



AXS Investments Awarded Best Alternative Asset Manager USA 2020

Firm recognized for breadth, depth and innovation of alternative investment funds lineup

NEW YORK, January 12, 2021 – AXS Investments, a leading alternative investment manager, was awarded “Best Alternative Asset Manager USA 2020” by Capital Finance International (CFI). The announcement of the award by CFI comes on the heels of a very strong year for AXS, including a more than doubling of the firm’s product line of liquid, transparent alternative investment funds. The award was presented by a panel of judges who scrutinized U.S. alternative investment managers and selected AXS Investments for the annual industry award.

The award also follows the latest addition to the AXS funds lineup, the firm’s 11th fund: the 5-Star rated **AXS Thomson Reuters Venture Capital Return Tracker Fund (Ticker: [LDVIX](#))**, with returns of 65.85%, 37.90% and 31.34% over the 1-year, 3-year and 5-year periods, respectively, as of 12/31/2020. Emblematic of the AXS Investments’ mission to democratize alternative investing, LDVIX provides access for individual investors to venture capital industry returns, a decades-long source of powerful investment returns for some of the largest pensions, endowments and foundations. In the Morningstar large growth funds category, LDVIX, LDVAX and LDVCX received an overall rating of 5 stars, 3-year rating of 5 stars out of 1,197 funds, and 5-year rating of 5 stars out of 1,070 funds, based on risk-adjusted returns as of 12/31/2020.

“We are very honored to be named Best Alternative Asset Manager for 2020 because it underscores our success in achieving our firm’s mission to democratize alternative investing,” said Greg Bassuk, CEO of AXS Investments. “In the face of 2020’s unprecedented year of market volatility sparked by the global health pandemic, the U.S. presidential election and many other geopolitical events that skyrocketed investor uncertainty, there’s never been a more important time to create access for investors to alternative sources of growth, income and portfolio diversification. We’re thrilled to receive this industry recognition for our work in creating new access for investors to alternative strategies that historically were accessible only by the largest institutions and ultra-high net worth investors.”

In announcing the award, the CFI Award Judging Panel said “Over the past few years, interest in alternative investment has grown exponentially. AXS squarely aims to democratize the alternative investment universe and offers investors a comprehensive range of educational resources and tools that give insights into products, strategies and, importantly, ways in which investors may consider investing in the post-pandemic ‘new normal.’ The company has indeed succeeded in breaking out of the quarantine by deploying a set of innovative strategies that have preserved value in the challenging recent period. AXS Investments is doing things right and has a track record to prove it.”

AXS Thomson Reuters Venture Capital Return Tracker Fund ([LDVIX](#)) - Performance as of 12/31/2020

(%)	ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN				
	Q4 2020	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR	SINCE INCEPTION
Class I	13.64	65.85	37.90	31.34	29.04
Class A	13.59	65.52	37.63	31.07	28.80
Class A (with 5.75% max. sales charge)	7.05	56.02	34.95	29.52	27.70
Class C	16.34	69.28	34.79	30.89	29.80
Thomson Reuters Venture Capital Index	13.66	67.92	40.82	34.32	32.54



The performance data quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For the most recent month-end performance, please call 833.AXS.ALTS or visit the Fund's website at www.axsinvestments.com.

Inception dates are 10/2/2014 for Class I and A and 9/23/2015 for Class C. The Total Annual Operating Expenses for Class I, A and C are 1.51%, 1.76% and 2.51%, respectively. The Fund's investment advisor has contractually agreed to reduce its fees and/or absorb expenses of the Fund, to ensure that the Fund's total annual operating expenses do not exceed on an annual basis: 1.50% Class I, 1.75% Class A, and 2.50% Class C of the Fund's average daily net assets, effective until November 21, 2022.

About AXS Investments

AXS Investments is a leading alternative investment manager providing a diversified family of alternative investments for investors seeking alternative sources of growth, income and diversification. The firm empowers investors to diversify their portfolios with investments previously available only to the largest institutional and high net worth investors. The investor-friendly AXS funds are time-tested, liquid, transparent and managed by high pedigreed portfolio managers with long and strong track records. For more information, visit www.axsinvestments.com.

About the CFI Awards Program

Each year, Capital Finance International (CFI) seeks out individuals and organizations that contribute significantly to the convergence of economies and add value for all stakeholders. The CFI Awards Program aims to identify individuals and organizations that truly add value. The Capital Finance International Judging Panel reviews information generated during the nomination process and draws on their members expertise to identify candidates for award consideration. The relevant category is decided by the judging panel according to what they perceive as the greatest contribution of the nominee, taking into account additional information provided during the nomination process and publicly available material. The committee rewards overall performance without allowing any sort of bias or giving undue weight to reputation.

AXS Thomson Reuters Venture Capital Return Tracker Fund - Morningstar Ratings and Rankings

The Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or "star rating," is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The Morningstar Rating does not include any adjustment for sales loads. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five- and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics.

The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Morningstar Rating is for the I share classes; other classes may have different performance characteristics.

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The AXS Thomson Reuters Venture Capital Return Tracker Fund may invest in ETFs, ETNs and mutual funds, which are subject to investment advisory and other expenses, which will be indirectly paid by the Fund. ETFs, ETNs and mutual funds are subject to issuer, fixed income and risks specific to the Fund. Venture capital investments involve a greater degree of risk; as a result, the Fund's returns may experience greater volatility than the overall market. The Fund does not invest in venture capital funds nor does it invest directly in companies funded by venture capital funds. The Fund seeks to generate returns that mimic the aggregate returns of U.S. venture capital-backed companies as measured by the Thomson Reuters Venture Capital Index (TRVCI). There is a risk that the Fund's return may not match or achieve a higher degree of correlation with the return of the TRVCI. Additionally, the TRVCI's return may not match or achieve a high degree of correlation with the return of the U.S. venture capital-based companies.

There are risks involved with investing including the possible loss of principal. Diversification does not ensure profits or prevent losses. **Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the fund before investing. To obtain a prospectus containing this and other important information, please [click here](#) to view or download a prospectus online. Read the fund's prospectus carefully before you invest.**

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