# AIS INVESTMENT GUIDE

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\* See page 75 for representative indexes.

The Investment Guide is intended to provide useful information to investors who manage their own financial assets. We also provide low cost discretionary asset management services for individuals and institutions seeking professional advice and assistance in implementing an investment strategy.

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# (888) 528-1216 8:30 - 4:30 EST

aisinfo@americaninvestment.com

P.O. Box 1000 Great Barrington, MA 01230

# Will Your Broker Sign This?

For many years investors have endured a confusing dual legal standard of care that exists within the money management industry. Registered Investment Advisers (RIAs) such as AIS must place their clients' interests first while others, such as brokers, are held to a lower standard which only requires that they offer investment choices that are "suitable" to their clients' circumstances.

*RIAs have a fiduciary duty to their clients.* They must put your interests ahead of their own at all times, by providing advice and recommending investments that they consider to be *best for you*. RIAs are also required to provide up-front disclosures about their qualifications, what services they provide, how they are compensated, possible conflicts of interest, and whether they have any record of disciplinary actions against them. *Brokers are generally not considered* (continued on next page)

# I believe in placing your best interests first. Therefore, I am proud to commit to the following five fiduciary principles:

- I will always put your best interests first.
- I will act with prudence; that is, with the skill, care, diligence, and good judgment of a professional.
- I will not mislead you, and I will provide conspicuous, full and fair disclosure of all important facts.
- I will avoid conflicts of interest.
- I will fully disclose and fairly manage, in your favor, any unavoidable conflicts.

Advisor	
Firm Affiliation	
Date	

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to have a fiduciary duty to customers, though that standard may apply in certain, limited circumstances. Instead, brokers are required: 1) to know your financial situation well enough to understand your financial needs, and 2) to recommend investments that are *suitable for you* based on that knowledge. They are not required to provide up-front disclosure of the type provided by investment advisers.<sup>1</sup>

This distinction has profound implications for investors. For example under the looser "suitability standard" brokers have far greater latitude (versus an RIA) to sell high cost mutual funds from fund families that provide "revenue flow" (some would say kickbacks) to the broker who sold them, or to promote alternatives from a range of products carried by the broker's firm. Brokers are also more likely to be paid through sales commissions, while RIAs often assess a fee based on the market value of assets managed. In April the Department of Labor proposed a new "Fiduciary Rule" that would extend the "best interest" standard to brokers and other non-fiduciary managers in situations involving employer-sponsored retirement accounts<sup>2</sup>. Currently brokers can advise clients to roll over 401(k) or other retirement plan assets into an individual IRA account, where the client's assets might be subject to the questionable practices described above. The proposed rule would effectively raise the bar for brokers by requiring that assets rolled over be managed under the best interest standard.

In its executive summary the DOL noted that "IRA holders receiving conflicted investment advice can expect their investments to underperform by an average of 100 basis points per year over the next 20 years and that this underperformance in the mutual fund segment alone could cost IRA investors more than \$210 billion over the next ten years."

# Make Your Own Rule

The Fiduciary Rule is a step in the right direction, but it does not go far enough. Most significantly, it only applies to retirement plan assets.

Our parent, AIER, has long counselled citizens to educate themselves and to be self-reliant. Rather than rely on state or federal regulation to protect their interests, investors should hold their investment professionals to the highest standard of care possible at all times, and this should apply to all financial assets under management.

Nearby we have reprinted a pledge provided by the Committee for the Fiduciary Standard (www.thefiduciarystandard.org), for your benefit. We recommend that you present this simple statement to your investment professional and ask that he or she sign it. If this individual demurs, we would be happy to discuss our services with you.

1. Cutting Through the Confusion: Where to Turn for Help with Your Investments, North American Securities Administrators Association. For a full copy see www.nasaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/CuttingThroughTheConfusion-1.pdf.

Federal Register/Vol 80, no 75, 4/20/2015/Proposed Rules p 21929

2. The fate if the proposed DOL rule is indeterminate pending legislation intended to address the issue at a broader level.

# QUARTERLY REVIEW OF CAPITAL MARKETS<sup>1</sup>

he third quarter was marked by lower interest rates in the U.S market and sharply negative returns in global stock markets.

Intermediate and long term interest rates fell by quarter end, bringing the yield curve essentially back to where it stood at the beginning of the year. Bond index investors garnered modest quarterly gains for the three months.

U.S. stocks fell across the board. The market was roiled largely by news of slow growth in China and continuing speculation regarding the Fed's next interest rate move. In overseas markets emerging market stocks suffered the most amidst tumbling commodity prices and the apparent slowdown in China's economy. Developed market stocks were hardly immune to the global decline but held up better than emerging market shares.

# Cash Equivalent Assets<sup>2</sup>

Household consumers experienced falling prices over the quarter. AIER's Everyday Price Index (EPI) fell 1.6% while the broader Consumer Price Index (CPI) (non-seasonally adjusted) fell 0.30%. Over the past 12 months the EPI fell 3.56% while the CPI registered no change. The EPI fell further because it weights energy prices more heavily.

For many households however, this apparent increase in purchasing power over the short term was offset by meager interest rates on equivalent assets such as Treasury bills, bank CDs, and money market instruments. At quarter-end three month Treasury bills were providing a 0% nominal yield and 12 month issues were paying only 0.33%.

During its much-anticipated September meeting the Fed elected to leave the fed funds target unchanged, despite earlier speculation that it might raise rates. In July the Fed had hinted that during the next 12 months rates would likely be increased, but as the summer wore on a slowing global economy and a growing concern with disinflation prompted a more cautious approach.

