investment team for Global Portfolio, Paradigm Portfolio, Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio and Market Opportunities Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Davolos as of December 31, 2024:

Category of Account	Total Number of Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)	Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)
Other Registered Investment Companies	3	\$1073.49	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	1	\$25365.93
Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

*Mr. Matthew Houk*

Mr. Houk serves as a Co-Portfolio Manager for the Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Houk as of December 31, 2024:

Category of Account	Total Number of Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)	Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)
Other Registered Investment Companies	1	\$209.60	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	5	\$0.67	2	\$4.64

*Mr. Darryl Monasebian*

Mr. Monasebian serves as a Co-Portfolio Manager for the Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio. The following provides information regarding other accounts managed by Mr. Monasebian as of December 31, 2024:

Category of Account	Total Number of Accounts Managed	Total Assets in Accounts Managed (in Millions)	Number of Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance (in Millions)
Other Registered Investment Companies	0	0	0	0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other Accounts	0	0	0	0

As of December 31, 2024, no Portfolio Manager held any interest in the Portfolios. However, as of December 31, 2024, the Portfolio Managers that are responsible for the day-to-day management of each of the Portfolios beneficially owned shares of the Funds (other than the Kinetics Spin-off and Corporate Restructuring Fund) as shown below.

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**Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds Beneficially Owned**

- A. None**  
**B. \$1-\$10,000**  
**C. \$10,001-\$50,000**  
**D. \$50,001-\$100,000**  
**E. \$100,001-\$500,000**  
**F. \$500,001-\$1,000,000**  
**G. Over \$1,000,000**
- 

Name of Fund							
	Peter B. Doyle	Steven Tuen	Murray Stahl	James Davolos	Matthew Houk	Steven Bregman	Darryl Monasebian
Internet	E.	B.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.
Global	G.	B.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.
Paradigm	G.	D.	E.	E.	A.	A.	A.
Small Cap Opportunities Fund	G.	A.	E.	D.	A.	A.	A.
Market Opportunities Fund	G.	C.	D.	E.	A.	A.	A.
Multi-Disciplinary Income	E.	A.	C.	A.	A.	A.	C.

### Compensation

Portfolio Managers are compensated with a base salary and bonus. The base salary is a fixed amount. Bonuses are subjective and are not tied to performance of the Funds, but instead are based on the overall contribution to the Adviser. The Portfolio Managers also have access to a 401(k) retirement plan. Additionally, certain Portfolio Managers are also equity owners of the Adviser.

### Material Conflicts of Interest

The Adviser's portfolio managers are responsible for managing one or more of the Portfolios, as well as other accounts. A portfolio manager may manage a separate account or other pooled investment vehicle that may have a materially higher or lower fee arrangement than the Portfolio or that may have a performance fee arrangement. The side-by-side management of these accounts may raise potential conflicts of interest relating to cross trading, the allocation of investment opportunities and the aggregation and allocation of trades. In addition, while portfolio managers generally only manage accounts with similar investment strategies, it is possible that due to varying investment restrictions among accounts and for other reasons that certain investments could be made for some accounts and not others or conflicting investment positions could be taken among accounts. The Adviser has a fiduciary responsibility to manage all client accounts in a fair and equitable manner. The Adviser seeks to provide best execution of all securities transactions and aggregates and then allocates securities to client accounts in a fair and timely manner. To this end, the Adviser has developed policies and procedures designed to mitigate and manage the potential conflicts of interest that may arise from side-by-side management.

Mr. Stahl is a member of the board of directors of Texas Pacific Land Corporation ("TPL"), a large holding in certain client accounts and funds managed by the Adviser, including the Portfolios. Officers, directors and employees of the Adviser may also hold substantial amounts of TPL, both directly and

indirectly, in their personal accounts. The Adviser seeks to address potential conflicts of interest through the adoption of various policies and procedures, which include both electronic and physical safeguards. All personal and proprietary trading is also subject to the Adviser's Code of Ethics and is monitored by the firm's Legal and Compliance Department. As a result of Mr. Stahl being on the board of directors of TPL, he does not have any trading authority over shares of TPL. All trading decisions for TPL in Mr. Stahl's personal accounts and in client accounts and funds where he remains a portfolio manager has been delegated to another portfolio manager.

## Administrative Services

U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (“Fund Services”), located at 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, serves as Administrator of the Funds and the Portfolios. The Administrator is entitled to receive annual fees, payable monthly, based on each Portfolio’s average net assets. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, the Portfolios paid Fund Services the following aggregate amounts for administrative services:

<b>Administrative Services Fees</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
The Internet Portfolio	\$93,943	\$65,749	\$74,058
The Global Portfolio	\$22,121	\$21,374	\$23,627
The Paradigm Portfolio	\$320,288	\$311,894	\$306,052
The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio	\$115,656	\$135,864	\$111,398
The Market Opportunities Portfolio	\$63,974	\$56,540	\$57,193
The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio	\$17,096	\$16,937	\$19,680

Fund Services also serves as the Portfolios’ accountant and transfer agent. As such, Fund Services provides certain shareholder services and record management services and acts as the Portfolios’ dividend disbursement agent.

Administrative services include, but are not limited to, providing office space, equipment, telephone facilities, various personnel, including clerical and supervisory, and computers, as is necessary or beneficial to:

- establish and maintain shareholders’ accounts and records,
- process purchase and redemption transactions,
- process automatic investments of client account cash balances,
- answer routine client inquiries regarding the Portfolios,
- assist clients in changing dividend options,
- account designations, and addresses, and
- providing such other services as the Portfolios may reasonably request.

## Private Placement Agent

Kinetics Funds Distributor LLC (“KFD”), 470 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016, serves as the private placement agent for the beneficial interests of the Portfolio on a best efforts basis. KFD is a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., and an affiliate of the Adviser. Beneficial interests in the Portfolio are issued continuously.

