# BlueBox Funds- BlueBox Global Technology Fund







#### **Fund Objective**

**Direct Connection** 

The Fund's principle objective is to seek long term capital growth by investing mainly in shares of companies having their principle business in the technology sector or profiting from it. The Fund invests globally, is actively managed and is not benchmark constrained.

#### **Investment Theme—Direct Connection**

The Direct Connection of computers to the real world has enabled the technology revolution of the past 15 years, driving an acceleration in tech adoption simultaneously across all industry verticals. With every other industry investing its excess returns in technology, we expect the IT sector to continue to outperform the broader market as it steals the growth from the rest of the economy. The Fund focuses on the companies enabling Direct Connection, giving it exposure to the most exciting developments in the sector without needing to chase over-hyped themes or invest in over-valued stocks.

#### **Investment Team**

Lead Portfolio Manager William de Gale, FCA, CFA



Portfolio Manager

Rupert de Borchgrave, CFA



### **BlueBox Global Technology Fund Performance**



Performance to 31.12.2023	1 month	3 months	YTD	3 yr Ann	5 yr Ann	ITD Ann
BlueBox Global Technology Fund	6.9 %	18.4 %	56.8 %	10.1 %	25.4 %	19.1 %
S&P Global BMI IT NTR Index	4.8 %	17.4 %	50.9 %	9.2 %	22.5 %	17.3 %

12M Rolling Performance to 31.12.2023	Dec 2023	Dec 2022	Dec 2021	Dec 2020	Dec 2019
BlueBox Global Technology Fund	56.8 %	-35.2 %	31.6 %	63.8 %	41.7 %
S&P Global BMI IT NTR Index	50.9 %	-31.3 %	25.8 %	44.9 %	46.0 %

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Performance based on Share Class S since launch on 29 March 2018 (ISIN LU1793347128)

Top 10 Holdings				
Microsoft	6.2 %			
Taiwan Semiconductor	4.6 %			
Lam Research	4.2 %			
Applied Materials	4.2 %			
MercadoLibre	4.1 %			
ASML Holding	4.1 %			
Cadence Design	4.1 %			
Nvidia	4.0 %			
Synopsys	4.0 %			
Adobe	3.7 %			
Tot	tal 43.2 %			

Top Countries	
United States	71.1 %
Netherlands	6.6 %
Japan	5.8 %
Taiwan	4.6 %
Argentina	4.1 %
South Korea	2.5 %
Switzerland	2.1 %
Spain	2.0 %
Cash & equivalents	1.2 %

Market Capitalisation						
	Mega cap (>\$300bn)	19.9 %				
	Large cap – upper (\$200bn - \$300bn)	13.4 %				
	Large cap – mid (\$100bn - \$200bn)	11.8 %				
	Large cap – lower (\$10bn - \$100bn)	53.7 %				
	Mid cap (\$1bn - \$10bn)	0.0 %				
	Small cap (<\$1bn)	0.0 %				
	Cash & equivalents	1.2 %				

Sector Allocation					
Semiconductors & semi equipment	39.4 %				
Software & services	34.4 %				
Hardware & components	14.3 %				
Consumer discretionary	8.1 %				
Communication services	2.6 %				
Cash & equivalents	1.2 %				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> S&P Global BMI IT INDEX is Net Total Return, calculated since launch of BBGT on 29 March 2018

## BlueBox Funds- BlueBox Global Technology Fund

**Direct Connection** 

Global Technology Fund

bluebox

### William de Gale's Monthly Comment

December continued November's sharp rally, taking the Technology sector and the BlueBox Global Technology Fund to new all-time highs, narrowly surpassing their peaks of late 2021. The Fund was up 6.9% in December, led by Ansys (+24%), Advanced Micro Devices (+22%) and EPAM Systems (+15%); while Synopsys (-5%) and MercadoLibre (-2%) declined. Synopsys was rumoured to be acquiring Ansys, hence the relative moves of those two holdings, and we trimmed some of the upside from the latter, while adding a little to the former.