# **Fixed Income**

Interest rates fell during the quarter for U.S. Treasuries with maturities greater than two years (see accompanying yield curve chart), providing diversified bondholders with slight gains. U.S. Treasuries overall returned 1.8%, while global bonds hedged to the dollar returned 0.61%. By quarter end the yield curve generally reflected rates that prevailed when the year began. The yield on the 5-year Treasury note dropped 0.25% to end the period at 1.38%. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note decreased 0.27% to end at 2.06% while the 30-year Treasury bond fell 0.22% to finish with a yield of 2.88%.

U.S. corporate bond returns were positive but trailed Treasuries, registering a gain of 0.5%, as credit spreads increased during the quarter. Municipal bonds gained 1.7% while Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) returned -1.1%. Long term (30 year) mortgage rates were averaging 4.2% with four points as the quarter drew to a close.

Inflation expectations over 10 years stood at 1.41% based on nominal and real yields at quarter-end.

# **Real Estate<sup>3</sup>**

U.S. REITs were one of the best-performing asset classes during the third quarter, turning in a modest 0.99% return, but outperforming U.S. equities. In a reversal of the previous quarter global REITs outside the U.S. underperformed

#### U.S. REITs, returning -4.29%.

Equity REITs typically provide a strong, steady income stream. REITs were yielding 4% at the end of the guarter.

To qualify as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code, a company must distribute 90% of its taxable income to shareholders, and because a REIT can deduct dividends paid from its taxable corporate income, a REIT will often distribute 100% of its taxable income as a dividend. This recurring income distribution is a feature shared with bonds. REITs however are not debt instruments but a form of equity and therefore provide direct ownership. Because they share attributes of both bonds and stocks their returns are not strongly correlated with either asset class and therefore provide a valuable source of portfolio diversification.

# **U.S. Equities<sup>4</sup>**

The U.S. stock market declined



sharply during the third quarter following news of slower than expected growth in China and in response to mixed signals from the Fed regarding the timing and magnitude of any increase in interest rates. Markets did not respond positively to the Fed's decision to hold rates steady, perhaps interpreting the decision as a sign of economic weakness.

U.S. stocks turned in substantial losses, returning -7.25% over the three months. Large caps provided better

	AIS Mode	el Portfol	ios <sup>1</sup>	17 F				
Asset Class	For the Period Endir Index	ng Septen Rei	iber 30, 20 commended Allocatio	<b>P15</b> Percentage ns <sup>2</sup>		Asset Risk a	Class Stati	stics: (%)
					To	otal Retur	n Si	td. Dev.
	Co	ncorvativo	Modorato	Aggrossivo	(a 1 Voar	nnualizec	1) (ani 20 yoar	nualized
Cash & Equivalent Assets <sup>3</sup>	Bank of America/Merrill Lynch 3 Mo. T Bills	5	5	Aggressive	0.02	1 3 3	20 year 2.61	20 year
Short/Int Fixed Income	Barclays Capital 1-5 Vr Covt/Cred	45	20	8	1.97	3 /3	4.52	2.24
short/int. Tixed income	Citigroup World ex US Covt. Bond 1-5 Vr.	20	10	4	1.37	2.45	4.32	1.61
Real Estate	S&P Clobal REITs Index Cross Div	20	5	-	5.16	5.57	10.07	16.10
11 S. Marketwide	Russell 3000 Index (LISD)	-	g	13	-0.49	6.92	8.22	14 79
U.S. Large Can Value	Russell 1000 Value Index (USD)	2	4	7	-4.42	5 71	8.57	14.35
U.S. Mid Can	Russell Midcan Index (USD)	5	9	13	-0.25	7.87	10.20	16.26
U.S. Small Can Value	Russell 2000 Value Index (USD)	3	6	9	-1.60	5 35	9.26	16.20
0.5. Sman Cap value	DEA LIS Micro Can Portfolio (LISD)	1	2	2	2 11	7 15	10.51	19.94
Foreign Developed Markets	MSCL FAFE Index (LISD) Gross Div	4	20	24	-8.27	3 44	4 80	17.32
Foreign Emerging Markets	MSCI Emg. Mkts. Index (USD) Gross Div	1	5	6	-18.98	4.60	5.34	23.21
Gold Related	Gold (London PM Fix Price)	5	5	5	-8.43	8.94	5 47	15 73
Gold Related	Total	100	100	100	0.45	0.54	5.47	15.75
	Model Portfolio Statistics <sup>*</sup> :	KISK, Ketu	rn (%) and G	Nodorato	Aggrossiug			
D	ortfolio Poturn 1 Voor	Conse	17 VAUVE 13	3 24	Aggressive			
P	ortfolio Return 10 Vear (annualized)	-0.	95	1 69	5.09			
P	ortfolio Return 20 Vear (annualized)	5	14	6.16	6.87			
P	ortfolio Standard Deviation 20 Year (annualized)	d) 3	97	9.22	12.38			
Ċ	From the of \$100 over 20 Years	\$2	73	\$330	\$377			
		Ψ <u></u>	/5	\$550	4377			
indicative of future results. Th strategy (including the investm or equal to past performance transaction and/or custodial c historical performance results hypothetical and do not refle	by means of retroactive application of a mode erefore, no current or prospective investor shou nents and/or investment strategies recommende levels. Historical performance results for invest harges or the deduction of an investment-mana .The results portrayed in this portfolio reflect the ct historical recommendations of AIS. Annual	I designed v Ild assume f ed by AIS), o ment index agement fee e reinvestm portfolio re	the future or product ma es and/or cate , the incurrer ent of divider balancing is a	e performance ade reference egories, gener- ace of which v ads and capita assumed.	of any spector of any spector to directly of ally do not not vould have il gains. <b>Mo</b>	ormance i cific inves or indirect reflect the the effect <b>del Portfo</b>	may not be tment, inve ly, will be p deduction of decreasi	estment profitable of ng cs are
2 For our recommended lives 3 Investors should maintain c 4 Model portfolio returns refle management fee for the PAM fee decreases thereafter as AL lower than indicated. See AlS	ash balances adequate to cover living expenses ect the deduction of 0.725% management fee, t service of 1.50% applies to accounts of \$100,0 JM increases. Accounts with AUM less than \$5 5 ADV Part 2 for full details, available at http://a	5. for up to 6 the rate cha 000 (our mi 00,000 wo mericaninv	months in ac rged to a \$50 nimum accou uld incur a fe estment.com/	ddition to the 00,000 accour int size) in Ass e greater than 'images/pdf/Al	cash levels i nt managed sets Under N 0.725% an DV_Part_2A	indicated. by AIS. A Manageme d, therefo pdf.	a maximum ent ("AUM" ire, returns	annual '). The would b

