# MAESTRO EQUITY PRESCIENT FUND





# Prescient

28 February 2025

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Minimum Disclosure Document & General Investor Report

#### Investment objective

The Maestro Equity Prescient Fund will be a general equity portfolio. The Manager in selecting securities for the portfolio will seek to follow an investment policy which will secure for investors an optimum overall return, that is to say the steady growth of income and the preservation of capital in real terms. In order to achieve these main objectives, the investments to be acquired for the Maestro Equity Prescient Fund, shall comprise a mix of securities, financially sound ordinary shares, stock, financially sound preference shares, debenture stock, debenture bonds and unsecured notes as defined in the Act and the Deed, all to be acquired at a fair market value.

#### The Fund benchmark

The Fund will measure itself against the FTSE-JSE All Share Index. ASISA Classification: South African-Equity-General.

#### Legal structure

The Fund is a scheme in the nature of a trust known as a collective investment scheme. The portfolio manager is Maestro Investment Management (Pty) Ltd, an approved Financial Services Provider in terms of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, operating under license number 739. This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act.

#### Fee structure

The maximum initial fee is 2.0%. The annual investment management fee is 1.75%. The annual total expense ratio (TER) for period ended 31 December 2024, in respect of class A was 2.82%.

### Income declaration (annually)

47.43 cents per unit 31 March 2024

#### Fund size

R15 032 182.35

#### NAV

Class A: 4 135.15

#### Number of units in issue (A class)

310 818.3557

### Fund inception date

1 July 2005

#### Management Company

Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd PO Box 31142, Tokai, 7945

#### Trustee and auditor

Trustee: Nedbank Limited

Auditor: Ernst & Young incorporated

#### Investment Manager

Maestro Investment Management (Pty) Ltd

#### Enquiries

Maestro Investment Management PO Box 1289, Cape Town, 8000 Tel: 082 900 1289 Email: andre@maestroinvestment.co.za

#### **Publication date**

17 March 2025

## **Market Overview**

The MSCI World index *lost* 0.8% in February, having gained 3.5% in January. The US equity market dragged the latter index lower, ending *down* 1.3%, bringing its year-to-date return to 1.4%. The German market, on the other hand, *rose* 3.8% in February, and when compounded to its 9.2% January return, means the German equity market is up 13.3% for the year-to-date; way above the US's comparable return of only 1.4%. The Hong Kong market rose 13.4% in February, led by over-sold tech companies, but the mainland Chinese equity market rose "only" 2.2%, resulting in these two markets posting respective year-to-date returns of 14.4% and -0.9%. The Indian market lost 5.5% in February, and the Brazilian market 2.6%, yet the MSCI Emerging market index managed to eke out a gain of 0.4% in February.

Scratch beneath the surface of markets though, and it becomes clear that February was a real "risk off" month i.e. investors trimmed their exposure to assets that are traditionally perceived as riskier. The tech-heavy NASDAQ index lost 4.0% in February, the S&P Mid and Small cap indices lost 4.4% and 5.8% respectively, and Bitcoin lost 17.5%, although it is still up 37.3% during the past year.

Turning to other global markets, bond yields declined during February, resulting in the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond index rising 1.4%; it has now risen 2.0% so far this year. The dollar was relatively weak, declining slightly against most currencies; the DXY dollar index lost 1.0% in February. That weakness resulted in firmer commodity prices: the gold price rose 3.4% but the oil price lost 4.3%; the latter has now declined 12.0% during the past year. The copper price rose 3.2% while the price of cocoa lost 17.4% after having risen dramatically in recent months.





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## Returns for periods ended 28 February 2025



## Local market returns

The "risk-off" climate that prevailed during the latter part of February weighed on the South Africa equity market. This is evident in the 6.8% decline in the Basic Material index, and the 4.2% and 2.3% loss in the Mid and Small cap indices respectively. The Financial index rose 1.0% while the Industrial index rose 2.8%, led higher by a 12.3% rise in heavyweight Naspers, thanks to a 19.3% surge in Tencent, which constitutes the major portion of the Naspers portfolio. The Naspers gain helped the Large Cap (Top 40) index rise 1.0% and assisted in the All Share index holding its own during February, *falling* only 0.01%. The All Bond index rose 0.1%.

#### **Investment Manager comment**

The Maestro Equity Prescient Fund declined 1.2% in February, versus the 0.01% loss in the All Share index. One of the main reasons for the underperformance can be ascribed to the fact that the Fund does not hold any Naspers. The latter is heavily weighted in the index and rose 12.3% in February. The Fund's significant global exposure retarded its performance slightly, given the rand's 1.5% rise against the dollar. Within the portfolio, Firstrand lost 7.2%, Hudaco 4.6% and Afrimat 4.5%. The

CoreShares S&P500 ETF lost 4.3%, weighed down by the firm rand and the weak US equity market. On a more positive note, Stor-Age Property REIT rose 0.8%, Richemont rose 3.0% despite the firm rand, Capitec rose 3.4%, and Discovery rose 14.3%.

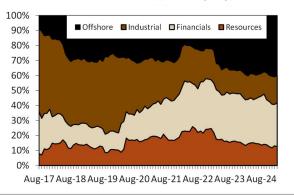
There were no material changes to the Fund's portfolio during February.

The Fund adhered to its Policy objective during the month.

