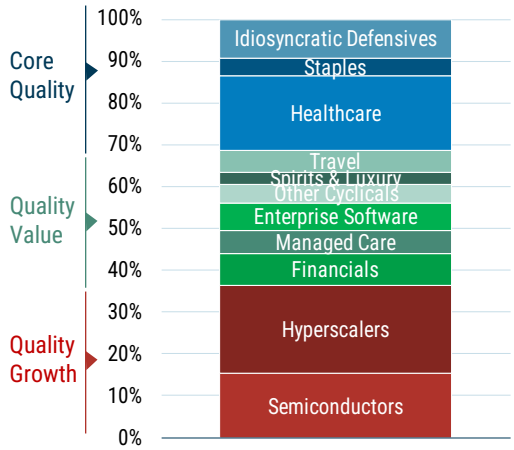
QUALITY PROFILE

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

- Quality stocks have provided superior risk-adjusted returns. Quality companies have durable, resilient business models and high returns on capital.
- These companies typically trade at premium multiples, and in our view they usually deserve to. The persistence of Quality characteristics provides a strong foundation for a discounted cash flow valuation approach that incorporates the ability of a company to grow and compound at a high return.
- We believe building that valuation analysis into an investment process can both enhance portfolio return and reduce risk.
- Quality's persistence also means that systematic screening on Quality characteristics (e.g., profitability) is a productive step in identifying these opportunities.

A BOTTOM-UP, DIVERSIFIED APPROACH



The sectors are GMO groupings and not the S&P's GICS sector classifications

GMO APPROACH

True High Quality with a Long-Term Focus: We believe companies with sustainable competitive advantages that enable high, stable profits in the future win over time, with lower risk. GMO's Focused Equity team seeks to outperform broad markets with lower absolute risk by owning these high-quality businesses, holding them for the long term, and respecting valuation.

A Powerful Blend: Our blended approach combines the discipline and consistency of GMO's quantitative framework with a forward-looking, fundamental vetting process that assesses the long-term relevance of each company's business model.

Respect Valuation: By avoiding over-hyped stocks and investing under temporary clouds, valuation enhances return and risk mitigation, offering lower-risk equity returns when you need it.

Risk Control: Fundamental risk is the threat of long-term impairment to a business' profitability. These can derive from competitive dynamics and company specific financial and management considerations as well as external pressures from macro events or stakeholder reactions to negative externalities.

Quality is in Our DNA: GMO is a pioneer in quality investing with 40+ years of experience.

WHAT IS A QUALITY BUSINESS?

GENERATES HIGH AND SUSTAINABLE RETURN ON CAPITAL

Identifiable High Returning Assets

Return on capital

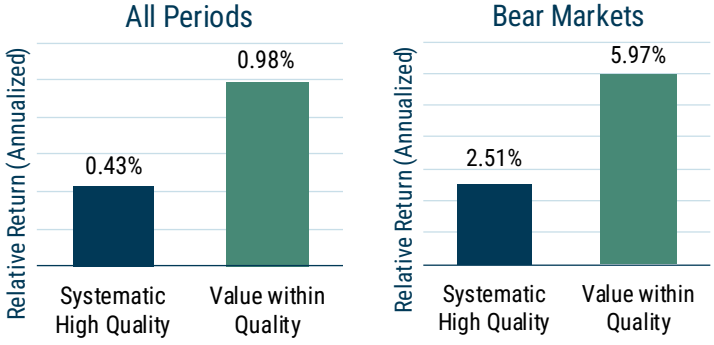
Capital Discipline

Management invests prudently and with a long horizon

Relevance

Long-term durability of business model

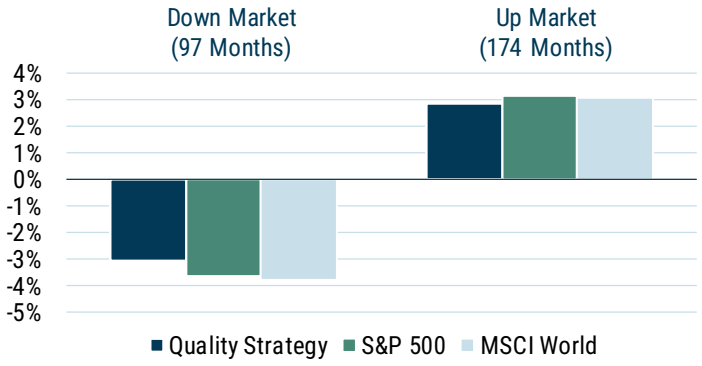
HIGH-QUALITY WINS OVER TIME WITH LOWER RISK



April 1928 – December 2025 | Source: GMO

Bear market is the drop in prices of at least 20% from any peak over a period of at least 3 months. GMO Quality is the highest quality 1/3 of the U.S. market. Value within Quality is the low valuation half of that, relative to the broader U.S. market.