Asset classes and representative index chart on page 73: large cap value, Russell 1000 Value Index; small cap value, Russell 2000 Value Index; large cap growth, Russell 1000 Growth Index; Global REITs, S&P Global REIT Index; foreign developed markets, MSCI EAFE Index; emerging markets, MSCI Emerging Markets Index

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performance relative to small caps, with returns of -6.44% and -11.92%, respectively. Within large caps growth shares returned -5.29%, outpacing the -8.39% turned in by value shares. Among small caps however, value shares outperformed growth shares with returns of -10.73% and -13.06%, respectively.

Nearly all industrial sectors posted negative returns in the third quarter. The energy and materials sectors were the worst-performing sectors as commodity prices fell worldwide. Utilities and consumer staples fared relatively well.

#### International Equities<sup>5</sup>

Global equities and commodities were hit hard by global weakness in Asia that arose during the third quarter. Especially hard-hit were emerging market nations linked closely to the Chinese economy. The dollar generally rose amidst the turmoil in Asia, detracting from equity returns for U.S. investors.

In August global markets were rocked when evidence emerged that growth in China, home to the world's second largest economy, was much weaker than expected. As Chinese stocks tumbled, the government's actions to reduce interest rates, to intervene in equity markets, and to allow devaluation of the renminbi sent equity markets into decline worldwide.

Developed markets outside the U.S. underperformed the U.S. equity market but outperformed emerging markets indices in U.S. dollar terms. Within developed markets small caps stocks registered a -8.03% return, outpacing large cap returns of -10.57%. Value underperformed growth indices across all size ranges, with returns of -12.05% and -9.11% respectively.

Emerging market stocks registered the worst performance among our recommended asset classes during the quarter. Large caps returned -17.90% in U.S. dollars, while small caps fared only slightly better, returning -16.67%. Value shares underperformed growth shares.

No individual country avoided negative returns in U.S. dollar terms during the third quarter. Within developed markets returns ranged from -1.12% (Ireland) to -18.79% (Singapore), while emerging market country returns ranged between -3.10% (Hungary) to -33.66% (Brazil).

# Gold<sup>6</sup>

The gold price began at \$1,171 per ounce and closed at \$1,114 for a loss of 4.9 percent. The daily price averaged \$1,012 but ranged between \$1,080 and \$1,168 in response to vacillating news from around the globe. Average daily volatility reached its highest level in the past seven quarters.

The gold price reacts in response to many variables, including expected changes in interest rates. Gold is considered by many to be a "safe haven" asset, a role shared by U.S. Treasury securities, which are widely regarded to bear zero risk of default. Unlike Treasuries however, gold does not pay interest. Therefore, there is downward pressure on the gold price when speculation grows that the Fed is likely to increase interest rates.

During the third quarter inconsistent messaging from the Fed led to heightened uncertainty and speculation regarding the next move in interest rates, which served to increase volatility in the gold price.

- 1. This article contains information and excerpts from The Vanguard Group, Fidelity Investments, and Dimensional Fund Advisors as well as data obtained from several index providers.
- Sources for cash and equivalent and fixed income statistics: U.S. Treasury, U.S. Labor Department (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Fidelity Management and Research Company, Dimensional Fund Advisors EPI: American Institute for Economic Research. U.S. Treasuries: Barclays U.S. Treasury Index. Global bonds: Citigroup WGBI 1-5 Years (USD hedged). U.S Corporate (investment grade) bonds: Barclays U.S. Credit Bond Index; Municipal bonds: Barclays Municipal Bond Index; TIPS: Barclays U.S. TIPS Index. Mortgage rates: Freddie Mac.
- 3. U.S. REIT data provided by National Association of Real Estate Trusts (NAREIT). U.S. REITs: FTSE NAREIT All Equity REIT Index. Ex-US REITS: S&P Global ex US REIT Index (Source: Dimensional Fund Advisors, Standard & Poor's).
- 4. U.S. Market: Russell 3000 Index. Small cap value stocks: Russell 2000 Value Index, Small cap growth stocks: Russell 2000 Growth Index. Large cap stocks: S&P 500 Index, Large Cap Value stocks: Russell 1000 Value Index Large Cap Growth Stocks: Russell 1000 Growth Index. Sector returns represented by S&P 500 sectors.
- 5. Source: Dimensional Fund Advisors and Fidelity Management and Research Company: Developed markets Large Cap-- MSCI World ex-USA Index, Small Cap -- MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index. Value MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index. Value MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index, Sma
- 6. Gold Price: London PM Fix. Source: World Gold Council

# UNHEALTHY ATTACHMENTS<sup>1</sup>

Have you ever made yourself suffer through a bad movie because, having paid for the ticket, you felt you had to get your money's worth? Some people treat investments the same way.

