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MEDIA RELEASE

Man Group's flagship Alpha fund attracts rating upgrade

Man Group's flagship Man AHL Alpha fund has received a 'Recommended' rating from research house Lonsec, recognising the fund's strong performance over the past two years of operation in the region.

A 'Recommended' rating indicates that Lonsec has strong conviction the financial product can generate risk adjusted returns in line with relevant objectives and that it considers the financial product an appropriate entry point to this asset class.

Man AHL Alpha is a trend following oriented hedge fund which invests across a range of asset types and markets globally, via exchange traded futures and OTC contracts. The investment team utilises a quantitative-based, computer-driven trading program to exploit price movements in some 450 international markets, with the program underpinned by sophisticated risk management techniques.

GSFM has been responsible for retail distribution of the London-headquartered fund in Australia and New Zealand since 2017.

Commenting on the rating upgrade - from 'Investment grade' to 'Recommended' - GSFM chief executive, Damien McIntyre, said the Lonsec assessment gives further credence to the decision to act as the fund's local distributor, and why it continues to attract such strong interest from Australian investors.

"Man AHL Alpha has a long heritage and track record and is managed by highly-qualified, long-standing investment professionals.

"At GSFM, we've been well aware of the potential of this fund for some time, so it's pleasing to see that the robust and quality-driven approach to the underlying investment strategy has been recognised and rewarded by an independent third-party," he said.

In assessing the fund, Lonsec's product review report noted Man AHL Alpha's large and high-quality investment team, with execution considered a particular area of strength.

“Compared to most peers, the fund’s generally shorter horizon models are potentially better suited to provide greater convexity to an equity biased portfolio in v-shaped markets.

“It trades a highly diverse and differentiated set of markets compared to peers which may provide greater diversification benefits,” the report said.

The ratings upgrade follows the move by GSFM earlier this year to further strengthen its partnership with Man Group and distribute a second Man retail fund offering in Australia and New Zealand – the Man Diversified Alternatives Fund.

In all, GSFM’s range of specialist funds management partnerships in the Australian market totals seven. These span Australian equities, global equities, global fixed income, alternative investment strategies, absolute return through global equities and global smaller companies.

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GSFM was established in July 2007 as a subsidiary of the Grant Samuel Group. In November 2016 CI Financial Corp (CI) purchased an 80 per cent stake in the business. CI is a diversified wealth management firm with fee-earning assets of CAD\$176.7 billion (as of 30 June 2019). GSFM specialises in marketing funds managed by high calibre local and international managers to Australian and New Zealand institutional and Australian retail investors.

Since 2007, GSFM has formed alliances with following investment managers to distribute investment products to Australian and New Zealand clients:

- *New York based Epoch Investment Partners, Inc.*
- *Tribeca Investment Partners, a successful Australian boutique manager*
- *Payden & Rygel, a Los Angeles based independent investment management firm*
- *Triple Three Partners Pty Ltd (Triple3) a boutique research and investment management firm*
- *Munro Partners, an independent global equity manager*
- *London-based Man Group plc*
- *Toronto and Boston based Cambridge Global Asset Management*

GSFM currently represents more than \$6.7 billion funds under management (as at 30 June 2019). For more information about GSFM please visit the website: www.gsfm.com.au