

THE VT PRICE VALUE PORTFOLIO

Focus

The VT Price Value Portfolio is an open-ended UCITS fund incorporated in the UK. The fund's objective is to deliver attractive long term returns.

Investment Philosophy

The fund seeks to invest on an unconstrained basis into listed businesses of exceptional quality trading at undemanding multiples. The fund endeavours to invest according to the time-honoured principles of 'value' investing developed by Benjamin Graham.

Fund Facts

Investment Manager	Price Value Partners
Launch Date	16 June 2015
Share Classes	A, B
Currency Classes	GBP, USD, EUR
Dealing, Valuation	Daily 12:00p.m. GMT
Management Fees	A: 0.75% B: 0.50%
ISIN Codes	A £ Acc: GB00BWZMTX09 A £ Inc: GB00BD8PLW60 A \$ Acc: GB00BWZMTY16 A € Acc: GB00BWZMTZ23 B £ Acc: GB00BWZMV016 B £ Inc: GB00BD8PLY84 B \$ Acc: GB00BWZMV123 B € Acc: GB00BWZMV230
(Variations in historic performance shown by the different currency share classes of the fund relate solely to foreign exchange translation effects, as the underlying holdings are identical.)	
Minimum Investment A	£1000 / \$1000 / €1000
Minimum Investment B	£1M; \$1M; €1M

Factsheet as at 31 January 2024

Investment Commentary

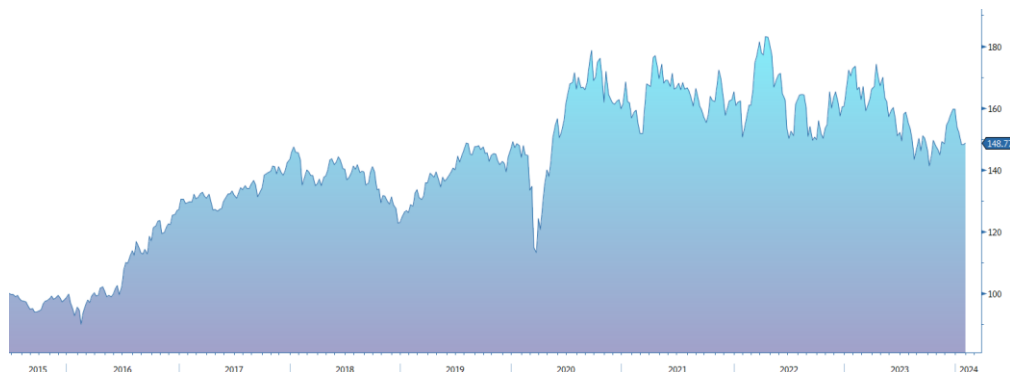
The GBP A class of the fund recorded a loss of 6.85% for the month of January 2024, driven primarily by a lower silver price year-to-date. This brings the cumulative return of the fund in GBP from inception in June 2015 to 48.77%. The latest net asset value of each of the fund's share classes can be found [here](#).

Higher rates contributed to several record-sized US bank failures in 2023, and indeed another bank, Citizens Bank in Iowa, recently confirmed bankruptcy. Assets of failed US banks in 2023 now total \$548.7bn, compared to \$373.6bn in 2008. Citizen Bank's failure is another example of how poorly fixed income securities, which often make up a meaningful proportion of a bank's balance sheet, have fared in the current environment of slightly higher rates. Given that the 40-year bull market in bonds appears to have ended, we expect further downside in bank balance sheets and their associated share prices as yields continue to rise. Historically, commodities and related equities have far outperformed during such periods. We discuss below three such examples of strong operating commodity businesses which we expect to outperform traditional asset classes.

Quebec-based Champion Iron (+1.7%) confirmed another production record. The firm produced 4mt of high-grade iron ore concentrate from its Bloom Lake operations, exceeding its planned annual capacity of 15mt, at an all-in sustaining cost of C\$83.9 per tonne, 15.3% lower than in Q3. The average selling price through Q4 was C\$195.8 per tonne, a rare and compelling margin of 133% over the cost to produce. Management confirmed the positive economics behind the Direct Reduction project, and that the two-year construction period will begin this year. The project involves converting 50% of Bloom Lake's production into an even higher quality 69% grade product which attracts premium sales prices over standard 62% material. Results from another study, for the Kami project, were also announced. Kami contains the Rose pit which will be mined over three phases and is similar in life of mine and grade to the existing Bloom Lake operations. The project will include upgrades to load-out facilities on the firm's 80mt-capacity railway line. Kami offers 9mt annually of premium 67.5% product over a starting 25-year mine life, representing a step change increase of 60% in group production. At conservative prices the project's IRR is 15% but we will evaluate these numbers ourselves when the underlying figures are released.