Behavioral economists have a name for this tendency of people to stick with a losing strategy purely on the basis that they have put so much time and money into it already. It's called the "sunk cost fallacy."

Let's say a couple buy a property next to a freeway, believing that planting trees and double-glazing will block out the noise. Thousands of dollars later the place is still unlivable, but they won't sell because "that would be a waste of money".

This is an example of a sunk cost. Despite the strong likelihood that you'll never get your money back, regardless of outcomes, you are reluctant to cut your losses and sell because that would involve an admission of defeat.

It works like this in the equity market too. People will often speculate on a particular stock on the basis of newspaper articles about prospects for the company or industry. When those forecasts don't come to pass, they hold on regardless.

It might be a mining stock that is hyped based on bullish projections for a new tenement. Later, when it becomes clear the prospect is not what its promoters claimed, some investors will still hold on, based on the erroneous view that they can make their money back.

The motivations behind the sunk cost fallacy are understandable. We want our investments to do well and we don't want to believe our efforts have been in vain. But there are ways of dealing with this challenge. Here are seven simple rules:

- Accept that not every investment will be a winner. Stocks rise and fall based on news and on the markets' collective view of their prospects. That there is risk around outcomes is why there is the prospect of a return.
- While risk and return are related, not every risk is worth taking. Taking big bets on individual stocks or industries leaves you open to idiosyncratic influences like changing technology.
- 3. Diversification can help wash away these individual influences. Over time, we know there is a capital market rate of return. But it is not divided equally among stocks or uniformly across time. So spread your risk.
- 4. Understand how markets work. If you hear on the news about the great prospects for a particular company

or sector, the chances are the market already knows that and has priced the security accordingly.

- 5. Look to the future, not to the past. The financial news is interesting, but it is about what has already happened and there is nothing much you can do about that. Investment is about what happens next.
- Don't fall in love with your investments. People often go wrong by sinking emotional capital into a losing stock that they just can't let go. It's easier to maintain discipline if you maintain a little distance from your portfolio.
- 7. Rebalance regularly. This is another way of staying disciplined. If the equity part of your portfolio has risen in value, you might sell down

the winners and put the money into bonds to maintain your desired allocation.

These are simple rules. But they are all practical ways of taking your ego out of the investment process and avoiding the sunk cost fallacy.

There is no single perfect portfolio, by the way. There are in fact an infinite number of possibilities, but based on the needs and risk profile of each individual, not on "hot tips" or the views of highprofile financial commentators.

This approach may not be as interesting. But by keeping an emotional distance between yourself and your portfolio, you can avoid some unhealthy attachments.

1. By Jim Parker, Vice President DFA Australia Limited, Outside the Flags, October 2015 Dimensional Fund Advisors

# WHY IT'S SO HARD TO DELAY SOCIAL SECURITY<sup>1</sup>

Behavioral economists have found that traditional economic models cannot explain what people actually choose to do with their money including filing for Social Security benefits early – a move that can cost them a lot of money in the long run.

A recent article<sup>2</sup> from Michael Mauboussin and Dan Callahan discusses four prominent investor biases that throw a monkey wrench in our economic models. I want to discuss a mental miscue that is particularly relevant to the decision regarding when to collect Social Security. It is known as hyperbolic discounting, and it could be a big reason why retirees claim Social Security earlier than most economists and financial planners would suggest.

Economists and planners almost universally agree that at least one member of a household should delay Social Security collection until age 70, at which point they max out benefits. For today's retirees, delaying from the earliest possible claiming age of 62 until the delayed claiming age of 70 would increase monthly benefits by about 76 percent. You have to give up income during those years from age 62 to 69, but you get a guaranteed annuity from the government that will last as long as you do.

Despite this claiming advice, data show that over half of current claimants

took their Social Security before age 65, and only about 3 percent delayed until age 70! People are not listening to economists or advisers.

Hyperbolic discounting is a phenomenon that may help describe why people make this seemingly poor decision. Hyperbolic discounting may best be explained through a couple of examples. The first comes from a 2002 research paper titled "Time Discounting and Time Preferences: A Critical Review." In it, the authors first asked respondents whether they would prefer \$10 today or \$11 tomorrow. The majority chose \$10 today. They then asked respondents whether they would prefer \$10 one year from now, or \$11 one year and one day from now. The respondents chose \$11.

On its face, this is the same decision: Are you willing to wait one day in order to increase the amount you receive by \$1? When they're asked about today and tomorrow, they found that respondents overwhelming preferred the money today. When asked about one year from now, respondents thought "what's an extra day when I'm already waiting an entire year?" This is hyperbolic discounting. We discount the present at a higher rate than the future.

A second example, from Mauboussin and Callahan, is something we can all relate to. When subjects have to choose a snack between a piece of fruit or a donut right now, they choose the donut. When you ask them what they'd like to have for a snack next week, they choose the healthy option. The authors say, "we insist that our future selves will be good even as our present selves enjoy some candy."