Looking at 2023 as a whole, the Fund was up 56.8%, comfortably ahead of the benchmark, up 50.9%. The strongest performances came from NVIDIA (+239%), Advanced Micro Devices (+128%), ASM International (+108%) and Salesforce (+98%); with EPAM (-9%) the only major laggard. This outperformance was despite our normal mega-cap underweight (the "Magnificent 7" mega-caps dominated the market this year), and an underweight position in NVIDIA (the most obvious winner of this year's hot theme, Generative AI). This once again demonstrates that the investment industry's slavish obsession with benchmark-relative weights is a red herring: in order to outperform, a fund doesn't have to own any particular stock at any particular weight - it's much more important to invest in a collection of good businesses that one is confident will grow their GAAP earnings in the high teens or better for a very long time to come. The annualised 5-year growth rate of our current holdings' net income is 18.7%, almost identical to the Fund's 19.1% annual performance since inception: enough to beat tech benchmarks by a comfortable margin and establish a position at the top of tech fund performance tables, despite the extreme volatility of markets over recent vears.

The huge recovery of 2023 must be viewed in the light of a 30%+ tech sector correction in 2022: it just takes the industry back to the middle of its long-term, mid-teens growth trend, a trend that has been in place since 2009, driven by mid-teens annual growth of tech industry profits over the same period. That is not a bubble: IT sector performance over the past 15 years has been almost perfectly supported by profit growth. There was an equity bubble in early 2021, but it was not the Technology companies - the vendors of technology, the enablers. The bubble was in all those exciting, disruptive businesses with huge revenue growth but no realistic chance of ever actually making a profit - the consumers of technology, the disrupters. That bubble has largely deflated over the past 3 years, but 2023's Generative AI excitement creates the opportunity for investors once again to make a largely futile attempt to pick winners amongst the disrupters ... but there will be almost no winners from the companies deploying GenAI: almost none of those businesses will ever make a profit from that deployment, however successful their disruption, as their exciting revenue growth will be outweighed by the massive IT spend required to compete in GenAl. The winners are, once again, the technology enablers, the recipients of all that IT spend.

Whatever the hot story of disruption in 2024 turns out to be, it will rely on technology. Whatever technology it depends upon, that tech will be running on semiconductors. Whatever semiconductors that tech runs on, they will have been built using equipment supplied by Lam Research, Applied Materials, Tokyo Electron and ASML. The nearer your investment is to the end of the preceding three sentences, the more certainty you have that it will benefit from next year's tech theme. Our fund therefore tends to avoid the exciting disrupters, and is focused instead on enabling technology companies, with a substantial weight in key semiconductor and semi capital equipment stocks. These very profitable enablers remain the main engine of profit growth globally, giving BlueBox investors exposure to the strongest technology trends, without the absurd valuations and poor business models of many of the high-profile, but profitless, disrupters.

Portfolio Con	struction	Key Facts		
Asset Class	Equity	Fund Base Currency	USD	
Number of Securities	30-40	Liquidity	Daily	
Weight	10 % maximum	Fund Type	UCITS	
Turnover	Low	Legal Status	SICAV	
rumover		Domicile	Luxembourg	
Market Cap	Mainly Targeting \$10 bn -\$100 bn	Auditor	PwC	
Geographic Allocation	Global	Custodian	Northern Trust Global Services SE	
Cash	Minimal cash, always below 10 %	Launch Date*	29 March 2018	
Benchmark	Flexible, not benchmark oriented	* The Fund was launched under Share Class S, with Management Fee of 1% until December 2020, 0% Management Fee since. The Share Class is closed to new investors.		
AuM	\$769 million			

Share Classes				
	C Acc. Retail	A Acc. Retail	R Acc. Retail	l Acc. Institutional
Min. Initial Investment:	\$1,000	\$10,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Annual Management Fee:	2.2 %	1.5 %	1.0 %	1.0 %
Launch Date:	27 Nov 2020	10 Feb 2020	20 Sept 2022	5 Oct 2020
USD ISIN: Bloomberg Ticker:	LU2092176275 BLBGTCC LX	LU1793345262 BLBGTAA LX	LU2497703376 BLUBRUA LX	LU1793346666 BLBGTII LX
EUR ISIN: Bloomberg Ticker:	LU2092176515 BLBGTCE LX	LU1793345429 BLBGTAE LX	LU2497703533 BLUBREA LX	LU1793346823 BLBGTIE LX
GBP ISIN: Bloomberg Ticker:	LU2092176358 BLBGTCG LX	LU1793345346 BLBGTAG LX	LU2497703459 BLUBRGA LX	LU1793346740 BLBGTIG LX

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