# Global Income Strategy

### Portfolio and Economic Commentary – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2024





#### **GLOBAL INCOME STRATEGY COMMENTARY**

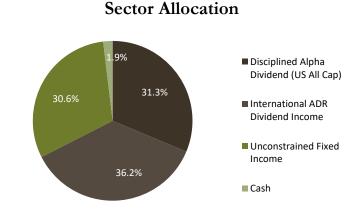
Our investment philosophy is predicated on a timetested, three pronged approach providing solid risk adjusted returns to our investors for over two decades.

- We believe in the importance of getting paid immediately for the risks which are taken and focus on businesses which compensate our clients with **dividends and above average interest.** We believe this income stream, coupled with capital appreciation, is a vital aspect of total return.
- We dig deep for **value** often viewing crisis as an opportunity. We believe that fundamental research and patience are critical to long term success and that over time, the price of a company will rise to reflect the value of the underlying firm viewing each purchase as if were buying a piece of a business not simply a stock certificate.
- We believe that **global revenue generation** is a key component to growth and sustainability and invest in companies with global growth opportunities. We are unafraid to take contrarian positions, but remain diligent about the risks of a global economy.

#### **PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY**

The Global Income strategy returned 6.47% for the third quarter of 2024 versus 5.98% for the iShares Core Growth Allocation ETF (AOR). The annualized trailing return for the strategy since our inception on January 1, 2003 is 7.33%. The twelve-month trailing yield for the Global Income strategy stands at 4.28% versus 2.35% for the iShares Core Growth Allocation ETF.

Our focus remains on emphasizing the importance of immediate income to our investors particularly in this volatile environment in which the Federal Reserve is raising interest rates to combat higher inflation. We continue to look for value and global growth potential adding to our equity exposure opportunistically. Though we believe the broader market indices remain overvalued having been driven primarily by mega-cap, growth and momentum technology stocks, we assert that valuations are reasonable for our issues and opportunities remain. In the fixed income sector, our emphasis remains on high yield bonds, which we believe more adequately compensates our investors, while providing better protection in a rising interest rate environment when a recovery occurs. The following is an analysis of the independent strategies which comprise our flagship Global Income strategy in percentages indicated above.



Top Five Equity Holdings	Weight		
Royal Bank of Canada	1.59%		
Eaton Corp	1.58%		
Sanofi	1.55%		
AXA	1.54%		
Siemens	1.52%		
Top Five Fixed Income Holdings	Weight		
Top Five Fixed Income Holdings Titan International 7.00%	Weight 0.69%		
*	<u> </u>		
Titan International 7.00%	0.69%		
Titan International 7.00% United States Steel Corp 6.875%	0.69% 0.68%		



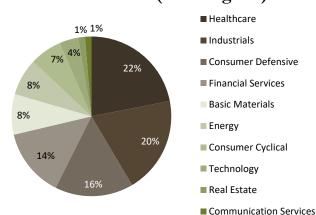
#### **GLOBAL DIVIDEND INCOME STRATEGY COMMENTARY**

As value investors, we constantly focus on our duty to protect the principal of our investments even as we look for ways to grow them over time as well. As economists, we remain alert to trends taking place in the larger global economy. As analysts, we seek to invest in securities priced with a margin of safety in order to account for their near-term volatility and our uncertainty about what the future holds. With this in mind, we look for opportunities in three specific categories: classic value, persistent earners, and distressed or contrarian. Classic value stocks sell at attractive valuations and provide above-average dividend yields and growth. Persistent earners are companies which have steady and predictable earnings and that are selling below their historic valuation. The distressed/contrarian category refers to stocks that are out of favor due to what we perceive to be temporary factors and are likely to appreciate substantially as the temporarily distressing factor recedes. Typically, the distressed category is the smallest in the portfolio.

#### **PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY**

The Global Dividend Income strategy returned 7.57% for the third quarter of 2024 versus 8.92% for the benchmark which is 50% iShares Russell 1000 Value ETF (IWD) and 50% iShares MSCI EAFE Value ETF (EFV). The strategy has produced alpha and sound risk adjusted returns besting its benchmark for the past 3-year, 5-year 10-year and since inception periods. Since its inception on June 1, 2010, the strategy has produced annualized returns of 10.33% versus 8.72% for the benchmark generating its superior risk adjusted returns.