This all relates to claiming Social Security benefits. Everyone I talk to insists that they will delay their Social Security when the time comes. If they've read the literature, they understand the value of delaying benefits. And the trends do show that more people are delaying, even if by a modest amount. But the overwhelming majority still claim before age 70.

When offered \$1,500 per month today or \$2,640 per month starting in eight years, hyperbolic discounting takes over and many people opt for the early claiming. The donut is very tempting.

Other sources: Shane Frederick, George Loewenstein, and Ted O'Donoghue, "Time Discounting and Time Preference: A Critical Review," Journal of Economic Literature, Vol. 40, No. 2, June 2002, 351-401 Daniel Read and Barbara van Leeuwen, "Predicting Hunger: The Effects of Appetite and Delay on Choice," Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes, Vol. 76, No. 2, November 1998, 189- 205.

<sup>1.</sup> By Luke Delorme, Research Fellow. Daily Economy October 27, 2015

<sup>2.</sup> Mauboussin and Callahan, What's Going on in Your Brain, October 20, 2015. Munnell and Chen, Trends in Social Security Claiming, May 2015.

# THE HIGH-YIELD DOW INVESTMENT STRATEGY

# **Recommended HYD Portfolio**

As of October 15, 2015					—-Percent	t of Portfolio-—
	Rank	Yield (%)	Price (\$)	Status	Value (%)	No. Shares (%) <sup>1</sup>
Verizon	1	5.06	44.67	Holding**	23.67	26.19
Chevron	2	4.72	90.72	Buying	19.15	10.43
Caterpillar	3	4.35	70.83	Buying	6.73	4.69
Exxon Mobil	4	3.58	81.48	Buying	6.18	3.75
Pfizer	9	3.29	34.08	Selling	7.60	11.03
General Electric	10	3.28	28.03	Selling	8.00	14.10
McDonald's	11	3.28	103.66	Holding	12.53	5.97
Intel Corp	16	2.93	32.75	Holding	1.54	2.32
AT&T	N/A	5.62	33.49	Selling	14.59	21.52
Cash (6-mo. T-Bill)	N/A	N/A	N/A	U	0.01	N/A
Totals					100.00	100.00

\*\*Currently indicated purchases approximately equal to indicated purchases 18 months ago. <sup>1</sup> Because the percentage of each issue in the portfolio by value reflects the prices shown in the table, we are also showing the number of *shares* of each stock as a percentage of the total number of shares in the entire portfolio.

Performance was achieved by means of retroactive application of a model designed with the benefit of hindsight.

Subscribers can find a full description of the strategy and methodology in the "Subscribers Only" (Log in required) section of our website: www.americaninvestment.com.

# **Comparative Hypothetical Total Returns (%) and Volatility**

The data presented in the table and chart below represent total returns generated by a hypothetical HYD portfolio and by benchmark indexes for periods ending September 30, 2015\*. Returns for the 5-,10- and 20-year periods are annualized, as is the volatility (standard deviation) of returns. (January 1979 is the earliest date for which data was available for both the HYD model and relevant benchmark indexes).

HYD Strategy Russell 1000 Value Index S&P 500 Index Dow Jones Industrial Average	<u>1 mo</u> . -2.28 -3.02 -2.47 -1.35	<u>1 yr.</u> -8.65 -4.42 -0.61 -2.11	<u>5 yrs</u> . 13.23 12.29 13.34 11.38	<u>10 yrs</u> . 8.54 5.71 6.80 7.17	<u>20 yrs.</u> 10.51 8.57 8.14 8.74	<u>Since Jan 79</u> 14.81 11.98 11.58 N/A	Volatility (Std. Dev.) <u>since 1979</u> 17.39 14.65 15.07 N/A	
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\*Data assume all purchases and sales at mid-month prices (+/-\$0.125 per share commissions), reinvestment of all dividends and interest, and no taxes. **Performance was achieved by means of retroactive application of a model designed with the benefit of hindsight.** Model HYD calculations are based on hypothetical trades following a very exacting stock-selection strategy. They do not reflect returns on actual investments or previous recommendations of AIS. Past performance may differ from future results. Historical performance results for the Russell 1000 Value Index, the Dow Jones Industrial Index and the S&P 500 Index do not reflect the deduction of transaction and/or custodial charges, or the deduction of an investment-management fee, the incurrence of which would have the effect of decreasing historical performance results. HYD Strategy results reflect the deduction of 0.73% management fee, the annual rate assessed to a \$500,000 account managed through our High Yield Dow investment service.

