

# STONEHAGE FLEMING

# **EQUITY PRESCIENT FUND**

OUR FOUR FUNDAMENTAL **QUALITY PILLARS - IDENTIFYING** GLOBAL BEST IN CLASS BUSINESSES









# INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The aim is to maximise investor total return over the long term through a focused portfolio of high quality JSE listed equity securities.

The Fund has adhered to its policy objective.

#### **FUND FEATURES**

A concentrated equity-only portfolio that may invest across all sectors of the ISE. The portfolio will hold between 20 - 30 companies.

#### **FUND COMMENTARY**

The 1st quarter of 2025 proved to be a volatile one for global equity markets as uncertainty reigned with the looming announcement of US tariff increases and the potential impact thereof. The MSCI World Index ended the quarter down -1.7%, with the tech-heavy Nasdaq declining -10.4%.

At an Index level the JSE proved to be one of the best performing global equity markets for the quarter with the JSE Capped SWIX returning +5.8%. Returns were, however, largely driven by a narrow selection of gold and platinum miners with the JSE Precious Metals Index climbing +58.5% during the quarter. The JSE Financial and Industrial Indices returned -2.0% and +3.1% respectively. Notwithstanding the uncertain global climate and political instability on the domestic front, the rand strengthened by +2.6% against the US dollar over the period.

AB InBev returned  $\pm 20.5\%$  during the quarter. The company reported year-end results in February with earnings growing +15.7%. Strong free cash flow and reduced capital expenditures supported a +22.0% dividend increase and \$750 million in share buybacks (~40% of the \$2 billion share buyback plan announced in October 2024).

The quarter proved an eventful one for Prosus and Naspers. In January, Tencent was named as a "Chinese Military Company" by the US Department of Defence. Tencent also released full year results which reported a +44% growth in earnings and announcing share buybacks would continue into FY25. Prosus also announced their intention to acquire Just Eat Takeaway for EUR4.1billion. The share buybacks at Naspers and Prosus continue with the companies now both having bought back just under 25% of their shares in issue. Naspers and Prosus returned +12.4% and +8.3% respectively for the quarter.

Looking ahead, the fallout from US tariffs and the potential for retaliatory actions will cloud global economic growth outlooks with elevated levels of uncertainty likely to persist. Our investment strategy remains one focussed on holding companies in strong financial health that can deliver sustainable organic growth over the long-term, and through differing economic and market conditions.

Data sourced from Company Financials and Factset (as at 31/03/2025).

Opinions expressed represent the view of SFIM(SA) at the time of preparation. They are subject to change and should not be interpreted as investment advice.

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

- <sup>1</sup> For periods longer than one year, returns are annualised. Annualised performance is the weighted average annual compound growth rate over the period measured.
- <sup>2</sup> Benchmark is the JSE Capped SWIX Index. (Since 09/10/2023).
- <sup>3</sup> Fund Inception Date: 1 June 2016.
- <sup>4</sup>The lowest and highest annualised performance numbers are based on 10 non-overlapping one year periods, or the number of non-overlapping one year periods from inception where performance history does not exist for 10 years

Source for all performance is Bloomberg and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa). Third parties (including Bloomberg and Factset) whose data may be included in this document do not accept any liability for errors or omissions. All performance is stated net of fees.

#### INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- · Seek to identify exceptional businesses with sustainable long-term growth prospects and durable competitive advantages
- Fundamental, bottom-up research process
- · Focus on quality of management, return on invested capital, free cash flow generation and balance sheet strength
- Predominantly larger capitalisation businesses; will consider exceptional smaller businesses that meet liquidity limits
- A concentrated, high-conviction portfolio
- Buy to hold orientation alongside disciplined selling process
- · Benchmark agnostic, no active trading, no leverage, no hedging

## SUITABLE INVESTORS

The portfolio is suitable for investors who:

- Have a time horizon that exceeds five years
- Seek JSE listed equity exposure
- · Have discretionary wealth and require little short-term income
- Can tolerate short-term market fluctuations in pursuit of maximising long-term total return
- Are comfortable to grant the portfolio manager a large degree of investment discretion

### **ASSET ALLOCATION**



98.8% South African Equity 1.2%

South African Cash

#### HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE 1 %

	YTD	6M	ΙΥ	3Y	5Y	Inception <sup>3</sup>
Class A1	-0.5	-2.8	15.0	41.9	93.6	64.5
Annualised				12.4	14.1	5.8
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	5.8	3.6	22.9	26.7	135.3	85.4
Annualised				8.2	18.7	7.2

# HIGHEST & LOWEST ANNUAL FIGURES(%)4

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Highest Annual	28.22
Lowest Annual	-14.70

## CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup> %

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Class A1	14.5	21.3	-3.8	19.1	10.2
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	13.4	7.9	4.4	27.1	0.6

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# STONEHAGE FLEMING

# **EQUITY PRESCIENT FUND**

## TOP TEN HOLDINGS (% OF FUND)

Prosus N.V. Class N	7.8
Capitec Bank Holdings Ltd	6.3
Shoprite Holdings Limited	6.1
Naspers Limited Class N	5.8
Compagnie Financiere Richemont SA	5.8
Bid Corporation Limited	5.6
Bidvest Group Limited	5.5
FirstRand Limited	5.2
Standard Bank Group Limited	5.0
Pepkor Holdings Limited	4.9
TOTAL	58.0

Source: Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) During the quarter there were notable additions to existing holdings in Capitec, Reinet and Boxer with notable reductions to positions in Firstrand, Prosus and Naspers. SECTOR BREAKDOWN (% OF FUND)

Financials	31.5
Consumer Staples	30.1
Technology	13.6
Consumer Discretionary	10.7
Industrials	7.7
Basic Materials	5.2
Cash	1.2
TOTAL	100.0

Values may not add up to 100% due to rounding. Source: Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa).

# INVESTMENT MANAGER INFORMATION

Manager	Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd
FSP Number	42847
Address	First Floor North Block, Waterway House 3 Dock Road, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront Cape Town, South Africa
Website	www.stone hage fleming investments.com
Telephone	+27 21 301 0868
Email	jp. dupless is @stone hage fleming.com
Daily Pricing Information**	stone hage fleming. secure portal. co.za

<sup>\*\*</sup> Investors can register to the secure portal to have access to pricing history and Investor statements.

## PORTFOLIO MANAGER



# JEAN-PIERRE DU PLESSIS

The fund is managed by Jean-Pierre du Plessis, a director of Stonehage Fleming Global Equity Management (South Africa). Jean-Pierre has over 20 years experience in equity markets and joined the Group in 2011 to help establish the Group's onshore direct equity offering.

## ESTIMATED REGIONAL REVENUES (% OF FUND)

Africa & Middle East	54.7
Americas	7.9
Asia Pacific	23.0
Europe	14.4
TOTAL	100.0

Source: Based on where underlying companies in the Stonehage Fleming Equity Prescient

Source: Bloomberg; Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa). Due to rounding, values may not add up to 100%.

## PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

Average Market Cap (Billions ZAR)	645.0
Number of holdings	24
Return on Invested Capital	14.4%
Forward DividendYield (Gross)	2.9%
Forward Price-to-Earnings Ratio	14.2

Source: Bloomberg, Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa).

#### FEES1

Minimum Investment (Platform)	No Minimum
Minimum Investment (Direct)	R 10,000
Maximum Initial Advice Fee	N/A
Maximum Annual Advice Fee	1.15%
Investment Manager Initial Fee	N/A
Investment Manager Annual Fee	1.15%
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	1.20%
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.08%
Total Investment Charges (TIC)	1.28%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Advice fees are negotiable between the client and their advisor. Annual advice fees are paid through a repurchase of units from the investor. The fund is available through certain LISPs which levy their own fees. Total Expense Ratio (TER) PERIOD: 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024. Total Expense Ratio (TER) | 1.20% (A1 class) and 0.80% (A2 class) of the value of the Financial  $\dot{P}\text{roduct}$  was incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Financial Product. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER may not necessarily be an accurate indication of future TER's. Transaction Cost (TC)  $\mid$  0.08% of the value of the Financial Product was incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Financial Product. Transaction Costs are a necessary cost in administering the Financial Product and impacts Financial Product 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 Financial Product, the investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER. Total Investment Charges (TIC = TER + TC)  $\mid$  1.28% (A1 class) and 0.88% (A2 class) of the value of the Financial Product was incurred as costs relating to the investment of the Financial Product. Disclosed performance information is calculated after all fees and costs deducted. All fees inclusive of VAT where applicable.