DOWN VS. UP MONTHS



Inception date: 2/6/04

Down Market: Average return for all down months.

Up Market: Average return for all up months.

CONTACT US

For more information on this product please email us at access@gmo.com or reach out to your relationship manager.

QUALITY

OVERVIEW

The GMO Quality Strategy seeks to generate total return by investing primarily in equities the Focused Equity team believes to be of high quality.

The team believes that companies with established track records of historical profitability and strong fundamentals – high quality companies – are able to outgrow the average company over time and are therefore worth a premium price. The Strategy's disciplined approach uses both quantitative and fundamental techniques to assess the relative quality and valuation of global companies and aims to exploit a long-term investment horizon while withstanding short-term volatility.

FACTS

Strategy Inception	06-Feb-04
Composite Inception	29-Feb-04
Total Assets	$38.4bn USD
Index	S&P 500
Alternate Index	MSCI World

PRELIMINARY* CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURNS (USD, NET OF FEES, %)

	MTD	QTD	YTD	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Composite	-1.03	4.32	9.88	19.36	18.86	29.76	-15.46	25.85
Index	-0.35	2.30	12.75	17.88	25.02	26.29	-18.11	28.71
Alternate Index	-1.19	1.88	11.75	21.09	18.67	23.79	-18.14	21.82

RISK PROFILE (PRELIMINARY 5-YEAR TRAILING)

Alpha (Jensen's)	0.39
Beta	0.90
R Squared	0.91
Sharpe Ratio	0.64
Standard Deviation	14.70

PRELIMINARY* ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURNS (USD, NET OF FEES, %)

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	ITD
Composite	16.79	20.32	13.23	15.72	10.75
Index	15.74	22.88	13.79	15.33	10.85
Alternate Index	15.24	21.40	11.89	12.81	8.97

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



Tom Hancock
Joined GMO in 1995
MS, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute;
PhD, Harvard University



Ty Cobb, CFA
Joined GMO in 1997
MSF, Suffolk University



Anthony Hene
Joined GMO in 1995
MS, University of Oxford

Risks: Risks associated with investing in the Strategy may include: (1) Market Risk - Equities: the market price of equities may decline due to factors affecting the issuer, its industries, or the economy and equity markets generally. Declines in stock market prices generally are likely to reduce the net asset value of the Fund's shares; (2) Management and Operational Risk: the risk that GMO's investment techniques will fail to produce desired results, including annualized returns and annualized volatility; and (3) Focused Investment Risk: the Fund invests its assets in the securities of a limited number of issuers, and a decline in the market price of a particular security held by the Fund may affect the Fund's performance more than if the Fund invested in the securities of a larger number of issuers. This is not a complete list of risks associated with investing in the Strategy. Please contact GMO for more information.

***Preliminary Performance: Final performance numbers are generally available on GMO's website within fifteen business days after month end. Investors should not rely on preliminary numbers to make investment decisions. Performance Returns:** Returns shown for periods greater than one year are on an annualized basis. To obtain performance information to the most recent month-end, visit www.gmo.com. **Performance data quoted represents past performance and is not indicative of future results.** Net returns are presented after the deduction of a model advisory fee and incentive fee if applicable. These returns include transaction costs, commissions and withholding taxes on foreign income and capital gains and include the reinvestment of dividends and other income, as applicable. Fees paid by accounts within the composite may be higher or lower than the model fees used. **GMO LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). A Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) Composite Report is available at www.gmo.com by clicking the GIPS® Composite Report link in the documents section of the strategy page. GIPS® is a registered trademark owned by CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. Actual fees are disclosed in Part 2 of GMO's Form ADV and are also available in each strategy's Composite Report.** The portfolio is actively-managed, is not managed relative to a benchmark and uses an index for performance comparison purposes only and, where applicable, to compute a performance fee.

QUALITY

CHARACTERISTICS

	Portfolio	Index	Alternate Index
Price/Earnings - Forecast 1 Yr Wtd Mdn	21.8x	20.8x	20.5x
Return on Equity - Forecast 1 Yr Wtd Mdn	27.6%	25.1%	23.1%
Dividend Yield - Hist 1 Yr Wtd Avg	1.1%	1.1%	1.5%
Free Cash Flow Yield - Hist 1 Yr Wtd Avg	3.6%	2.8%	3.2%
Market Cap - Wtd Mdn Bil	358.9 USD	447.4 USD	219.6 USD
Number of Equity Holdings	49	492	1212
Net Debt/EBITDA - Hist 1 Yr Wtd Mdn	0.2x	0.2x	0.3x

SECTORS (%)