We have added alpha and garnered sound absolute and relative returns for our investors focusing on undervalued issues offering above average dividend yields with global growth potential. The sectors that contributed the most during the quarter were the healthcare, industrials, consumer defensive, materials and financials, sectors while consumer cyclical and energy detracted. The top contributors for the quarter were British American Tobacco (20.8%), Sanofi (18.8%), Royal Bank of Canada (18.3%), and AXA (17.6%) while the worst contributors were Stellantis (-29.1%), Walgreens (-24.1%), Toyota Motors (-12.9%), BP (-11.8%) and Merck (-7.7%).



Top Ten Holdings	Weight
Royal Bank of Canada	2.32%
Eaton Corp	2.31%
Sanofi	2.27%
AXA	2.25%
Siemens	2.23%
CNH Industrial	2.21%
Novartis	2.21%
British American Tobacco	2.21%
Reckitt Benckiser	2.21%
Ambev	2.19%

#### Sector Allocation (Morningstar)



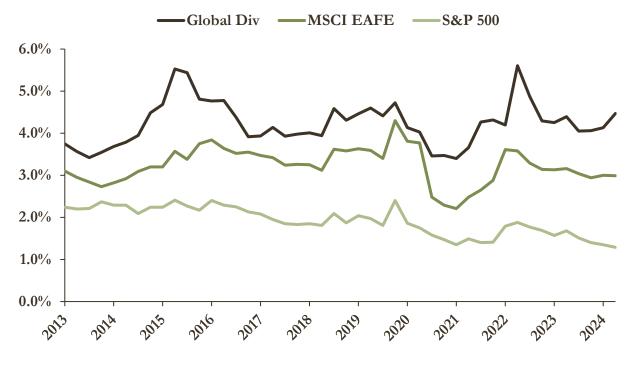
#### **GLOBAL DIVIDEND INCOME STRATEGY COMMENTARY**

As one may recognize from the below chart, our firm has consistently provided a steady stream of income to our clients in the form of dividends. It is our assertion that this income stream has not only reduced the risk of our portfolio, but also provided a large part of the total return thereby leading to our performance success over this past tumultuous decade plus.

We believe that dividends allow our investors to "get paid to wait" while patiently working through volatile business and market cycles. This strategy provides emotional support during difficult cycles and enables investors to weather turbulent periods by utilizing dividend income for personal needs or to reinvest cash at lower valuations. Our strategy is not only grounded in psychological and behavioral finance concepts, but is also supported by empirical evidence outperforming in both negative and full market cycles. Dividends also act to align the interests of corporations and shareholders in helping to eliminate the agency effect. Corporate boards have recognized the value of dividends in stabilizing their stock prices and encouraging investment during both high and lower tax regimes. In supporting and increasing dividends over time, managers are compelled to maintain a reliable stream of cash flows to shareholders rather than waste capital on those expenses adding little to corporate revenue including executive perks, pet projects, and illtimed, unwise acquisitions. It appears a paradox; however, our experience and academic studies have displayed that sufficient investment for a good business can still occur in conjunction with dividends as managers are forced to invest cash flow more prudently and only in those capital investments in which they have the highest conviction in adding to corporate revenue, particularly since stock buybacks are often ill-timed.

ALTRIUS: A STORY OF CONSISTENT DIVIDENDS OVER THE YEARS

The strategy has consistently delivered a higher dividend yield than the S&P 500 and MSCI EAFE index since its inception.



Source: Morningstar, S&P 500 and MSCI



#### UNCONSTRAINED FIXED INCOME STRATEGY COMMENTARY

Based on our macroeconomic outlook over a three to five year period and our cyclical views from quarter to quarter, we employ top-down strategies that focus on yield curve positioning, volatility, and sector rotation. We then utilize bottom-up analysis to drive our security selection process and facilitate the identification of undervalued securities with the potential for above average income. We invest in securities that operate across diversified sectors in the fixed income markets of the United States, primarily those in U.S. dollar denominated high yield and investment grade bonds, including government securities, corporate bonds, and mortgage- and asset-backed. Sources of added value:

**Credit Analysis** - We emphasize independent analysis and do not rely on credit agencies.

**Duration Risk** - We avoid long, extreme duration shifts generally operating within a moderate duration range typically between two and four years.