# **RECENT MARKET STATISTICS**

Precious <b>N</b>	Aetals & C	Commodity	Prices (\$)			Securitie	s Markets		
		10/15/15	Mo. Earlier	Yr. Earlier			10/15/15	Mo. Earlier	Yr. Earlier
Gold, London p.m. fix	king (oz)	1,185.50	1,105.95	1,237.50	S & P 500 Stock Compo	site	2,122.85	1,978.09	1,862.49
Silver, London Spot Pr	rice (oz)	16.19	14.35	17.01	Dow Jones Industrial Av	erage	18,119.78	16,599.85	16,141.74
Copper, COMEX Spot	Price (100	lb)258.80	243.60	300.45	Barclays US Credit Inde	x	2.584.16	2,545.00	2,586.19
Crude Óil, W. Texas Ir	nt. Spot (bb	<b>59.68</b>	44.59	81.78	Nasdag Composite		5.153.97	4,860.52	4,215.32
Bloomberg Commodi	ty Spot Inde	ex 330.06	294.77	371.14	Financial Times Gold M	ines Index	1.052.02	816.11	1,288.38
Bloomberg Commodi	ty Index	100.05	88.57	117.00	FT EMEA (African) Go	d Mines	1,187,53	1.003.04	1,244,91
Reuters-lefferies CRB	Index	223.23	196.02	271.31	FT Asia Pacific Gold N	Aines	5,995.79	4,279,94	4,239.60
fielders Jenenes eng	maex			27 113 1	FT Americas Gold Mi	nes	802.93	614.39	1.133.55
	Interest R	Rates (%)				Coin Pric	es (\$)		.,
						comme	εs (φ)		
U.S. Treasury bills -	91 day	0.01	0.07	0.02		10/15/15	Mo. Earlie	er Yr. Earlier	Prem (%)
-	182 day	0.08	0.27	0.05	American Eagle (1.00)	1,197.70	1,142.32	1,274.63	1.14
	52 week	0.27	0.47	0.10	Austrian 100-Corona (0.9803)	1,140.47	1,069.89	1,198.03	-1.76
U.S. Treasury bonds -	10 year	2.37	2.28	2.15	British Sovereign (0.2354)	284.46	268.37	299.60	2.04
Corporates:	,				Canadian Maple Leaf (1.00)	1,181.70	1,124.35	1,256.80	-0.22
High Quality -	10+ year	4.24	4.18	3.78	Mexican 50-Peso (1.2057)	1,392.55	1,318.52	1,476.30	-2.47
Medium Quality -	10+ year	5.18	5.44	4.59	Mexican Ounce (1.00)	1,181.70	1,113.83	1,244.80	-0.22
Federal Reserve Disco	ount Rate	0.75	0.75	0.75	S. African Krugerrand (1.00)	1,182.70	1,126.72	1,258.97	-0.13
New York Prime Rate		3.25	3.25	3.25	U.S. Double Eagle-\$20 (0.967	5)			
Euro Rates	3 month	n <b>-0.05</b>	-0.04	0.08	St. Gaudens (MS-60)	1,275.00	1,285.00	1,285.00	11.28
Government bonds -	10 year	0.55	0.74	0.75	Liberty (Type I-AU50)	2,225.00	2,225.00	2,225.00	94.19
Swiss Rates -	3 month	n <b>-0.72</b>	-0.73	0.01	Liberty (Type II-AU50)	1,425.00	1,425.00	1,525.00	24.37
Government bonds -	10 year	-0.23	-0.04	0.49	Liberty (Type III-AU50)	1,265.00	1,265.00	1,255.00	10.41
	,				U.S. Silver Coins (\$1,000 face	value, circ	ulated)	,	
	Exchange	Rates (\$)			90% Silver Circ. (715 oz.)	14,805.00	13,694.50	12,925.00	27.97
	0				40% Silver Circ. (292 oz.)	4,656.00	4,198.00	5,025.00	-1.45
British Pound	-	1.582300	1.535200	1.595900	Silver Dollars Circ.	19,732.50	15,504.00	18,550.00	57.65
Canadian Dollar	(	0.813900	0.754100	0.885700		,	,	,	
Euro	-	1.137800	1.126000	1.277800	Note: Premium reflects percentage differ	ence between	coin price and	alue of metal in	a coin, with
Japanese Yen	(	0.008112	0.008313	0.009429	gold at \$1,184.25 per ounce and silver a	at \$16.18 per o	unce. The weigh	it in troy ounces	of the precious
South African Rand		0.082600	0.074300	0.090400	Recomberg Commodity Index were pres	s. Note: The B	Joomberg Com	nouity Spot Index	cand the
Swiss Franc		1.088400	1.025100	1.058900	Commodity Index, respectively, as of 7/1	/1.4 Data that	t was being retrie	ex and the DOW J	ones-UB3

 1.025100
 1.058900
 Bloomberg Commodity Index were previously the Dow Jones Spot Index and the Dow Jones-UBS Commodity Index, respectively, as of 7/1/14. Data that was being retrieved from Dow Jones is now being retrieved from Bloomberg.