Sector	Portfolio	Index	Alternate Index
Communication Services	12.1	9.9	8.3
Consumer Discretionary	9.2	8.6	8.4
Consumer Staples	6.3	4.4	4.8
Energy	0.0	3.4	4.0
Financials	7.6	11.4	15.7
Health Care	23.1	9.3	9.2
Industrials	4.9	8.0	10.8
Information Technology	36.3	39.7	31.8
Materials	0.5	1.6	3.1
Real Estate	0.0	1.7	1.5
Utilities	0.0	1.9	2.3

MARKET CAP BAND EXPOSURES ($B)

	Portfolio	Index	Alternate Index
Small (5.9 & Below)	0.0	0.1	0.4
Small - Medium (5.9 To 20.2)	2.9	2.7	6.4
Medium (20.2 To 51.9)	6.6	8.1	13.2
Medium - Large (51.9 To 161.5)	17.0	18.2	23.5
Large (161.5 & Above)	73.5	70.9	56.6

TOP HOLDINGS

Company	Sector	%
Microsoft Corp	Information Technology	7.7
Alphabet Inc	Communication Services	4.9
Meta Platforms Inc	Communication Services	4.9
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd	Information Technology	4.7
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc	Health Care	4.7
Apple Inc	Information Technology	4.3
Johnson & Johnson	Health Care	4.2
Amazon.com Inc	Consumer Discretionary	3.5
Lam Research Corp	Information Technology	3.5
Texas Instruments Inc	Information Technology	3.0
Total		**45.4**

TOP COUNTRIES (%)

Country	Portfolio	Index	Alternate Index
United States	81.2	100.0	72.9
United Kingdom	5.0	0.0	3.4
Taiwan	4.7	0.0	0.0
France	4.1	0.0	2.2
Germany	2.6	0.0	2.1
Canada	0.9	0.0	3.3
Spain	0.8	0.0	1.0
Cash	0.7	0.0	0.0
Australia	0.0	0.0	1.5
Austria	0.0	0.0	0.1

REGIONS (%)

Region	Portfolio	Index	Alternate Index
United States	81.2	100.0	72.9
Europe	12.6	0.0	15.1
Rest of World	5.6	0.0	11.9
Cash Equivalents	0.7	0.0	0.0

QUALITY

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Index(es): The S&P 500 Index is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of U.S. large capitalization stocks. S&P does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, completeness or availability of any data or information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions from the use of such data or information. Reproduction of the data or information in any form is prohibited except with the prior written permission of S&P or its third party licensors.The MSCI World Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of global developed markets. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder.The MSCI ACWI (All Country World) Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of global developed and emerging markets. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder. Please visit https://www.gmo.com/americas/benchmark-disclaimers/ to review the complete benchmark disclaimer notice.

The above information is based on a representative account in the Strategy selected because it has the fewest restrictions and best represents the implementation of the Strategy.

For private bank intermediaries in Singapore and Hong Kong, these materials are intended for institutional and Accredited/Professional Investors Use Only.

GLOSSARY

Risk Statistics: Risk profile data is net of fees. Alpha is a measure of risk-adjusted return. Beta is a measure of a portfolio's sensitivity to the market. R-Squared is a measure of how well a portfolio tracks the market. Sharpe Ratio is the return over the risk free rate per unit of risk. Std Deviation is a measure of the volatility of a portfolio.
Sector Exposures: The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) is the exclusive intellectual property of MSCI Inc. (MSCI) and Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (S&P). Neither MSCI, S&P, nor any third party makes any representations or warranties, express or implied, with respect to GICS or the results to be obtained by the use thereof, and expressly disclaim all warranties, including of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Neither MSCI, S&P, nor any third party shall have any liability for any damages of any kind relating to the use of GICS. **Top Holdings:** Portfolio holdings are percent of equity. Where applicable, the top holdings are derived by looking through to the underlying portfolios in which the asset allocation strategy invests and, where appropriate, individual security positions are aggregated. They are subject to change and should not be considered a recommendation to buy individual securities. The above information is based on a representative account in the Strategy selected because it has the fewest restrictions and best represents the implementation of the Strategy.
Please refer to https://www.gmo.com/americas/glossary-of-terms/ for additional portfolio characteristic definitions.

ABOUT GMO

Founded in 1977, GMO is a global asset manager committed to delivering superior performance and advice to our clients. We are privately owned, which allows us to singularly focus on our sole business – achieving outstanding long-term client investment outcomes. Offering multi-asset, equity, fixed income, and alternative strategies, we invest with a long-term, valuation-based philosophical approach.

AMSTERDAM | BOSTON | LONDON | SAN FRANCISCO* | SINGAPORE | SYDNEY | TOKYO**

*GMO's West Coast Hub is comprised of members of Investment, Global Client Relations, and other teams located in and around the Greater San Francisco area
**Representative Office