## Custodian

U.S. Bank N.A. (“U.S. Bank”), with principal offices at 1555 North RiverCenter Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, WI 53212, is custodian for the securities and cash of the Portfolios. Under a Custody Agreement, U.S. Bank holds the Portfolios’ assets in safekeeping and keeps all necessary records and documents relating to its duties. U.S. Bank receives annual fees based on each Portfolio’s average net assets.

### Securities Lending

U.S. Bank N.A. serves as securities lending agent for the Portfolios and in that role administers the Portfolios’ securities lending program pursuant to the terms of a Securities Lending Agreement entered into between the Portfolios and U.S. Bank N.A.

The Portfolios may lend their portfolio securities to broker-dealers by entering directly into lending arrangements with such broker-dealers or indirectly through repurchase agreements with respect to no more than 33 1/3% of the total assets of a Portfolio (including any collateral posted) or 50% of the total assets of a Portfolio (excluding any collateral posted). Securities lending and repurchase transactions will be fully collateralized at all times with cash and/or short-term debt obligations. The Portfolios receive interest on the collateral received as well as a fee for the securities loaned.

The table below sets forth, for the Portfolios’ most recently completed fiscal year, the Portfolios’ income from securities lending activities, as well as the fees and/or compensation earned.

	The Internet Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Global Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Paradigm Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Market Opportunities Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>
Gross income from securities lending activities:	\$373,371	\$30,013	\$749,857	\$59,908	\$158,777
Fees paid to securities lending agent from a revenue split:	\$59,385	\$4,513	\$97,114	\$4,525	\$24,422
Fees paid for any cash collateral management service that are not included in the revenue split:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Administrative fees not included in revenue split:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indemnification fee not included in revenue split:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rebates (paid to borrower):	\$ 76,447	\$ 7,440	\$ 264,280	\$ 37,281	\$ 36,661

	The Internet Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Global Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Paradigm Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>	The Market Opportunities Portfolio <sup>(1)</sup>
Other fees not included in revenue split:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Aggregate fees/compensation for securities lending activities:	\$135,831	\$11,953	\$361,394	\$41,807	\$61,082
Net income from securities lending activities:	\$237,540	\$18,060	\$389,553	\$38,959	\$97,695

<sup>(1)</sup> This table reflects securities lending activity at the Portfolios and the corresponding Cayman Subsidiaries.

## Codes of Ethics

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The Trust, Kinetics, and KFD have adopted Codes of Ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act that permits investment personnel subject to the particular Code of Ethics to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Portfolios, for their own accounts.

## Valuation of the Portfolios

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Shares of beneficial interest in the Portfolios are sold on a continual basis at the NAV per share next computed following acceptance of an order by the Portfolios. The Portfolios' NAV is determined at the close of normal trading (currently 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on each day the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open for trading. The NYSE is closed on the following holidays; New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day, Washington's Birthday/President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Equity securities are valued each day at the last quoted sales price on the securities principal exchange. If there is no sales price, a security is valued at the last reported bid price. The Portfolios' securities that are listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market Inc. are valued using the NASDAQ Official Closing Price ("NOCP"), and if no NOCP is available, then at the last reported bid price. In the event market quotations are not readily available, or if events occur that may materially affect the value of a particular security between the time trading ends on a particular security and the close of regular trading on the NYSE, "fair value" will be as determined in good faith in accordance with procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. The Portfolios may use independent pricing services to assist in calculating the NAV of the Portfolios' shares.

Futures, options on futures and swap contracts that are listed or traded on a national securities exchange, commodities exchange, contract market or over-the-counter markets and that are freely transferable will be valued at the composite price, using the National Best Bid and Offer quotes ("NBBO"). NBBO consists of the highest bid price and lowest ask price across any of the exchanges on which an option is quoted thus providing a view across the entire U.S. options marketplace. Composite option pricing calculates the mean of the highest bid price and lowest ask price across the exchanges where the option is traded. If a composite price is not available, the mean of the highest bid price and lowest ask price on the

exchange where the option or future is traded will be used. If neither a composite price or a mean of the highest bid price and lowest ask price is available, the security will be valued at the last quoted sales price. Non-exchange traded options also will be valued at the mean between the last bid and asked quotations. Securities that have no public market and all other assets of the Portfolios are considered at such value as the Investment Adviser, as valuation designee, may determine in good faith, in accordance with the Portfolio's valuation procedures as approved by the Trust's Board of Trustees.

Debt obligations (including convertible securities) that are either investment grade or below investment grade and irrespective of days to maturity are valued at evaluated mean by an independent third party pricing agent, which relies on various valuation methodologies such as matrix pricing and other analytical pricing models as well as market transactions and dealer quotations. Certain instruments such as repurchase agreements, demand notes, and money market mutual funds are traded at cost and there are no market values available for those instruments from third parties. Those instruments are priced at cost. Debt securities that are not priced by an independent third party pricing agent shall be valued (a) at the last sale price if such last sale occurred within the previous five business days, and (b) if there was no sale price during the previous five business days, at the average of the bids, or the sole bid if there is only one. Debt securities and other securities which, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, do not properly represent the value of a security will be valued at their fair value as determined in good faith by the Investment Adviser, as valuation designee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Investment Adviser and approved by the Trust's Board of Trustees.

Trading in foreign securities may be completed at times when the NYSE is closed. In computing the NAV of each Portfolio that trades foreign securities, the value of a foreign security is determined as of the close of trading on the foreign exchange on which it is principally traded or as of the scheduled close of trading on the NYSE, whichever is earlier, at the closing sales price as provided by the approved pricing services or other alternate sources. In the absence of sales, the last available mean price between the closing bid and asked prices will be used. Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Investment Adviser, as valuation designee. Values of foreign securities are translated from the local currency into U.S. dollars on the basis of the foreign currency exchange rates, as provided by an independent pricing service or reporting agency, generally prior to the close of the NYSE. Occasionally, events affecting the value of foreign securities and such exchange rates occur between the time at which they are determined and the close of the NYSE, which events would not be reflected in the computation of a Portfolio's NAV. If events materially affecting the value of such securities or currency exchange rates occur during such time period, the securities will be valued at their fair value as determined in good faith by the Investment Adviser, as valuation designee, under the oversight of the Trust's Board of Trustees.