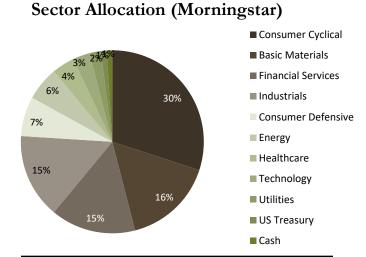
**High Income** - Our research attempts to identify issues paying above average income.

**Risk Premium Management** - We seek to attain an attractive yield/spread in relation to a five-year treasury within acceptable levels of portfolio risk.

#### **PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY**

The Unconstrained Fixed Income strategy produced a third consecutive quarter of positive gains on the year, generating a gross return of +3.78% for the third quarter of 2024 contributing to an aggregate gain of +7.73% gross of fees YTD. Despite the strong performance over the quarter, the Unconstrained Fixed Income strategy lagged both the iShares Core US Aggregate Bond and iShares iBoxx \$ High Yield Bond ETFs, which produced returns of +5.21% and +5.32% respectively for Q3. This under performance relative to both indices over the quarter was largely a result of the Fed's 50 bps rate cut in September, which bolstered the prices of long dated assets, both treasuries and investment grade corporates specifically, as well as lower rated and distressed junk bonds; wherein the Unconstrained Fixed Income strategy, across all of its constituent assets, maintains a much shorter duration profile than the former segment of bond issues and a higher aggregate credit quality than the latter. Despite the performance lag over the quarter, the Unconstrained Fixed Income strategy remains ahead of both the iShares Core US Aggregate Bond and iShares iBoxx \$ High Yield Bond ETFs, outpacing each by 317 bps and 11 bps respectively YTD.

All segments of the broad based US fixed income markets produced positive gains in Q3 2024, with high yield corporates leading at +5.3%, while municipal bonds lagged all other segments at +2.7%. The Fed will likely continue to cut its benchmark rate to at least 4.25%-4.50% by year-end.



Top Ten Holdings	Weight
Titan International Inc 7.000%	2.23%
Griffon Corp 5.750%	2.20%
United States Steel Corp 6.875%	2.18%
Ashland Global Holdings 6.500%	2.16%
MGM Resorts International 6.500%	2.15%
Hecla Mining Co 7.250%	2.09%
GEO Group Inc 10.250%	2.08%
Credit Acceptance Corp 6.625%	2.06%
Corecivic Inc 4.750%	2.05%
Dana Inc 5.625%	2.02%



#### DISCLOSURES

This report includes candid statements and observations regarding investment strategies, individual securities, and economic and market conditions; however, there is no guarantee that these statements, opinions or forecasts will prove to be correct. These comments may also include the expression of opinions that are speculative in nature and should not be relied on as statements of fact. Altrius is committed to communicating with our investment partners as candidly as possible because we believe our investors benefit from understanding our investment philosophy and approach. Our views and opinions include "forward-looking statements" which may or may not be accurate over the long term. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words like "believe," "expect," "anticipate," or similar expressions. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which are current as of the date of this report. We disclaim any obligation to update or alter any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. While we believe we have a reasonable basis for our appraisals and we have confidence in our opinions, actual results may differ materially from those we anticipate.

## Past performance does not guarantee future results. The information provided in this material should not be considered an offer nor a recommendation to buy, sell or hold any particular security.

#### **Performance Reporting**

Altrius Capital Management, Inc. (Altrius) claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS® standards. Altrius has been independently verified for the periods January 31, 2001 – December 31, 2023 by ACA Performance Service, LLC. The verification reports are available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS® standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS® standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS® standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation. GIPS® is a registered trademark of the CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

The Firm is defined as Altrius Capital Management, Inc. (Altrius), a registered investment advisor with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Altrius was founded in 1997 and manages equity, fixed income and balanced portfolios for high net worth individuals and families.

#### **Composite Characteristics**

The Altrius Global Income Composite was created in December 2010 with a performance inception date of December 31, 2002. Prior to September 2012, the Altrius Global Income Composite was named the Altrius Global Total Return Composite. The minimum value threshold of the composite is \$250,000. Accounts included are comprised of all actively managed balanced accounts with no exception to our discretion definition. Individual accounts will be aggregated with other accounts to achieve the \$250,000 minimum when the entity maintains related accounts with a collective objective.

