

press release

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Funds: How investors can gain exposure to Europe

Sheridan Admans, investment adviser at The Share Centre explains how investors can benefit from exposure to Europe, names his favourite fund in this investment arena and gives his views on a new offering from J O Hambro Capital Management (JOHCM).

“Investing in companies in the European Union should provide diversification that an investment portfolio based solely in UK companies may not provide, for example Denmark is a world leader in alternative energy solutions and Germany has world class engineering companies and car manufacturers.

“However markets remain fractious over continued European sovereign debt concerns and the strength of the European banking system. Volatility could persist for some time but this is not necessarily a bad thing.

“Concerns over debt have led the Euro lower and a further upset could apply further pressure to the currency. So for the brave, now might be a good time to dip your toe into European investments. As Warren Buffet says, “We simply attempt to be fearful when others are greedy and to be greedy only when others are fearful”.

“Our favourite fund within the sector is the BlackRock European Dynamics fund. This fund invests across the all-cap market, comprising around 35-65 companies. Fund manager, Alister Hibbert, and his team have an excellent track record of finding value in European assets despite market conditions. A weaker currency could also have benefits for European companies as exports should start to seem more attractive.

“In terms of performance the fund has outperformed its sector across all time periods not only in times of positive market sentiment, but also when conditions are tough and markets are in decline. Commenting on the new JOHCM All Europe Dynamic Growth fund, Admans said: “JOHCM has a selection of European funds, and the inclusion of a dynamic growth fund should complete their offering in the region.

“Fund managers, Trygve Toraasen and Carlos Moreno managed a number of funds at Fidelity before taking up management of the European Dynamic Growth fund at Thames Rivers Capital, circa mid 2009. In such a short period of time, the pair delivered strong performance of their respective benchmark, something we would very much hope to see at JOHCM.”

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Note to editors:

The BlackRock European Dynamic fund

The BlackRock European Dynamic fund has an annual charge of 5% and an initial charge of 1.5%. The minimum initial investment is £500 and the minimum additional investment is £100.

As the fund features in The Share Centre's Platinum 120 range, customers of the retail stockbroker wishing to invest in the BlackRock European Dynamic fund will not have to pay the initial charge or purchase dealing commission. Customers can also invest in the fund from as little as £10.

About The Share Centre's Platinum 120 range:

The Share Centre launched its Platinum 120 funds range in June 2009 in order to help investors identify the funds with the best long-term prospects and strong management. Customers who invest in a Platinum 120 fund will benefit from no purchase commission on all funds and no initial charge on almost 90%. Please visit www.share.com/p120 to view the full Platinum 120 range. Please be aware that this may require registration.

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Risk Warnings:

Investing in general, and the products and services mentioned above may not be suitable for all: if in doubt, individuals should seek independent financial advice. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back their original investment. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The bases and levels of taxation relating to ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are subject to change and the value of these tax allowances may depend upon the circumstances of the individual.

About The Share Centre:

The Share Centre was established in 1990 to provide value-for-money share services for private investors. Its range of services includes buying and selling shares (by Internet, telephone and post) and a comprehensive share administration and safe custody service. Tax-efficient investment 'wrappers' including ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are also available.

The Share Centre's Advice team provides comment on market sectors, individual shares and funds on www.share.com. Access is available to customers and registered users of the site. Registration is free. To understand how our Advice team arrive at their views please read our [Investment Research Policy](#)

In addition, account customers can receive individual telephone advice on UK-listed shares and on funds traded via the CoFunds trading platform.

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