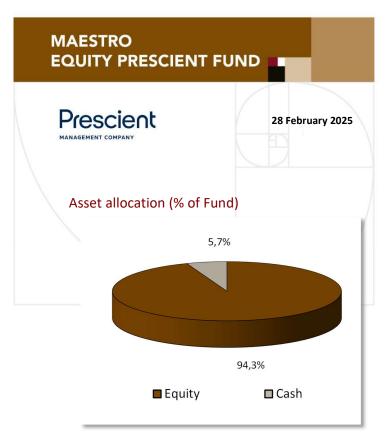
# Largest holdings at 28 February 2025

Investment	% of Fund
Sygnia iTrix MSCI World ETF	18.7%
Sygnia iTrix US ETF	10.2%
Capitec Bank Holdings Ltd	8.8%
CoreShares S&P500 ETF	8.7%
Satrix Resources (Resi) ETF	8.0%
Discovery Ltd	7.7%
Afrimat Ltd	5.9%
Firstrand Ltd	5.5%
Standard Bank Group	5.5%
BHP Group Ltd	3.9%
Total	82.9%

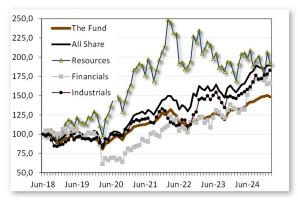
## Historic sector allocation (% of Equity)







# Five-year cumulative performance\*



\*The cumulative performance is for illustrative purposes only. Investment performance is calculated by taking the actual initial fees and all ongoing fees into account for the amount shown. Income is reinvested on the reinvestment date.

# Month and annual average returns (%)

Investment	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	7 years	10 years	15 years
Maestro Equity Prescient Fund*	4.6	12.3	5.1	11.7	5.9	3.4	7.5
FTSE-JSE All share index	4.2	22.6	8.2	15.2	9.6	8.5	11.7
ASISA SA General Equity category ave.	3.2	17.4	6.8	12.4	7.4	6.4	9.5

<sup>\*</sup>Performance is net of all fees and costs

Source: Financial Times, Morningstar; 17 March 2025

## Calendar year performance (%)

Investment	YTD	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Maestro Equity Prescient Fund*	-0.4	14.0	-9.1	24.6	10.7	4.4	-13.4
FTSE-JSE All share index	0.8	9.3	3.6	29.2	7.0	12.1	-8.5

<sup>\*</sup>Performance is net of all fees and costs Source: Morningstar; 17 March 2025

# Rolling return (%)

Highest rolling 1-year return (since launch)	41.9%
Lowest rolling 1-year return (since launch)	-34.5%

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Prescient

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Disclaimer

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Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) should be considered as medium to long-term investments. The value may go up as well as down and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS's are traded at the ruling price and can engage in scrip lending and borrowing. The collective investment scheme may borrow up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager. There is no guarantee in respect of capital or returns in a portfolio. A CIS may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate. CIS prices are calculated on a net asset basis, which is the total value of all the assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions (brokerage, STT, VAT, auditor's fees, bank charges, trustee and custodian fees and the portfolio that was incurred as charges, levies and fees related to the management of the portfolio. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER cannot be regarded as an indication of future TER's. During the phase in period TER's do not include information gathered over a full year. The remarkation costs [TG] is the percentage of the value of the Fund's underlying assets. Transaction costs are a necessary cost in administering the Fund and impacts Fund returns. It should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of Fund, investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER. Where a current yield has been included for Funds that derive its income primarily from interest bearing income, the yield is a weighted average yield of all underlying investments change. The Manager retains full legal responsibility for any third party-named portfolio. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potent

#### Risks

Liquidity risk: if there are insufficient buyers or sellers of particular investments, the result may lead to delays in trading and being able to make settlements, and/or large fluctuations in value. This may lead to larger financial losses than expected. Equity investment risk: Value of equities (e.g. shares) and equity-related investments may vary according to company profits and future prospects as well as more general market factors. In the event of a company default (e.g. bankruptor), the owners of their equity rank last in terms of any financial payment from that company. Foreign Investments fixis: Foreign securities investments may be subject to risks pertaining to overseas jurisdictions and markets, including four not provided to local liquidity, macroeconomic, political, tax, settlement risks and currency fluctuations. Provisic Investments in real estate securities can carry the same risks as investing directly in real estate prices move in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic and political conditions, interest rates and tax considerations.

#### **Glossary Summary**

Annualized performance: Annualized performance shows longer term performance rescaled to a 1 year period. Annualized performance is the average return per year over the period. Actual annual figures are available to the investor on request.

Highest & Lowest return: The highest and lowest returns for any 1 year over the period since inception have been shown.

NAV: The net asset value represents the assets of a Fund less its liabilities.

#### Total Expense Ratio (TER)

As at 31 December 2024 the TER for Class A units were as follows:

Management Fee	2.03%
Performance Fees	0.00%
Other Cost	0.79%
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	2.82%
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.01%
Total Investment Charge (TIC)	2.83%

## Minimum investment:

Lump sum: R100 000 Debit order: R1 000

#### Risk Profile:

The Fund's risk profile is classified as high as listed equity investments make up the majority of the Fund's holdings. Generally, equities have a higher level of volatility compared with other asset classes, however the expected long term returns are higher than other classes.

#### **Contact Details**

#### Management Company:

Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd, Registration number: 2002/022560/07 Physical address: Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 Postal address: PO Box 31142, Tokai, 7966. Telephone number: 0800 111 899. E-mail address: info@prescient.co.za Website: www.prescient.co.za

#### Trustee

Nedbank Investor Services **Physical address**: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709 **Telephone number**: +27 11 534 6557 **Website**: <a href="https://www.nedbank.co.za">www.nedbank.co.za</a>
The Management Company and Trustee are registered and approved under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act (No.45 of 2002). Prescient is a member of the Association for Savings and Investments SA.

#### Investment Manager

Maestro Investment Management (Pty) Ltd, Registration number: 2000/028796/07 is an authorized Financial Services Provider (FSP739) under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002), to act in the capacity as investment manager. This information is not advice, as defined in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002). Please be advised that there may be representatives acting under supervision.

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