The NAV per share of a Portfolio is computed by dividing the value of the securities held by the Portfolio plus any cash or other assets attributable to that Portfolio (including interest and dividends accrued but not yet received) minus all liabilities (including accrued expenses attributable to that Portfolio) by the total number of shares of that Portfolio outstanding at such time, as shown below:

$$\frac{(\text{Value of Assets of the Portfolio}) - (\text{Liabilities of the Portfolio})}{\text{Shares Outstanding of the Portfolio}} = \text{NAV per share}$$

## Portfolio Holdings Information

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The Trust, on behalf of the Portfolios, maintains policies and procedures relating to selective disclosure of portfolio holdings (“Portfolio Holdings Policies”) that govern the timing and circumstances of disclosure to shareholders and third parties of information regarding the portfolio investments held by the Portfolios. These Portfolio Holdings Policies have been approved by the Board of Trustees of the Trust on behalf of the Portfolios. Disclosure of the Portfolios’ complete holdings is required to be made twice each fiscal year on Form N-CSR (with respect to each annual and semi-annual period) and twice each fiscal year on Form N-PORT (with respect to the first and third quarters of the Portfolios’ fiscal year). These reports are available, free of charge, on the EDGAR database on the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Under the Portfolio Holdings Policies, neither the Trust nor any of its representatives may solicit or accept any compensation or other consideration in connection with Portfolio Holdings.

The Adviser only discloses information concerning securities held by the Portfolios under the following circumstances:

- twenty calendar days after the end of each calendar month, the Adviser may post (a) top twenty (20) securities held by each Portfolio and their respective percentage of the Portfolio on the Company’s website, (b) top five (5) performing and the bottom five (5) performing securities held by each of the Trust’s Portfolios, and (c) for Portfolios that primarily invest in derivatives, cash and fixed income instruments, the top ten (10) derivative and top ten (10) fixed income holdings, along with their respective percentage of net assets in each Portfolio; and
- as required by the federal securities laws, the Portfolios will disclose portfolio holdings in their applicable regulatory filings, including shareholder reports, reports on Forms N-CSR and N-PORT or such other filings, reports or disclosure documents as the applicable regulatory authorities may require.

Portfolio holdings information that is not filed with the SEC or posted on the Company’s website may be provided to third parties only if the third party recipients are required to keep all portfolio holdings information confidential and are prohibited from trading on the information they receive. Disclosure to such third parties must be approved in advance by the Trust’s or Adviser’s President. The Administrator is responsible for portfolio holdings disclosure to third party service providers of auditing, custody, proxy voting and other similar services for the Portfolios, as well as rating and ranking organizations, which will generally be permitted; however, information may be disclosed to other third parties (including, without limitation, individuals, institutional investors, and intermediaries that sell shares of the Funds) only upon approval by the Trust’s or Adviser’s President, who must first determine that the Portfolio has a legitimate business purpose for doing so. In general, each recipient of non-public portfolio holdings information must sign a confidentiality and non-trading agreement, although this requirement will not apply when the recipient is otherwise subject to a duty of confidentiality. In accordance with the policy, the identity of those recipients who receive non-public portfolio holdings information on an ongoing basis is as follows: the Trust’s Adviser, the Trust’s transfer agent and Administrator – U.S. Bank Global Fund Services, the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm, the Trust’s custodian, the Trust’s legal counsel and the Trust’s proxy voting service. Such holdings are released on conditions of confidentiality, which include appropriate trading prohibitions. “Conditions of confidentiality” include confidentiality terms included in written agreements, implied by the nature of the relationship (*e.g.*, attorney-client relationship), or required by fiduciary or regulatory principles (*e.g.*, custody services provided by financial institutions). Portfolio holdings may also be provided earlier to shareholders and their agents who receive redemptions in kind that reflect a pro rata allocation of all securities held in the portfolio. Third party providers of custodial or accounting services to the Portfolios may release non-public portfolio holdings information of the Portfolios only with the permission of the Administrator. From time to time portfolio holdings information may be provided to broker-dealers solely in connection with a Portfolio seeking portfolio securities trading suggestions. In providing this information, reasonable

precautions, including limitations on the scope of the portfolio holdings information disclosed, are taken to avoid any potential misuse of the disclosed information.

The Company's/Trust's Portfolio Holdings Policies set forth the third parties who receive portfolio holdings information pursuant to ongoing arrangements. Furthermore, the Portfolio Holdings Policies can only be revised by Board approval. The Board will be notified by the Adviser and the Administrator if disclosures are made concerning the Company's/Trust's portfolio holdings in contravention of the Company's/Trust's Portfolio Holdings Policies.

In determining the existence of a legitimate business purpose, and in order to ensure that the disclosure of the Company's/Trust's portfolio holdings is in the best interests of the Company's/Trust's shareholders, the following factors, and any additional relevant factors, shall be considered by the Company/Trust or its service providers when disclosing non-public portfolio holdings information to selected third parties; (1) whether the disclosure is consistent with the anti-fraud provisions of the federal securities laws; and (2) avoidance of any conflicts of interest between the interests of the Company's/Trust's shareholders and the service providers.