Accounts are included on the last day of the month in which the account meets the composite definition. Any account crossing over the composite's minimum threshold shall be included in the composite at the end of the month it increased in market value. Accounts no longer under management are withdrawn from the composite on the first day of the month in which they are no longer under management. Any account dropping below 85% of the composite's minimum threshold or falling outside of the asset allocation range by more than 10% shall be removed at the beginning of the month it declined in market value. Closed account data is included in the composite as mandated by the standards in order to eliminate a survivorship bias.



#### DISCLOSURES

#### Benchmark

The benchmark is iShares® Core Growth Allocation ETF (AOR). The AOR ETF tracks the securities in the S&P Target Risk Growth Index comprised of a portfolio of underlying equity and fixed income funds intended to represent a growth allocation target risk strategy. The ETF returns are before the deductions of all expenses and transaction costs incurred by the ETF and are net of withholding taxes. As of 12/31/2023, the net expense ratio was 0.15% for the AOR ETF. The ETF return is the total return based off net asset values and distributions from the fund. It was changed 03/31/2022 from the Morningstar Global Allocation TR USD Index retroactively due to licensing fees charged by the owners. It was changed from a blended index with a static allocation of 40% S&P® 500 Total Return Index, 40% Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index, 8% Russell 2000 Index (with dividends) and 12% MSCI EAFE Net Index as of 11/01/2019 and changed retroactively for all periods. The change was made due to licensing fees being charged by the firms who own the indices. The volatility of the indices may be materially different from that of the performance composite. In addition, the composite's holdings may differ significantly from the securities that comprise the indices. The indices have not been selected to represent appropriate benchmarks to compare the composite's performance, but rather are disclosed to allow for comparison of the composite's performance to that of well-known and widely recognized indices.

Altrius Global Income Composite Performance December 31, 2013– December 31, 2023										
Year	Gross Return %	Net Return %	Benchmark Return %	Composite 3-Yr St Dev %	Benchmark 3Yr St Dev %	# of Portfolios	Composite Dispersion %	Total Composite Assets	Percent of Firm Assets	
2014	1.79	0.64	6.22	7.44	6.47	128	0.39	125,816,104	66.47	
2015*	(8.09)	(9.12)	(1.08)	9.32	6.99	114	0.49	88,085,706	47.96	
2016	17.24	15.90	6.67	10.01	6.91	133	0.97	130,921,004	48.99	
2017	13.11	11.82	15.88	9.50	6.17	142	0.45	138,678,370	40.70	
2018	(4.89)	(5.95)	(5.84)	8.07	6.52	148	0.22	145,677,014	43.89	
2019	17.01	15.77	18.96	7.77	6.88	146	0.89	175,505,685	51.57	
2020	2.89	1.82	11.60	14.19	11.32	127	0.56	193,099,454	53.44	
2021	16.69	15.56	11.14	17.96	10.51	173	0.32	280,282,121	65.14	
2022	-3.13	-4.06	-15.30	16.52	13.61	187	0.27	287,744,663	66.19	
2023	13.32	12.27	15.24	13.73	12.36	199	0.49	352,084,012	70.31	

\* The net and gross returns for 2015 were changed due to not updating annual returns on presentations after changes were made. The error was discovered in August 2023



#### DISCLOSURES

#### **Performance Calculations**

Valuations and returns are computed and stated in U.S. dollars. Results reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings.

Gross of fees return is net of transaction costs and gross of management and custodian fees. Net of fees returns are calculated using actual management fees that were paid and are presented before custodial fees and but after management fees and all trading expenses. Returns can be net or gross of withholding taxes, depending on how taxes are recorded at the custodian. Some accounts pay fees outside of their accounts; thus, we enter a non-cash transaction in the performance system such that we can calculate a net of fees return.

The standard management fee for the Altrius Global Income Composite is 1.40% per annum on the first \$500,000 USD, 1.00% per annum on the next \$500,000 and 0.80% per annum thereafter. Additional information regarding Altrius Capital Management fees are included in its Part II Form ADV.

Internal dispersion is calculated using the gross of fee performance numbers using the asset-weighted standard deviation of all accounts included in the composite for the entire year; it is not presented for periods less than one year or when there were five or fewer portfolios in the composite for the entire year. The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite and the benchmark (iShares® Core Growth Allocation ETF) returns over the preceding 36-month period.

Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS® compliant reports are available upon request. A complete list and description of firm composites is available upon request.

\*Top Holding Statistics are presented as supplemental information to the GIPS® compliant presentation.

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