

# INDUSTRIAL METALS

## CHAMPIONS FUND











#### **IMC Factsheet**

#### Fund objectives

The fund aims to generate long term capital growth by primarily investing in equities from companies offering exposure to the industrial metals market

#### Fund facts

#### Investment manager

Independent Capital Group AG

#### Fund name

ICG Umbrella Funds -

Industrial Metals Champions Fund

#### Legal status

Liechtensteiner UCITS contractual fund

#### Base currency

#### **NAV** calculation

#### **Inception date UCITS Liechtenstein**

03. April 2018

#### New strategy - IMC

04. December 2018

#### Fund size

USD \$23m

#### Custodian

LLB Liechtensteinische Landesbank AG

#### Distribution

LLCH DE AT UK

#### Codes

#### Share classes

USD acc. CHF acc Α D CHF (unhedged) acc. F В USD acc.

C USD acc.

#### Bloomberg ticker

**GATNTRA LE Equity GATNTRD LE Equity GATNTRB LE Equity GATNTRF LE Equity** 

С **GATNTRC LE Equity** 

#### ISIN

Α LI0382154354 D LI1121337953 В LI0382154693 F LI1205086088

110580310303 C

#### Dealing & prices

Management fee p.a.

D 1.50% Α 1.20% В 1.20% F 2.00%

C 0.60%

#### **Trading frequency**

#### Minimum subscription

USD \$1m D USD \$0.5m В USD \$1m F One share

С USD \$5m

#### December 2024



#### Cumulative net performance in USD

	NAV	December	YTD	2 Years	4 Years	6 Years	since IMC*
	31.12.2024	30.1131.12.2024					
Class A	175.5	-8.6%	-13.9%	-15.0%	-2.5%	47.8%	39.9%
Class B	136.2	-6.1%	-15.7%	-23.6%	-18.2%	15.7%	9.3%
Class C**	134.4	-8.6%	-13.4%	-13.9%			-10.4%
Class D**	122.7	-6.1%	-7.2%	17.1%			-18.2%
Class F**	115.2	-8.7%	-14.6%				-23.2%

\*domicile status change and inception of GNR-Fund Liechtenstein 3.4.18 (performance +28.06%); Change of strategy into IMC-Fund as of 4.122018

Global resource industries are at a crossroads, driven by competition, policy shifts, and the push for sustainability. Boliden AB is acquiring zinc and copper mines in Portugal and Sweden for \$1.52 billion, nearly doubling its zinc output while boosting copper supplies for its smelters. This strategic move ensures supply security as smelting margins face strain. At the same time, Lundin Mining is selling these assets to focus on growth in Latin America. In the US, revised hydrogen tax credits aim to establish leadership in clean energy. The Biden administration expanded eligibility to include nuclear power and carbon-captured natural gas, alongside renewables. These changes promise to accelerate domestic hydrogen production, critical for decarbonizing heavy industries. While some environmental groups applaud the revisions, others caution against potential loopholes that could enable polluting practices. Meanwhile, China is tightening export controls on advanced lithium and battery technologies to protect its dominance in the electric vehicle supply chain. The restrictions target processes like lithium refining and cathode production, crucial to high-performance batteries. While the curbs bolster China's grip on these resources, they intensify trade tensions, particularly with the US. Chile's stateowned Codelco, the world's largest copper producer, is making strides in its recovery after years of underinvestment. A strong December output reflects management changes and progress on delayed projects. With plans to regain peak production levels by 2030, Codelco is also expanding its role in lithium production to support the energy transition. However, regulatory challenges continue to disrupt the sector. In Kazakhstan, uranium production at the Inkai joint venture between Cameco and Kazatomprom has been suspended due to delays in securing approvals. While the halt is not expected to impact long-term production targets, it highlights operational vulnerabilities in a tightly regulated industry. These interconnected developments reveal the global race to secure critical resources for a greener future. Companies like Boliden and Codelco are reshaping operations, while nations such as the US and China are leveraging policies to dominate emerging clean energy markets. This competition underscores a broader shift toward sustainability, with geopolitical tensions and regulatory complexities shaping the path forward.

<sup>\*\*</sup>C-Class since 08, January 2021; D-Classe since 23, November 2022; F-Class since 10, February 2023



#### **IMC Factsheet**

#### Financial statistics\*

Number of holdings	25
Market cap	\$26bn
P/B ratio	1.8x
P/cash flow	10.5x
EV/EBITDA 2025E	5.7x
FCF yield 2025E	6.7%
Dividend yield	3.1%
Net debt/equity	15%

## Operating statistics in copper-eq.\*

Production	1'146 ktpa
Reserve life (2P reserves)	26 years
Cash costs	\$4'620/t
Cash margin	55%
Reserve valuation (EV/2P)	\$1'576/t

#### Market cap. segmentation\*

Small	< \$3bn	16%
Mid	\$3 - 30bn	57%
Large	> \$30bn	28%
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#### Top 5 commodity exposure\*