## **Purchasing Shares of Beneficial Interest in the Portfolios**

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Shares of beneficial interest in the Portfolios are sold without a sales load, at the NAV next determined after an order is received by the Portfolios. Investments in the Portfolios are sold solely in private placement transactions that do not involve any "public offering" within the meaning of Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act. Investments in the Portfolios may be made only by regulated investment companies ("RICs"), unregulated foreign investment companies, U.S. and non-U.S. institutional investors, S corporations, insurance company separate accounts, and certain qualified pension and retirement plans. The Registration Statement of which this SAI is a part does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of any offer to buy, any "security" within the meaning of the 1933 Act.

There is no minimum initial or subsequent investment in the Portfolios. The Portfolios reserve the right to cease accepting investments at any time or to reject any investment order.

## **Redemption of Shares of Beneficial Interest in the Portfolios**

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An investor in the Portfolios may withdraw all or any portion of its investment at the NAV next determined after a redemption request in good order is received by a Portfolio. The proceeds of a redemption will be paid by the Portfolios in federal funds normally on the business day that the redemption is effected, but in any event within three business days, except as extensions may be permitted by law.

The Portfolios reserve the right to pay the redemption price of shares of beneficial interest in kind, *i.e.*, in readily marketable securities. Unless requested by an investor or deemed by the Adviser to be in the best interests of the investors in a Portfolio as a group, the Portfolios will not pay a redemption in kind to an investor, except in situations where that investor may pay redemptions in kind.

The right of any investor to receive payment with respect to any redemption may be suspended, or the payment of the redemption proceeds postponed, during any period in which the NYSE is closed or trading on the NYSE is restricted or to the extent otherwise permitted by the 1940 Act.



## Brokerage

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Each Portfolio's assets are invested by the Adviser in a manner consistent with the Portfolio's investment objective, strategies, policies and restrictions and with any instructions the Board of Trustees may issue from time to time. Within this framework, the Adviser is responsible for making all determinations as to the purchase and sale of portfolio securities and for taking all steps necessary to implement securities transactions on behalf of each Portfolio.

Transactions on U.S. stock exchanges, commodities markets and futures markets and other agency transactions may involve the payment by the Adviser, on behalf of the Portfolios, of negotiated brokerage commissions. Such commissions vary among different brokers. A particular broker may charge different commissions according to such factors as the difficulty and size of the transaction. Transactions in foreign investments often involve the payment of fixed brokerage commissions, which may be higher than those in the United States. There is generally no stated commission in the case of securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, but the price paid by the Adviser usually includes an undisclosed dealer commission or mark-up. In underwritten offerings, the price paid by the Adviser on behalf of the Portfolios includes a disclosed, fixed commission or discount retained by the underwriter or dealer.

U.S. government securities generally are traded in the over-the-counter market through broker-dealers. A broker-dealer is a securities firm or bank that makes a market for securities by offering to buy at one price and sell at a slightly higher price. The difference between the prices is known as a spread.

In placing orders for the purchase and sale of portfolio securities for the Portfolios, the Adviser seeks to obtain the best price and execution, taking into account such factors as price, size of order, difficulty and risk of execution and operational facilities of the firm involved. For securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, the Adviser deals directly with the dealers who make markets in these securities unless better prices and execution are available elsewhere. The Adviser negotiates commission rates with brokers based on the quality and quantity of services provided in light of generally prevailing rates, and while the Adviser generally seeks reasonably competitive commission rates, the Portfolios do not necessarily pay the lowest commissions available. The Trust's Board of Trustees periodically reviews the commission rates and allocation of orders.

When consistent with the objectives of best price and execution, business may be placed with broker-dealers who furnish investment research or services to the Adviser. Such research or services include advice, both orally and in writing, as to the value of securities; the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities; and the availability of securities, or purchasers or sellers of securities; as well as analyses and reports concerning issues, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and the performance of accounts. To the extent portfolio transactions are effected with broker-dealers who furnish research services to the Adviser, the Adviser receives a benefit, without providing any direct monetary benefit to the Portfolios from these transactions. The Adviser believes that most research services obtained by it generally benefit several or all of the investment companies and private accounts that it manages, as opposed to solely benefiting one specific managed fund or account.

The Portfolios may direct certain portfolio trades to unaffiliated brokers who pay a portion of the commissions for those trades in cash to the applicable Portfolio that generated the commission.

From time to time, the Adviser may effect transactions in portfolio securities with executing brokers that may also promote or sell shares of the Funds/Portfolios ("selling brokers") pursuant to policies adopted by the Company's/Trust's Board of Directors/Trustees. These policies provide that the Adviser shall not

(i) take into consideration the promotion or sale of the Funds'/Portfolios' shares as a factor in selecting executing brokers for the Funds/Portfolios, (ii) enter into an arrangement or understanding (whether oral or written) pursuant to which the Adviser directs, or is expected to direct, portfolio securities transactions or any other remuneration (as described below) to any broker or dealer in consideration for the promotion or sale of the Funds/Portfolios, and (iii) enter into a "step out" or any other type of arrangement under which a portion of the Funds'/Portfolios' commission is directed to the selling brokers for the purpose of compensating such brokers for promoting or selling shares of the Funds/Portfolios. This prohibition applies to all transactions whether such transaction involves a commission, mark-up, mark down, other fee or portion of another fee paid or to be paid from a transaction effected through an executing broker.

The same security may be suitable for a Portfolio, another Portfolio of the Trust or other private accounts managed by the Adviser. If and when a Portfolio and two or more accounts simultaneously purchase or sell the same security, the transactions will be allocated as to price and amount in accordance with arrangements equitable to the Portfolio and the accounts. The simultaneous purchase or sale of the same securities by the Portfolio and other accounts may have a detrimental effect on the Portfolio, as this may affect the price paid or received by the Portfolio or the size of the position obtainable or able to be sold by the Portfolio.