Performance History

Period	GBP A Share Class
1 Month	-6.85%
Year-to-date	-6.85%
Since inception (16.06.2015)	+48.77%



Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns.

The fund is managed independently of any benchmarks.
Chart source: Bloomberg LLP.

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Geographic Exposure*

Country	Allocation	Country	Allocation
US	35%	Australia	25%
Europe	6%	Canada	10%
UK	22%	Cash	2%

Sector Exposure*

Sector	Allocation	Sector	Allocation
Commodities	62%	Industrial	14%
Consumer	14%	Financials	8%
Cash	2%		

Major Holdings*

iShares Physical Silver ETC	7.1%
Karora Resources Inc	6.3%
Perseus Mining Ltd	5.3%
Tyson Foods Inc	5.3%
Weis Markets Inc	5.0%
IG Group Holdings PLC	4.7%
Heartland Express Inc	4.7%
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd	4.3%
Seaboard Corporation	4.0%
Champion Iron Ltd	3.8%

Fund Metrics*

Price to earnings ratio	14.5x
Price to book ratio	0.79x

*as at 31 January 2024.

Important Information

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. An investor may not get back the amount originally invested. Price Value Partners Ltd does not give you investment advice so you will need to decide if an investment is suitable for you. Before investing in the fund please read the Key Information Document and Prospectus (and take particular note of the risk factors detailed therein). If you are unsure whether to invest you should contact a financial advisor. We have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the above content is correct at the time of publication. However, markets are volatile and the portfolio may change at any time. If you no longer wish to receive these commentaries, please let us know and we will remove you from our distribution list, which is opt-in exclusively.

Investment Commentary

South American base metals producer Lundin Mining (+1.3%) produced 103.3kt of copper and 50.7kt of zinc in Q4, a 14.9% and 1.9% increase versus Q3 respectively, achieving the upper ranges of production guidance. At the group's largest copper mine, Candelaria in Chile, management expects output to increase this year due to higher grades in the lower final sections of Phase 11. Mining of the Phase 12 section will then commence later this year and increase through 2026. Production guidance has therefore been set 5% above Candelaria's 2023 confirmed production. Candelaria holds enough copper reserve tonnes to continue producing until 2040. Indeed, the group's average mine life is over 13 years. As commodity prices start to rise, longer mine life firms like Lundin significantly outperform their shorter mine life counterparts. Lundin's average cost to produce each copper pound is \$3.04, which represents a 20.4% margin given the current price of copper at \$3.82.

Mexican gold producer Torex Gold (-5.5%) operates the Morelos Complex which includes the ELG tenement and the Media Luna development project. Q4 production was the firm's second highest ever at 138.8k ounces, helping Torex meet annual guidance for the fifth consecutive year, partly a result of underground mining at ELG achieving its target mining rate of 2.1kt per day one year ahead of schedule. Processing plant daily throughput rates also achieved a new annual record of 13.2kt per day. Q3 all-in sustaining costs were \$1,257 per ounce, a strong 35% margin versus average Q4 sales prices of \$1,944. Torex will confirm its Q4 cost profile in two weeks, but was guiding c. \$1,200 for 2023, and now guides for 3% lower at \$1,160 through 2024. This year is also expected to be the final year of significant capex for the fully funded and permitted Media Luna project, having spent 61% of the expected \$400m as at end Q3. Media Luna is expected to contribute first ore to the upgraded central processing plant from Q2 and contribute 374k ounces to group production following ramp up to commercial production in early 2025.

We believe allocations to physical assets like Champion, Lundin, and Torex, will far outperform government-issued assets on account of their strong margins rarely found in non-commodity businesses, long mine lives, and value-accretive development projects, but ultimately due to their claims on the real productive economy.

Fund Platforms

The fund is available on the following platforms:

AJ Bell	Aviva	Allfunds
Alliance Trust	Ascentric	Brewin Dolphin
Co-Funds	TD Direct	Hargreaves Lansdown
James Hay	Transact	Novia
Nucleus	Stocktrade	Old Mutual Wealth