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# STONEHAGE FLEMING

# **EQUITY PRESCIENT FUND**

#### **FUND INFORMATION**

Porfolio Manager Fund Size R 776.8 million Benchmark JSE Capped Swix Index Fund Type CIS (Collective Investment Scheme) Fund Domicile South Africa Base Currency ZAR Number of Units R22,678 Unit Price (cents) 1,447 ISIN ZAE000218004 JSE Code SFFA1 Inception date O1-Jun-16 Pricing 17:00 pm (SA) Dealing 13:00 pm (SA) Repurchase Period Three business days ASISA fund classification Risk Profile Aggressive Income declaration dates Last two distributions Income payment dates Investment Manager Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd Trustee Nedbank Investor Services 2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709 +27 11 534 6557 www.nedbank.co.za Management Company Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 0800 111 899 info@prescient.co.za www.prescient.co.za Registration number: 2002/022560/07		
Benchmark  Fund Type  CIS (Collective Investment Scheme)  Fund Domicile  Base Currency  ZAR  Number of Units  S22,678  Unit Price (cents)  I,447  ISIN  ZAE000218004  JSE Code  SFFA1  Inception date  O1-Jun-16  Pricing  17:00 pm (SA)  Dealing  Three business days  ASISA fund classification  Risk Profile  Income declaration dates  Last two distributions  Income payment dates  Investment Manager  Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd  Trustee  Management Company  Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd  Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945  0800 111 899  info@prescient.co.za  www.prescient.co.za  www.prescient.co.za  www.prescient.co.za  www.prescient.co.za	Porfolio Manager	Jean-Pierre du Plessis
Fund Type  CIS (Collective Investment Scheme)  Fund Domicile  Base Currency  ZAR  Number of Units  822,678  Unit Price (cents)  ISIN  ZAE000218004  JSE Code  SFFA1  Inception date  O1-Jun-16  Pricing  Pricing  17:00 pm (SA)  Dealing  13:00 pm (SA)  Repurchase Period  ASISA fund classification  Risk Profile  Income declaration dates  Last two distributions  ASISA funds are a superficient of the superfici	Fund Size	R 776.8 million
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Unit Price (cents)  1,447  ISIN  ZAE000218004  JSE Code  SFFA1  Inception date  O1-Jun-16  Pricing  17:00 pm (SA)  Dealing  13:00 pm (SA)  Repurchase Period  Three business days  ASISA fund classification  Risk Profile  Aggressive  Income declaration dates  Last two distributions  31 Mar 2025: 10.59 cpu 30 Sep 2024: 12.90 cpu  Income payment dates  Investment Manager  Stonehage Fleming Investment  Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd  Trustee  Nedbank Investor Services 2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709  +27 11 534 6557  www.nedbank.co.za  Management Company  Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd  Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945  0800 111 899  info@prescient.co.za  www.prescient.co.za	Base Currency	ZAR
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Repurchase Period  ASISA fund classification  Risk Profile  Last two distributions  Income payment dates  Investment Manager  Trustee  Aggressive  Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd  Trustee  Nedbank Investor Services  2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard,  Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709  +27 11 534 6557  www.nedbank.co.za  Management Company  Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd  Prescient House, Westlake Business Park,  Otto Close, Westlake, 7945  0800 111 899  info@prescient.co.za  www.prescient.co.za	Pricing	17:00 pm (SA)
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Last two distributions  31 Mar 2025: 10.59 cpu 30 Sep 2024: 12.90 cpu Income payment dates Investment Manager  Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd Trustee  Nedbank Investor Services 2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709 +27 11 534 6557 www.nedbank.co.za  Management Company  Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 0800 111 899 info@prescient.co.za www.prescient.co.za	Risk Profile	Aggressive
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Investment Manager  Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd  Trustee  Nedbank Investor Services 2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709 +27 11 534 6557 www.nedbank.co.za  Management Company  Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 0800 111 899 info@prescient.co.za www.prescient.co.za	Last two distributions	
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Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 0800 111 899 info@prescient.co.za www.prescient.co.za	Trustee	2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709 +27 11 534 6557
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#### DISCLOSURES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Management Company: Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd. This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act.

This document has been issued by Stonehage Fleming Investment Management (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (authorised and regulated in South Africa, FSP No: 42847).

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 annual management fee) from the portfolio divided by the number of participatory interests (units) in issue. Forward pricing is used. The Fund's Total Expense Ratio (TER) reflects the percentage of the average Net Asset Value (NAV) of 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. Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the value of the Fund incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling 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

The Manager retains full legal responsibility for any third-party-named portfolio. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds, macroeconomic risks, political risks, foreign exchange risks, tax risks, settlement risks; and potential limitations on the availability of market information. The investor acknowledges the inherent risk associated with the selected investments and that there are no guarantees. Please note that all documents, notifications of deposit, investment, redemption and switch applications must be received by Prescient by or before 13:00 (SA), to be transacted at the net asset value price for that day. Where all required documentation is not received before the stated cut off time Prescient shall not be obliged to transact at the net asset value price as agreed to. Funds are priced at either 3pm or 5pm depending on the nature of the Fund. Prices are published daily and are available on the Prescient website.

Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.

For any additional information such as fund prices, brochures and application forms please go to www.prescient.co.za

This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act.

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 South Africa.

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