The following table represents the total brokerage commissions paid by the Portfolios for the three fiscal years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022:

<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
The Internet Portfolio	\$123,910	\$8,973	\$13,768	\$6,057
The Global Portfolio	\$18,770	\$3,429	\$6,743	\$1,140
The Paradigm Portfolio	\$17,205	\$20,869	\$4,341	\$5,994
The Market Opportunities Portfolio	\$20,473	\$6,793	\$9,044	\$1,696
The Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio	\$11,836	\$19,475	\$26,727	\$13,501
The Multi-Disciplinary Income Portfolio	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

## **Taxes**

The Portfolios expect to, and the following discussion assumes that they will, be classified for U.S. federal income tax purposes as partnerships that are not "publicly traded partnerships." As partnerships, the Portfolios are not subject to U.S. federal income tax; instead, each holder of shares of beneficial interest in a Portfolio (an "Interestholder") is required to take into account in determining its U.S. federal income tax liability its share of the particular Portfolio's income, gains, losses, deductions, and credits, without regard to whether it has received any cash distributions from a Portfolio.

An Interestholder is deemed to own a proportionate share of that Portfolio's assets and to earn a proportionate share of that Portfolio's income, for, among other things, purposes of determining whether the Interestholder satisfies the requirements to qualify as a RIC. Accordingly, the Portfolios intend to conduct their operations so that their Interestholders that invest substantially all of their assets in a Portfolio and intend to qualify as RICs should be able to satisfy all those requirements.

The foregoing discussion relates only to U.S. federal income tax law. Income from the Portfolios also may be subject to foreign, state and local taxes, and their treatment under foreign, state and local income tax laws may differ from the U.S. federal income tax treatment. You should consult your tax advisors with respect to particular questions of U.S. federal, foreign, state and local taxation.

## **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

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Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, Two Liberty Place, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, PA 19102, serves as the Portfolios' independent registered public accounting firm. Its services include an audit of the Portfolios' financial statements and the performance of other related audit and tax services.

## **Financial Statements**

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The audited financial statements for the Portfolios for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024 are incorporated herein by reference to the Funds' [Form N-CSR](#) dated December 31, 2024, as filed with the SEC on March 17, 2025.

Financial statements certified by the Portfolios' independent registered public accounting firm will be submitted to shareholders at least annually.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES RATINGS**

#### **Short-Term Credit Ratings**

An *S&P Global Ratings* short-term issue credit rating is generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. The following summarizes the rating categories used by S&P Global Ratings for short-term issues:

“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 commitment 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 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 “C” 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. A rating on an obligation is lowered to “D” if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Ratings – S&P Global Ratings’ issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. A foreign currency rating on an issuer can differ from the local currency rating on it when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, versus obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

“NR” – This indicates that a rating has not been assigned or is no longer assigned.

*Moody’s Ratings (“Moody’s”)* short-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment.

Moody's employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

"P-1" – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 reflect a superior ability to repay short-term obligations.

"P-2" – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 reflect a strong ability to repay short-term obligations.

"P-3" – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated 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.

"NR" – Is assigned to an unrated issuer, obligation and/or program.

***Fitch, Inc. / Fitch Ratings Ltd. ("Fitch")*** short-term issuer or obligation rating is based in all cases on the short-term vulnerability to default of the rated entity and relates to the capacity to meet financial obligations in accordance with the documentation governing the relevant obligation. Short-term deposit ratings may be adjusted for loss severity. Short-term ratings are assigned to obligations whose initial maturity is viewed as "short-term" based on market convention.<sup>1</sup> Typically, this means up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign, and structured obligations and up to 36 months for obligations in U.S. public finance markets. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Fitch for short-term obligations:

"F1" – Securities possess the highest short-term credit quality. This designation indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added "+" to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

"F2" – Securities possess good short-term credit quality. This designation indicates good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

"F3" – Securities possess fair short-term credit quality. This designation indicates that the intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

"B" – Securities possess speculative short-term credit quality. This designation indicates minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

"C" – Securities possess 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.

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<sup>1</sup> A long-term rating can also be used to rate an issue with short maturity.

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

“NR” – Is assigned to an issue of a rated issuer that are not and have not been rated.

The **DBRS Morningstar® Ratings Limited (“DBRS Morningstar”)** short-term obligation ratings provide DBRS Morningstar’s opinion on the risk that an issuer will not meet its short-term financial obligations in a timely manner. The obligations rated in this category typically have a term of shorter than one year. The R-1 and R-2 rating categories are further denoted by the subcategories “(high)”, “(middle)”, and “(low)”.

The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS Morningstar for commercial paper and short-term debt:

“R-1 (high)” - Short-term debt rated “R-1 (high)” is of the highest credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is exceptionally high. Unlikely to be adversely affected by future events.

“R-1 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (middle)” is of superior credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is very high. Differs from “R-1 (high)” by a relatively modest degree. Unlikely to be significantly vulnerable to future events.

“R-1 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (low)” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is substantial. Overall strength is not as favorable as higher rating categories. May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“R-2 (high)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (high)” is considered to be at the upper end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“R-2 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (middle)” is considered to be of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events or may be exposed to other factors that could reduce credit quality.

“R-2 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (low)” is considered to be at the lower end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events. A number of challenges are present that could affect the issuer’s ability to meet such obligations.

“R-3” – Short-term debt rated “R-3” is considered to be at the lowest end of adequate credit quality. There is a capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due. May be vulnerable to future events and the certainty of meeting such obligations could be impacted by a variety of developments.

“R-4” – Short-term debt rated “R-4” is considered to be of speculative credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is uncertain.

“R-5” – Short-term debt rated “R-5” is considered to be of highly speculative credit quality. There is a high level of uncertainty as to the capacity to meet short-term financial obligations as they fall due.

“D” – A downgrade to “D” may occur when the issuer has filed under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or winding-up statute or there is a failure to satisfy an obligation after the exhaustion of grace periods. DBRS Morningstar may also use “SD” (Selective Default) in cases where only some securities are impacted, such as the case of a “distressed exchange”.

