

# Global Dividend (iA)

### QUARTERLY ANALYSIS

As at December 31, 2024

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- Strong security selection in financials, IT and materials boosted the return.
- We made tactical adjustments to cyclical names and initiated and exited selected positions.
- We are focused on high-quality companies and macro themes, such as AI, geopolitics and interest rates.

#### PORTFOLIO MANAGER



# **Dan Rohinton**Vice-President, Portfolio Manager, Global Dividend

#### PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

#### **Rotating to cyclical sectors**

Our quarterly return was boosted by strong security selection in financials, information technology and materials, with Apollo and CRH as key contributors.

Our selection in information technology through Broadcom, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company and Alphabet contributed significantly to the return.

PERCENTILE RANKING (GROSS RETURNS)			
Period	Percentile ranking	Nb of funds in category	
1 year	10	42	
3 years	N/A	N/A	
5 years	N/A	N/A	

Source: Morningstar ratings, Global Dividend & Income Equity

TOP 5 CONTRIBUTORS (%, QTD)			
Issuer	Return	Weight	Contribution
Apollo Global Management	40.46	3.08	1.01
Broadcom	42.69	2.77	0.88
Amazon	24.71	3.73	0.85
Visa	22.34	3.86	0.80
Alphabet	20.91	3.37	0.66

TOP 5 DETRACTORS (%, QTD)			
Issuer	Return	Weight	Contribution
Elevance Health	-24.00	2.69	-0.84
Ashtead Group	-15.55	2.99	-0.51
LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton	-8.73	2.41	-0.27
Thermo Fisher Scientific	-10.89	2.32	-0.25
Danaher Corp	-12.20	1.75	-0.24

1-YEAR RISK-RETURN ANALYSIS		
Indicator	Fund	Index*
Beta	0.73	1.00
Volatility	6.07	7.70
Information ratio	-0.58	-
Upside capture	89.68	-
Downside capture	55.28	-

FUND CHARACTERISTICS		
Characteristic	Fund	Index*
Number of holdings	38	1395
Dividend yield	1.63	1.96
Top 10 holdings weight	38%	-
1-year trailing turnover	78%	-

<sup>\*</sup> Index: MSCI WORLD (\$ CA)



# Global Dividend (iA)

### QUARTERLY ANALYSIS

As at December 31, 2024

#### PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

## Tactically adjusted cyclical names and idiosyncratic additions

We initiated positions in Waste Connections and General Electric. We took a substantial position in General Electric, an aircraft engine supplier, owing to its strong cash flow and business model. We also expect significant buybacks, given strong liquidity with ample room for M&A without any debt issuance.

We sold our positions in British American Tobacco, Ares Capital, BNP and Rentokil. British American Tobacco faces global volume issues as well as a soft U.S. cigarette market. BNP's weak performance in several segments raised a questions. Rentokil faces margin pressure, given inflation and a lack of pricing power.

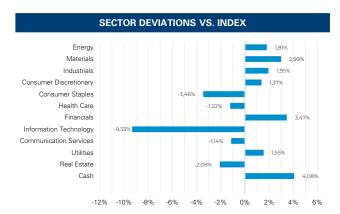
#### PORTFOLIO POSITIONING

## Strategically focusing on high risk-reward opportunities

We have positioned our fund to achieve long-term capital growth by investing in top-tier businesses that drive innovation in expanding industries. At the same time, we acknowledge the current economic uncertainty. Therefore, our holdings are evaluated not only for their long-term return potential but also for their resilience in the face of an economic downturn.

Amid these short-term uncertainties, we have identified quality defensive stocks as having the most favourable risk-reward profiles. The current macroeconomic trends help mitigate the impact of economic downturns while offering substantial returns.

SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTIONS (Q4 2024)		
Positions initiated	Sector	
Waste Connections	Industrials	
General Electric	Industrials	
Positions exited	Sector	
British American Tobacco	Consumer Staples	
Ares Capital Corp	Financials	
BNP Paribas	Financials	
Rentokil Initial	Industrials	



TOP 5 HOLDINGS		
Holding	Sector	Weight (%)
Microsoft	Information Technology	5.32
Amazon	Consumer Discretionary	4.08
Visa	Financial Services	4.05
CMS Energy	Energy	4.03
Alphabet	Communication Services	3.71

#### MARKET OUTLOOK

#### Macro themes: Geopolitics, Al and interest rates

The U.S. markets closed 2024 with their best two-year stretch in 26 years. Looking ahead in early 2025, we see a few key themes: (1) lofty valuations, given the high S&P 500 forward P/E ratio; (2) the Al trade and the need to distinguish real value from hype; and (3) Trump's arrival in late January. Trump is yet to take office, but his impact on the markets is undeniable: the greenback has strengthened and the U.S. equity markets have rallied. Al remains a key focus and one of the major drivers of growth in the global landscape. Companies have put significant capital into this endeavour, but it remains to be seen whether their investments will pay off in the short-to-medium term. As valuations have risen, stock selection has become crucial in the technology sector. According to FactSet consensus estimates, the S&P 500 is trading with a 12-month forward P/E of 23.7x, which is about two standard deviations higher than the five-year average. This can be explained by the rate-cutting cycle, themes in Al, nuclear and more. We remain highly selective and are focused on high-quality companies that could benefit from the Al theme.

### **About iA Global Asset Management (iAGAM)**

#### ROOTED IN HISTORY, INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE.

A magnet for top investment talent, iA Global Asset Management is one of Canada's largest asset managers, with over \$100 billion under management across institutional and retail mandates. We help investors achieve their long-term wealth creation goals through innovative investment solutions designed for today's complex markets. We are building upon our historic success, supporting the growth of our core strengths, and exploring innovative ways to meet investor needs. We are rooted in history and innovating for the future. Our experienced portfolio managers use a proprietary investment methodology, rooted in iAGAM's unifying commitment to strong risk management, analytical rigor and a disciplined, process-driven approach to asset allocation and security selection.

#### **General Disclosures**

The information and opinions contained in this report were prepared by iA Global Asset Management ("iAGAM"). The opinions, estimates and projections contained in this report are those of iAGAM as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice. iAGAM endeavours to ensure that the contents have been compiled or derived from sources that we believe to be reliable and contain information and opinions that are accurate and complete. However, iAGAM makes no representations or warranty, express or implied, in respect thereof, takes no responsibility for any errors and omissions contained herein and accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss arising from any use of, or reliance on, this report or its contents. There is no representation, warranty, or other assurance that any projections contained in this report will be realized. There is no representation, warranty, or other assurance that any projections contained in this report will be realized. The pro forma and estimated financial information contained in this report, if any, is based on certain assumptions and analysis of information available at the time that this information was prepared, which assumptions and analysis may or may not be correct. This report is not to be construed as an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any security. The reader should not rely solely on this report in evaluating whether or not to buy or sell securities of the subject company. The reader should consider whether it is suitable for your particular circumstances and talk to your financial advisor.

