# Loftus Peak Global Disruption Fund

# Investing | Future Focused





#### Research Ratings:







### February 2024 Update

Founded in 2014, Loftus Peak is a global fund manager with a focus on investment in listed disruptive businesses. We have extensive experience and bring significant discipline to the process. Our Australian Securities Exchange listed Fund (ASX code: LPGD) comprises some of the best and fastest-growing companies in the world – companies that we believe are driving change across all industries globally, constructed on the basis of strict criteria and included at carefully determined valuations. Holdings include large capitalisation names like Microsoft and Google (Alphabet) as well as many others that we expect to be household names in the future, such as Advanced Micro Devices and Qualcomm. This approach to investment across a wide range of global industries lowers the concentration risk inherent in the typical Australian portfolio, with its heavy skew toward banks, resources and the Australian dollar.

#### **Review and Performance**

Many of the Fund's holdings reported December quarter numbers in February resulting in a return of +6.6% net-of-fees for the month. This was outperformance of +0.6% relative to the Fund's benchmark, the MSCI All Countries World Index (net) as expressed in Australian dollars (AUD) from Bloomberg.

Large capitalisation companies were the best performers in the Fund. We are mindful that there may be significant value in the smaller end, and continue to comb the market for these, but the growth in revenue and earnings growth for the mega-caps is hard to argue.

	1m	3m	6m	1y	3y p.a.	5y p.a.	7y p.a	Inception p.a.
Loftus Peak (Net) <sup>1</sup>	+6.56%	+18.10%	+24.09%	+60.00%	+14.31%	+20.33%	+20.82%	+21.05%
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	+5.91%	+11.82%	+11.25%	+28.04%	+13.14%	+12.49%	+12.60%	+13.17%
Outperformance (Net) <sup>3</sup>	+0.64%	+6.27%	+12.84%	+31.96%	+1.17%	+7.84%	+8.22%	+7.88%

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Returns greater than one-year are annualised.

Source: Loftus Peak, Bloomberg

#### **Contributors and Detractors to Return**

**Meta** was the largest contributor, adding +1.4% to return. In its earnings report, the company referenced its "year of efficiency" with operating costs down -7.9% year-over-year as revenues increased +24.7%. Across the full year, advertising impressions increased +28.0% year-over-year as the price per ad decreased -9.0%. The stock jumped +20.3% overnight, adding approximately USD 200 billion in value – the largest ever one-night increase in a company's market capitalisation (until later in the month, see Nvidia below).

Amazon contributed +1.3% to Fund return, with the company exceeding expectations for revenue and non-GAAP earnings per share. The company's ecommerce business grew at +6.8% year-over-year while its cloud division, the largest in the world, grew +13.2% year-over-year in constant currency. The company appears to have arrested the decline in growth for AWS which began in Q1 2021. This comes as the company has ramped up the use of large language model AI workloads such as Claude which Amazon accesses through a partnership with Anthropic.

**Nvidia** also reported, again beating expectations. The stock price increased +16.4%, adding around USD 320 billion to the value of the company, breaking the record set earlier in the month by Meta. This move took the semiconductor company to just below USD 2 trillion market capitalisation. Nvidia contributed +1.0% to the Fund. The company reported quarterly year-over-year revenue growth of +409% for its mainstay datacentre business. At its current price, Nvidia's valuation requires the company to sustain this meteoric growth into the future, which in truth is a possibility.

Key Facts			
Inception Date	15 November 2016		
ASX Code APIR Code	LPGD MMC0110AU		
Fund FUM (AUD)	\$345 million		
Strategy FUM (AUD)	\$400 million (\$761 million from 1 March 2024)		
Product Type	Registered Managed Investment Scheme domiciled in Australia		
Responsible Entity	Equity Trustees Limited		
Investment Universe	Listed Global Equities		
Benchmark	MSCI All Countries World Index (net) (as expressed in AUD from Bloomberg)		
Carbon Intensity <sup>1</sup>	67% less carbon intensive than benchmark:		
	tCO2e/Mil USD		
	39.0 (LPGD)		
	119.9 (benchmark)		
	No exposure to companies involved in fossil fuel extraction, generation and related products and services.		
No. of Investments	15-35		
Minimum Cash	1%		
Maximum Cash	20%		
Suggested time frame	3-5 years		
Minimum Investment <sup>2</sup>	\$5,000		
Additional Investment via BPAY®	BPAY® Biller Code: 349845 Customer Reference Number (CRN): generated after initial application.		
	Please note that BPAY® is not available for purchasing units on the ASX.		
Pricing Frequency	Daily		
Distributions	Paid annually as at 30 June		
Withdrawal Notice	Generally, notice received by 2pm (Sydney time) receives the price effective for that business day.		
Research Ratings (Lonsec, SQM, Zenith)	Click Lonsec, SQM or Zenith logo on our website to request a copy.		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Source: Sustainalytics as at 29 February 2024