## **Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings**

The following summarizes the ratings used by ***S&P Global Ratings*** for long-term issues:

“AAA” – An obligation rated “AAA” has the highest rating assigned by S&P Global Ratings. 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 commitments 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,” “B,” “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 exposure 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 commitments 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 “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 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 restructuring

Plus (+) or minus (-) – 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.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Ratings - S&P Global Ratings’ issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. A foreign currency rating on an issuer can differ from the local currency rating on it when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, versus obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

**Moody’s** long-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of eleven months or more. Such ratings reflect both on the likelihood of default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment. The following summarizes the ratings used by Moody’s for long-term debt:

“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 judged to be 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 and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: 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.

“NR” – Is assigned to unrated obligations, obligation and/or program.

The following summarizes long-term ratings used by **Fitch**:



“AAA” – Securities considered to be of the 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” – Securities considered to be of 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” – Securities considered to be of 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” – Securities considered to be of 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” – Securities considered to be speculative. “BB” ratings indicates 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” – Securities considered to be highly speculative. “B” ratings indicate that material credit risk is present

“CCC” – A “CCC” rating indicates that substantial credit risk is present.

“CC” – A “CC” rating indicates very high levels of credit risk.

“C” – A “C” rating indicates exceptionally high levels of credit risk.

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

Plus (+) or minus (-) 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”.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated issue of a rated issuer.

The **DBRS** Morningstar long-term obligation ratings provide DBRS Morningstar’s opinion on the risk that investors may not be repaid in accordance with the terms under which the long-term obligation was issued. The obligations rated in this category typically have a term of one year or longer. All rating categories from AA to CCC contain subcategories “(high)” and “(low)”. The absence of either a “(high)” or “(low)” designation indicates the rating is in the middle of the category. The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS Morningstar for long-term debt:

“AAA” – Long-term debt rated “AAA” is of the highest credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is exceptionally high and unlikely to be adversely affected by future events.

“AA” – Long-term debt rated “AA” is of superior credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is considered high. Credit quality differs from “AAA” only to a small degree. Unlikely to be significantly vulnerable to future events.

“A” – Long-term debt rated “A” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is substantial, but of lesser credit quality than “AA.” May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“BBB” – Long-term debt rated “BBB” is of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is considered acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“BB” – Long-term debt rated “BB” is of speculative, non-investment grade credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is uncertain. Vulnerable to future events.

“B” – Long-term debt rated “B” is of highly speculative credit quality. There is a high level of uncertainty as to the capacity to meet financial obligations.

“CCC”, “CC” and “C” – Long-term debt rated in any of these categories is of very highly speculative credit quality. In danger of defaulting on financial obligations. There is little difference between these three categories, although “CC” and “C” ratings are normally applied to obligations that are seen as highly likely to default or subordinated to obligations rated in the “CCC” to “B” range. Obligations in respect of which default has not technically taken place but is considered inevitable may be rated in the “C” category.

“D” – A downgrade to “D” may occur when the issuer has filed under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or winding up statute or there is a failure to satisfy an obligation after the exhaustion of grace periods. DBRS Morningstar may also use “SD” (Selective Default) in cases where only some securities are impacted, such as the case of a “distressed exchange”.

### **Municipal Note Ratings**

An ***S&P Global Ratings*** U.S. municipal note rating reflects S&P Global Ratings’ opinion about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to the notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, S&P Global Ratings’ analysis will review the following considerations:

- Amortization schedule - the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and
- Source of payment - the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

Municipal Short-Term Note rating symbols are as follows:

“SP-1” – A municipal note rated “SP-1” exhibits a 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” – A municipal note rated “SP-2” exhibits a satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

“SP-3” – A municipal note rated “SP-3” exhibits a speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

“D” – This rating is assigned upon failure to pay the note when due, completion of a distressed debt restructuring, 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** uses the global short-term Prime rating scale (listed above under Short-Term Credit Ratings) for commercial paper issued by U.S. municipalities and nonprofits. These commercial paper programs may be backed by external letters of credit or liquidity facilities, or by an issuer’s self-liquidity.

For other short-term municipal obligations, Moody’s uses one of two other short-term rating scales, the Municipal Investment Grade (“MIG”) and Variable Municipal Investment Grade (“VMIG”) scales provided below.

Moody’s uses the MIG scale for U.S. municipal cash flow notes, bond anticipation notes and certain other short-term obligations, which typically mature in three years or less.

#### MIG Scale

“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.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated obligation, obligation and/or program.

In the case of variable rate demand obligations (“VRDOs”), Moody’s assigns both a long-term rating and a short-term payment obligation rating. The long-term rating addresses the issuer’s ability to meet scheduled principal and interest payments. The short-term payment obligation rating addresses the ability of the issuer or the liquidity provider to meet any purchase price payment obligation resulting from optional tenders (“on demand”) and/or mandatory tenders of the VRDO. The short-term payment obligation rating uses the VMIG scale. Transitions of VMIG ratings with conditional liquidity support differ from transitions of Prime ratings reflecting the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer’s long-term rating drops below investment grade.

Moody’s typically assigns the VMIG rating if the frequency of the payment obligation is less than every three years. If the frequency of the payment obligation is less than three years but the obligation is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the VMIG short-term rating is not assigned and it is denoted as “NR”.

“VMIG-1” – This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

“VMIG-2” – This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

“VMIG-3” – This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

“SG” – This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have a sufficiently strong short-term rating or may lack the structural and/or legal protections.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated obligation, obligation and/or program.

### **About Credit Ratings**

An **S&P Global Ratings** issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion reflects S&P Global Ratings’ view of the obligor’s capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and this opinion may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default.

Ratings assigned on **Moody’s** global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations issued by non-financial corporates, financial institutions, structured finance vehicles, project finance vehicles, and public sector entities.