# THE DOW JONES INDUSTRIALS RANKED BY YIELD\*

								La	atest Dividen	d	Indica	nted
	Ticker		M	arket Prices	; (\$)	12-Mor	nth (\$)	Amount	Record	Payable	Annual	Yieldt
	Symbol		10/15/15	5 9/15/15	10/15/14	High	Low	(\$)	Date	Date	Dividend	(\$) (%)
Verizon	VZ		44.67	46.37	44.67	51.73	38.06	0.565	10/9/2015	11/2/2015	2.260	5.06
Chevron	CVX		90.72	77.17	90.72	120.17	69.58	1.070	8/19/2015	9/10/2015	4.280	4.72
Caterpillar	CAT		70.83	74.58	70.83	107.12	62.99 L	0.770	10/26/2015	11/20/201	5 3.080	4.35
Exxon Mobil	XOM		81.48	72.86	81.48	97.20	66.55	0.730	8/13/2015	9/10/2015	2.920	3.58
Procter and Gamble	e PG		74.27	69.45	74.27	93.89	65.02	0.663	10/23/2015	11/16/201	5 2.652	3.57
Merck	MRK		50.72	53.55	50.72	63.62	45.69	0.450	9/15/2015	10/7/2015	1.800	3.55
IBM	IBM		150.09	147.53	150.09	182.84	140.56 L	1.300	8/10/2015	9/10/2015	5.200	3.46
Wal-Mart Stores	WMT		59.33	64.32	59.33	90.97	58.37	0.490	12/4/2015	1/4/2016	1.960	3.30
Pfizer	PFE		34.08	33.17	34.08	36.46	27.51	0.280	11/6/2015	12/1/2015	1.120	3.29
General Electric	GE		28.03	25.30	28.03	29.19	19.37	0.230	9/21/2015	10/26/201	5 0.920	3.28
McDonald's	MCD		103.66	98.19	103.66	105.20 <i>H</i>	87.50	0.850	9/1/2015	9/16/2015	3.400	3.28
Coca-Cola	КО		41.92	38.50	41.92	45.00	36.56	0.330	12/1/2015	12/15/201	5 1.320	3.15
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ		97.15	94.40	97.15	109.49	81.79	0.750	8/25/2015	9/8/2015	3.000	3.09
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT	1	47.01	43.98	47.01	50.05	39.72	0.360	11/19/2015	12/10/201	5 1.440	3.06
Cisco	CSCO		28.15	25.98	28.15	30.31	22.56	0.210	10/5/2015	10/21/201	5 0.840	2.98
Intel Corp	INTC		32.75	29.73	32.75	37.90	24.87	0.240	11/7/2015	12/1/2015	0.960	2.93
J P Morgan	JPM		61.89	63.58	61.89	70.61	50.07	0.440	10/6/2015	10/31/201	5 1.760	2.84
3M Company	MMM		149.19	143.60	149.19	170.50	132.75	1.025	8/21/2015	9/12/2015	4.100	2.75
United Tech.	UTX		93.18	92.68	93.18	124.45	85.50 L	0.640	11/13/2015	12/10/201	5 2.560	2.75
Dupont	DD		56.70	48.30	56.70	76.61	47.11 <i>L</i>	0.380	8/14/2015	9/11/2015	1.520	2.68
Boeing	BA		137.39	136.30	137.39	158.83	115.14	0.910	8/7/2015	9/4/2015	3.640	2.65
Travelers	TRV		104.96	100.86	104.96	110.49	90.95	0.610	9/10/2015	9/30/2015	2.440	2.32
Home Depot, Inc.	HD		121.81	116.18	121.81	123.80	86.35	0.590	9/3/2015	9/17/2015	2.360	1.94
Apple	AAPL		111.86	116.28	111.86	134.54	92.00	0.520	8/10/2015	8/13/2015	2.080	1.86
Unitedhealth Group	D UNH		120.17	120.03	120.17	126.21	84.10	0.500	9/11/2015	9/22/2015	2.000	1.66
American Express	AXP		76.74	76.50	76.74	94.89	71.71	0.290	10/9/2015	11/10/201	5 1.160	1.51
Goldman Sachs	GS		184.96	187.45	184.96	218.77	167.49 L	0.650	12/2/2015	12/30/201	5 2.600	1.41
Walt Disney	DIS		107.89	103.43	107.89	122.08	79.55	0.660	7/6/2015	7/29/2015	1.320	1.22
Nike	NKE		128.79	113.84	128.79	130.32	83.85	0.280	9/8/2015	10/5/2015	1.120	0.87
Visa Inc.	V		75.34	70.51	75.34	76.92	48.80	0.120	8/14/2015	9/1/2015	0.480	0.64

\* See the Recommended HYD Portfolio table on page 78 for current recommendations. † Based on indicated dividends and market price as of 10/15/15. Extra dividends are not included in annual yields. *H* New 52-week high. *L* New 52-week low. All data adjusted for splits and spin-offs. 12-month data begins 10/16/14. *I* Dividend increased since 9/15/15 Dividend decreased since 9/15/15