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Fees			
Annual Management Costs	1.20% per annum (inc. GST)		
Performance	15% in excess of the hurdle return with a high watermark payable six monthly as at 30 June and 31 December each year		

Office Frices			
Date	29 February 2024		
Entry Price (in AUD)	4.2850		
Exit Price (in AUD)	4.2636		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net-of-fees performance for the Fund is based on end-of-month redemption prices after the deduction of fees and expenses and the reinvestment of all distributions. Investment return and the principal value fluctuate, so your units, when sold, may be worth more or less than the original cost. For further details, please refer to the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The benchmark for the Fund is the MSCI All Countries World Index (net) as expressed in AUD from Bloomberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Outperformance is shown as the Loftus Peak (Net) minus the Benchmark.

While not quite as exposed to AI as Nvidia (which is arguably the highest possible threshold for comparison), we believe other semiconductor companies do offer exposure, specifically **Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company** and **Qualcomm**. Another semiconductor company, **Advanced Micro Devices**, has optionality into the datacentre market which underpins Nvidia's monumental growth. These three companies combined contributed +2.1% to the Fund - more than double Nvidia.

Our mid cap holdings did not keep up. We saw weakness in advertising with the top detractors being Roku, DoubleVerify and Integral Ad Science. The market is pricing a weaker recovery in digital advertising, which heavily impacts the high growth modelled for these companies. While these three companies are disruptive, we acknowledge that their valuations require high growth which entails execution risk. For this reason, they are held at smaller weights. Our commitment to this valuation-based risk-management approach limits the threat of underperformance should a number of these small holdings fall significantly.

The Australian dollar depreciated -1.5% against the US dollar over the month, so the Fund's US dollar positions increased. As at 29 February 2024, the Fund carried a foreign currency exposure of 98.9%.

### **Selected Contributors and Detractors**



#### **Portfolio Construction**

February month end, the Fund was 96.5% invested in 29 holdings with the balance in cash exposure. The Fund has a high exposure to large capitalisation names which are highly cash generative with strong balance sheets. Focusing on high quality companies helps the Fund to withstand difficult periods in the market and drive strong, long-term outcomes for investors.

Top 10 Holdings (in alphabetical order)				
Alphabet	Microsoft			
Amazon	Netflix			
AMD	Nvidia			
Broadcom	Qualcomm			
Meta	Taiwan Semiconductor			

Capitalisation USD		
Mega Cap > \$100b	71.5%	
Large Cap \$50-100b	8.4%	
Mid Cap \$2-50b	13.0%	
Small Cap < \$2b	3.6%	

#### The Team



# Alex Pollak CIO and Founder

With 25 years' experience in disruptive business models gained during a career with Macquarie Bank, Alex heads one of the best-performing teams in global investment management in Australia.

He was instrumental in bringing both Seek and Carsales.com to the Australian stock market. He has a deep understanding of the mechanisms through which disruption changes business models and the impact it has on company valuation.



### Anshu Sharma Portfolio Manager and Founder

Anshu began his career as an analyst in global disruption investment more than fifteen years ago. This was soon followed by portfolio manager responsibilities across information technology and communications services sectors, before taking on the Portfolio Manager role at Loftus Peak as one of the founders of the firm in 2014.

Being mentored by the best in this space early on in his career, and having travelled extensively to meet hundreds of global companies, Anshu brings a wealth of experience to investing in disruption.



## Rick Steele

Drawing on more than 30 years in funds management and government Rick is the CEO of Loftus Peak. After a successful career in the Australian Treasury, Rick held senior positions in a number of financial services firms in Australia, including more than a decade at BT Funds Management.

Rick is also Chairman of CitizenBlue, an impact enterprise operating a container recycling service for its environmental members.



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