**Fitch’s** credit ratings are forward-looking opinions on the relative ability of an entity or obligation to meet financial commitments. Issuer Default Ratings (IDRs) are assigned to corporations, sovereign entities, financial institutions such as banks, leasing companies and insurers, and public finance entities (local and regional governments). Issue-level ratings are also assigned and often include an expectation of recovery, which may be notched above or below the issuer-level rating. Issue ratings are assigned to secured and unsecured debt securities, loans, preferred stock and other instruments. Credit ratings are indications of the likelihood of repayment in accordance with the terms of the issuance. In limited cases, Fitch may include additional considerations (i.e., rate to a higher or lower standard than that implied in the obligation’s documentation).

**DBRS Morningstar** offers independent, transparent, and innovative credit analysis to the market.

Credit ratings are forward-looking opinions about credit risk that reflect the creditworthiness of an issuer, rated entity, security and/or obligation based on DBRS Morningstar’s quantitative and qualitative analysis in accordance with applicable methodologies and criteria. They are meant to provide opinions on relative measures of risk and are not based on expectations of, or meant to predict, any specific default probability. Credit ratings are not statements of fact. DBRS Morningstar issues credit ratings using one or more categories, such as public, private, provisional, final(ized), solicited, or unsolicited. From time to time, credit ratings may also be subject to trends, placed under review, or discontinued. DBRS Morningstar credit ratings are determined by credit rating committees.

Typically, this means up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign, and structured obligations and up to 36 months for obligations in U.S. public finance markets. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Fitch for short-term obligations:

“F1” – Securities possess the highest short-term credit quality. This designation indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added “+” to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

“F2” – Securities possess good short-term credit quality. This designation indicates good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

“F3” – Securities possess fair short-term credit quality. This designation indicates that the intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

“B” – Securities possess speculative short-term credit quality. This designation indicates minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

“C” – Securities possess 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.

Plus (+) or minus (-) – The “F1” rating may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show the relative status within that major rating category.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated issue of a rated issuer.

The ***DBRS Morningstar® Ratings Limited (“DBRS Morningstar”)*** short-term obligation ratings provide DBRS Morningstar’s opinion on the risk that an issuer will not meet its short-term financial obligations in a timely manner. The obligations rated in this category typically have a term of shorter than one year. The R-1 and R-2 rating categories are further denoted by the sub-categories “(high)”, “(middle)”, and “(low)”.

The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS Morningstar for commercial paper and short-term debt:

“R-1 (high)” - Short-term debt rated “R-1 (high)” is of the highest credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is exceptionally high. Unlikely to be adversely affected by future events.

“R-1 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (middle)” is of superior credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is very high. Differs from “R-1 (high)” by a relatively modest degree. Unlikely to be significantly vulnerable to future events.

“R-1 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (low)” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is substantial. Overall strength is not as favorable as higher rating categories. May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“R-2 (high)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (high)” is considered to be at the upper end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“R-2 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (middle)” is considered to be of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events or may be exposed to other factors that could reduce credit quality.

“R-1 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (low)” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is substantial. Overall strength is not as favorable as higher rating categories. May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“R-2 (high)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (high)” is considered to be at the upper end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“R-2 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (middle)” is considered to be of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events or may be exposed to other factors that could reduce credit quality.

“R-2 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (low)” is considered to be at the lower end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events. A number of challenges are present that could affect the issuer’s ability to meet such obligations.

“R-3” – Short-term debt rated “R-3” is considered to be at the lowest end of adequate credit quality. There is a capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due. May be vulnerable to future events and the certainty of meeting such obligations could be impacted by a variety of developments.

“R-4” – Short-term debt rated “R-4” is considered to be of speculative credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is uncertain.

“R-5” – Short-term debt rated “R-5” is considered to be of highly speculative credit quality. There is a high level of uncertainty as to the capacity to meet short-term financial obligations as they fall due.

“D” – Short-term debt rated “D” is assigned when the issuer has filed under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or winding-up statute or there is a failure to satisfy an obligation after the exhaustion of grace periods. DBRS Morningstar may also use “SD” (Selective Default) in cases where only some securities are impacted, such as the case of a “distressed exchange”.

### **Long-Term Credit Ratings**

The following summarizes the ratings used by *S&P Global Ratings* for long-term issues:

“AAA” – An obligation rated “AAA” has the highest rating assigned by S&P Global Ratings. 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 commitments 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,” “B,” “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 exposure 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 commitments 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 “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 five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 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 restructuring.

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.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Ratings - S&P Global Ratings' issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. A foreign currency rating on an issuer can differ from the local currency rating on it when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, versus obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

**Moody's** long-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of eleven months or more. Such ratings reflect both on the likelihood of default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment. The following summarizes the ratings used by Moody's for long-term debt:

"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 judged to be 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 and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: 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.

"NR" – Is assigned to unrated obligations.

The following summarizes long-term ratings used by **Fitch**:

"AAA" – Securities considered to be of the 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” – Securities considered to be of 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” – Securities considered to be of 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” – Securities considered to be of 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” – Securities considered to be speculative. “BB” ratings indicate that there is 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” – Securities considered to be highly speculative. “B” ratings indicate that material credit risk is present

“CCC” – A “CCC” rating indicates that substantial credit risk is present.

“CC” – A “CC” rating indicates very high levels of credit risk.

“C” – A “C” rating indicates exceptionally high levels of credit risk.

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

Plus (+) or minus (-) 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”.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated issue of a rated issuer.

The **DBRS** Morningstar long-term obligation ratings provide DBRS Morningstar’s opinion on the risk that investors may not be repaid in accordance with the terms under which the long-term obligation was issued. The obligations rated in this category typically have a term of one year or longer. All rating categories other than AAA and D also contain subcategories “(high)” and “(low)”. The absence of either a “(high)” or “(low)” designation indicates the rating is in the middle of the category. The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS Morningstar for long-term debt:

“AAA” – Long-term debt rated “AAA” is of the highest credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is exceptionally high and unlikely to be adversely affected by future events.