	Committee	And Marken		tive Quarter	rly Statistics	5 IMEN 5, as of 9/30/	75 15			Annualiz	ed Returns	<sup>4</sup> (%), as of	9/30/15	
Chort/Intermediste Fived Income	Symbol	Avg. Markel Cap. Avg. Maturity	Holdings	Expense <sup>3</sup> (%	ka 6) Sharpe 7	uos Turnover (%,	) <i>P/B</i>	12 MO. Yield (%)	1 yr.	3 yr.	5 yr.	1 yr.	aner iax 3 yr.	5 yr.
Vanguard Shor-Term Bond Index Ishares Barclays 1-3 Yr. Credit Bond Ishares Barclays 1-3 Yr. Treasury Bond Vanguard Limited-Term Tax-Exempt	BSV <sup>1</sup> /VBIS) CSJ <sup>1</sup> SHY <sup>1</sup> VMLTX	X 2.8 Yrs. 2.01 Yrs. 1.85 Yrs. 3.4 Yrs.	2179 935 80 -	0.20 0.20 0.15 0.20	0.63 1.40 0.51 0.74	45 17 122		1.43 1.09 0.49 1.52	1.85 0.97 1.05 1.07	0.96 1.02 0.55 1.07	1.40 1.47 0.63 1.56	1.28 0.51 0.84 1.07	0.41 0.54 0.40 1.07	0.79 0.92 0.45 1.56
SPDR N.B. Short-Term Municipal Bond Inflation-Protected Fixed Income iShares Barclays TIPS Bond iShareard Inflation-Protected Securities	SHM <sup>1</sup> TIP <sup>1</sup> VIPSX	3.01 Yrs. 8.50 Yrs. 8.6 Yrs.	570 40 -	0.20 0.20 0.20	0.41 -0.31 -0.33	20 47 39		0.92 0.56 1.38	0.89 -1.01 -0.83	0.90 -1.95 -1.97	1.35 2.40 2.37	0.49 -1.15 -1.39	0.67 -2.45 -2.79	1.20 1.62 1.41
International Fixed Income Vanguard Total International Bond Index	× BNDX <sup>1</sup> /VTIE	3X 9.2 Yrs.	3924	0.23	ı	16		1.49	3.12	ı	'	2.47	I	I
Real Estate Vanguard REIT Index SPDR Dow Jones REIT Vanguard Global ex-US Real Estate iShares International Property ETF SPDR Dow Jones Global Real Estate ETF	VNQ <sup>1</sup> /VGS RWR <sup>1</sup> VNQ <sup>11</sup> /VG WPS <sup>1</sup> F RWO <sup>1</sup>	SIX 9.52 B 14.69 B XRX <sup>5</sup> 5.84 B 6.38 B 10.92 B	148 97 629 397	0.26 0.25 0.37 0.48 0.50	0.56 0.57 0.40 0.55 0.54	م ۵ ۵ ۵ ۵	2.21 2.39 1.03 1.65	4.12 3.36 3.93 3.00	9.19 11.49 -3.30 -1.61 4.94	9.23 9.63 4.02 7.36	11.73 12.02 5.87 9.15	7.62 9.97 -5.05 -2.73 3.66	7.92 8.14 2.36 3.76 5.78	10.55 10.62  7.39
<b>U.S. Large Cap Value</b> Vanguard Value Index iShares Russell 1000 Value Index	VTV <sup>1</sup> / VIVA IWD <sup>1</sup>	X 81.59 B 48.66 B	318 689	0.23 0.20	1.39 1.35	6 13	1.98 1.65	2.54 2.54	-3.11 -4.56	11.92 11.37	12.20 12.05	-3.65	11.33 10.81	11.69 11.57
<b>U.S. Mid Cap</b> Vanguard Mid-Cap ETF iShares Russell Mid-Cap Index	VO IWR	10.79 B 10.30 B	371 829	0.09 0.20	1.54 1.50	11	2.64 2.36	3.89 1.60	1.70 -0.39	14.67 13.72	13.61 13.22	1.13 -0.77	14.25 13.29	13.27 12.85
<b>U.S. Small Cap Value</b> iShares Russell Microcap Index Vanguard Small-Cap Value Index	IWC <sup>1</sup> VBR <sup>1</sup> /VISV:	0.40 B X 3.03 B	1423 839	0.60 0.23	1.07 1.29	26 12	1.66 1.77	1.42 1.26	1.74 -0.03	11.23 13.08	12.14 12.56	1.39 -0.79	10.85 12.41	11.81 11.99
<b>U.S. Marketwide</b> Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Fidelity Spartan Total Market Index	VTI' /VTSM FSTMX <sup>2</sup>	X 46.80 B 46.63 B	- 3799	0.17 0.10	1.42 1.43	5 3	2.62 2.46	2.07 1.70	-0.67	12.34 12.36	13.15 13.17	-1.10	11.86 11.97	12.74 12.83
Foreign- Developed Markets Ishares MSCI EAFE Growth Index Ishares MSCI EAFE Value Index Vanguard FTSE Developed Market SPDR S&P International Small Cap	EFG <sup>1</sup> EFV <sup>1</sup> VEA <sup>1</sup> /VTMC GWX <sup>1</sup>	29.04 B 39.19 B 3X <sup>6</sup> 32.02 B 1.01 B	560 492 1396 2247	0.40 0.40 0.09 0.40	0.77 0.62 0.73 0.78	27 29 51	2.33 1.08 1.16	2.15 4.03 3.05 13.10	-4.90 -12.78 -7.91 -4.69	6.22 4.43 5.96 6.21	4.55 2.87 4.13 4.60	-5.31 -13.47 -8.65 -7.84	5.82 3.67 5.18 4.49	4.25 2.29 3.53 3.38
<b>Foreign- Emerging Markets</b> Vanguard FTSE Emerging Market Stock	VWO1 / VEII	EX 15.10 B	1040	0.33	-0.07	6	1.46	3.26	-18.35	-4.81	-3.50	-19.03	-5.47	-4.01
<b>Gold-Related Funds</b> iShares Gold Trust SPDR Gold Shares	IAU <sup>1</sup> GLD <sup>1</sup>	5.75 B 24.62 B		0.25 0.40	-0.78 -0.79	1 1		1 1	-8.66 -8.79	-14.61 -14.75	-3.40 -3.53	-8.66 -8.79	-14.61 -14.75	-3.40 -3.53
Data provided by the funds and Morni. Funds, returns shown are for mutual fund initial investment. *Pre-liquidation. Calc	ingstar. <sup>1</sup> Exchar ls; ETFs' returns :ulated using t <del>f</del>	ige Traded Fund, trac s may deviate. <sup>s</sup> VGXk te highest individual	led on NYSE. <sup>2</sup> 0.5 X includes a 0.22 federal income ti	5% fee for red 5% fee on pur ax rates in effe	lemption in 90 chases and re ect at the time	D days. <sup>3</sup> For Val demptions, wh t of each distrib	nguard fund nich are paid	ds, expense rati d directly into th do not reflect th	os shown are ne fund. <sup>6</sup> The le impact of <u>(</u>	e for mutua se are admi state and lo	l funds, ETFs iral shares an cal taxes or i	have lower e d have a \$10, ndividual tax	xpenses. <sup>4</sup> F 000 require situations.	or Vanguai d minimui

October 31, 2015

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