36%
11%
8%
6%
6%

#### Top 5 country exposure (production)\*

Australia	12%
Canada	10%
China	10%
Mexico	8%
United States	8%

#### Top 5 holdings

Tenaris	4.5%
Fresnillo	4.5%
Atalaya Mining	4.4%
Cameco	4.4%
Hudbay Minerals	4.2%

Transparency	IMC	Universe	
Scope 1 GHG/EVIC	322	489	
Carbon footprint/EVIC	464	716	
Renewable Energy Cons.	20%	7%	
Fatality Rate	3.2%	4.8%	
Women on board	30%	24%	
Independent Board	70%	50%	
more information and details see ESG Quarterly Report			

# Fund administration Accuro Fund Solutions AG

#### Contact

#### **Independent Capital Group AG**

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http://www.independent-capital.com

#### December 2024

#### Why commodities

Commodities have been key in the economic development of the world. Urban population is expected to grow globally from 52% to 66% by 2050. Urbanisation drives per capita wealth increase and with it the demand for natural resources. Middle class expands on a global basis, more than doubling by 2030 to reach >5 billion people. India and China show the largest increases with each reaching more than 1 billion middle-class citizens, China alone has the potential for 250 million people to urbanise in the next 10 years. By 2030, global middle-class consumption is expected to be more than \$63 trillion vs \$35 trillion in 2015. Demand for commodities reamins continual, while they are becoming scarcer.

#### Why natural resource equities and the Industrial Metals Champions Fund

Natural resource companies are entering a phase of improving margins and the valuation is very low on a relative basis compared to the global equity markets. A portfolio of natural resource equities reduces firm specific risks while it increases the commodity exposure. The Industrial Metals Champions Fund offers the investor the opportunity to participate in an actively managed portfolio of natural resources companies active in the attractive industrial metals sector and this in a pragmatic sustainable way.

#### ICG Investment Process

Our investment process is based on a quantitative approach to find the best-in-class companies. The consistent methodological process is non-predictive with >90% of the analysis based on historical data. Our process has a portfolio view and helps to create a balanced portfolio instead of single stock bets. We developed a proprietary data base to better analyse financial and operating figures. Extensive data is used (>170'000 data points) to analyse trends across the industry and pinpoint sector champions. After defining the broad investment universe, selecting the best-in-class subsectors with the highest margins or most attractive investment opportunities, the universe is further filtered down to companies with significant subsector exposure.

#### ICG Alpha Scorecard

The ICG Alpha Scorecard is a quantitative and qualitative screening scorecard that pinpoints sector champions with strong economic «moat» based on different variables. The approach helps to identify companies with a relative good track record in different key financial and operational variables. The majority of variables are dynamic and based on historical figures from the last fiscal year or on a 3 year average. All 25 positions are equally weighted, however we may reduce the weight or even exclude a company on exceptionally events (e.g. oil spill, political risk).

# **ICG Alpha Scorecard**

# Asset Quality Profitability Cash margins ROIC adj. Avg ROCE Production growth debt adj Full cycle ratio Operatorship Asset diversif. Inventory depth Drilling success Reserve rep ratio

M&A multip on 1P, 2P reserves & risked resources P/B P/CF FCB/B EV/DACF Relative EV/EBITDA Sustainability
(ESG)
Emissions/boe
produced & 1P
Energy
intensity/boe
Pollution/boe
Women ratio
Community
spending
Fatalities
Board ind.

Shares buyback Div. growth Last div yield Previous div. growth Dividend health EPS-DPS FCF-DPS CFPS
Net debt/CFOinterest exp.
Net debt/1P
reserves
Funding
capacity
Liquidty
Size
Capex/CFO

Finance
Momentum
Short interest
change
Volatility
Newsflow
Analyst rating
Estimate
revisions
Risk appetite
Comdty
exposure
Market cap

Behavioral

### ICG proprietary data base

#### Investment Manager

The Industrial Metals Champions Fund is managed by Independent Capital Group AG, an independent asset management and investment advisory firm based in Zurich and Basel. Independent Capital Group AG has taken over the team of the commodities and energy investment boutique Gateway Capital Group in Basel in 2014.

\* based on weighted average and/or weighted average copper-equivalent numbers

Disclaimer: The state of the origin of the Fund is Liechtenstein. In Switzerland, the Representative is OpenFunds Investment Services AG, Seefeldstrasse 35, 8008 Zurich, whilst the Paying agent is Helvetische Bank AG, Seefeldstrasse 215, 8008 Zurich. The Basic documents of the Fund such as the prospectus, the key investor information document (KIID), the articles of association as well as the semi-annual and annual reports may be obtained free of charge at the office of the Swiss Representative. The current document is intended for information purposes only and shall not to be used as an offer to buy and/or sell shares. The performance shown does not take account of any commissions and costs charged when subscribing to and redeeming shares. Past performance may not be reliable guide to future performance. This material has been prepared by Independent Capital Group AC, none of the administrator or the custodian and transfer agent of the Fund has independently verified any information contained herein and no party makes any representation or warranty as to the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of such information.