“AA” – Long-term debt rated “AA” is of superior credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is considered high. Credit quality differs from “AAA” only to a small degree. Unlikely to be significantly vulnerable to future events.

“A” – Long-term debt rated “A” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is substantial, but of lesser credit quality than “AA.” May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“BBB” – Long-term debt rated “BBB” is of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is considered acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“BB” – Long-term debt rated “BB” is of speculative, non-investment grade credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is uncertain. Vulnerable to future events.

“B” – Long-term debt rated “B” is of highly speculative credit quality. There is a high level of uncertainty as to the capacity to meet financial obligations.

“CCC”, “CC” and “C” – Long-term debt rated in any of these categories is of very highly speculative credit quality. In danger of defaulting on financial obligations. There is little difference between these three categories, although “CC” and “C” ratings are normally applied to obligations that are seen as highly likely to default, or subordinated to obligations rated in the “CCC” to “B” range. Obligations in respect of which default has not technically taken place but is considered inevitable may be rated in the “C” category.

“D” – A security rated “D” is assigned when the issuer has filed under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or winding up statute or there is a failure to satisfy an obligation after the exhaustion of grace periods, a downgrade to “D” may occur. DBRS Morningstar may also use “SD” (Selective Default) in cases where only some securities are impacted, such as the case of a “distressed exchange.”

### **Municipal Note Ratings**

An ***S&P Global Ratings*** U.S. municipal note rating reflects S&P Global Ratings’ opinion about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to the notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, S&P Global Ratings’ analysis will review the following considerations:

- Amortization schedule - the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and
- Source of payment - the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

Municipal Short-Term Note rating symbols are as follows:

“SP-1” – A municipal note rated “SP-1” exhibits a 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” – A municipal note rated “SP-2” exhibits a satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

“SP-3” – A municipal note rated “SP-3” exhibits a speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

“D” – This rating is assigned upon failure to pay the note when due, completion of a distressed debt restructuring, 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** uses the global short-term Prime rating scale (listed above under Short-Term Credit Ratings) for commercial paper issued by U.S. municipalities and nonprofits. These commercial paper programs may be backed by external letters of credit or liquidity facilities, or by an issuer’s self-liquidity.

For other short-term municipal obligations, Moody’s uses one of two other short-term rating scales, the Municipal Investment Grade (“MIG”) and Variable Municipal Investment Grade (“VMIG”) scales provided below.

Moody’s uses the MIG scale for U.S. municipal cash flow notes, bond anticipation notes and certain other short-term obligations, which typically mature in three years or less. Under certain circumstances, Moody’s uses the MIG scale for bond anticipation notes with maturities of up to five years.

#### MIG Scale

“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.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated obligation.

In the case of variable rate demand obligations (“VRDOs”), a two-component rating is assigned. The components are a long-term rating and a short-term demand obligation rating. The long-term rating addresses the issuer’s ability to meet scheduled principal and interests payments. The short-term demand obligation rating addresses the ability of the issuer or the liquidity provider to make payments associated with the purchase-price-upon demand feature (“demand feature”) of the VRDO. The short-term demand obligation rating uses the VMIG scale. VMIG ratings with liquidity support use as an input the short-term Counterparty Risk Assessment of the support provider, or the long-term rating of the underlying obligor in the absence of third party liquidity support. Transitions of VMIG ratings of demand obligations with conditional liquidity support differ from transitions on the Prime scale to reflect the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer’s long-term rating drops below investment grade.

Moody's typically assigns the VMIG short-term demand obligation rating if the frequency of the demand feature is less than every three years. If the frequency of the demand feature is less than three years but the purchase price is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the short-term demand obligation rating is "NR".

"VMIG-1" – This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

"VMIG-2" – This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

"VMIG-3" – This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

"SG" – This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have a sufficiently strong short-term rating or may lack the structural and/or legal protections necessary to ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

"NR" – Is assigned to an unrated obligation.

### **About Credit Ratings**

An **S&P Global Ratings** issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion reflects S&P Global Ratings' view of the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and this opinion may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default.

Ratings assigned on **Moody's** global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations issued by non-financial corporates, financial institutions, structured finance vehicles, project finance vehicles, and public sector entities.

**Fitch's** credit ratings are forward-looking opinions on the relative ability of an entity or obligation to meet financial commitments. Issuer default ratings (IDRs) are assigned to corporations, sovereign entities, financial institutions such as banks, leasing companies and insurers, and public finance entities (local and regional governments). Issue level ratings are also assigned, often include an expectation of recovery and may be notched above or below the issuer level rating. Issue ratings are assigned to secured and unsecured debt securities, loans, preferred stock and other instruments. Credit ratings are indications of the likelihood of repayment in accordance with the terms of the issuance. In limited cases, Fitch may include additional considerations (i.e., rate to a higher or lower standard than that implied in the obligation's documentation).

***DBRS Morningstar*** offers independent, transparent, and innovative credit analysis to the market. Credit ratings are forward-looking opinions about credit risk that reflect the creditworthiness of an issuer, rated entity, security and/or obligation based on DBRS Morningstar's quantitative and qualitative analysis in accordance with applicable methodologies and criteria. They are meant to provide opinions on relative measures of risk and are not based on expectations of, or meant to predict, any specific default probability. Credit ratings are not statements of fact. DBRS Morningstar issues credit ratings using one or more categories, such as public, private, provisional, final(ized), solicited, or unsolicited.<sup>1</sup> From time to time, credit ratings may also be subject to trends, placed under review, or discontinued. DBRS Morningstar credit ratings are determined by credit rating committees.