

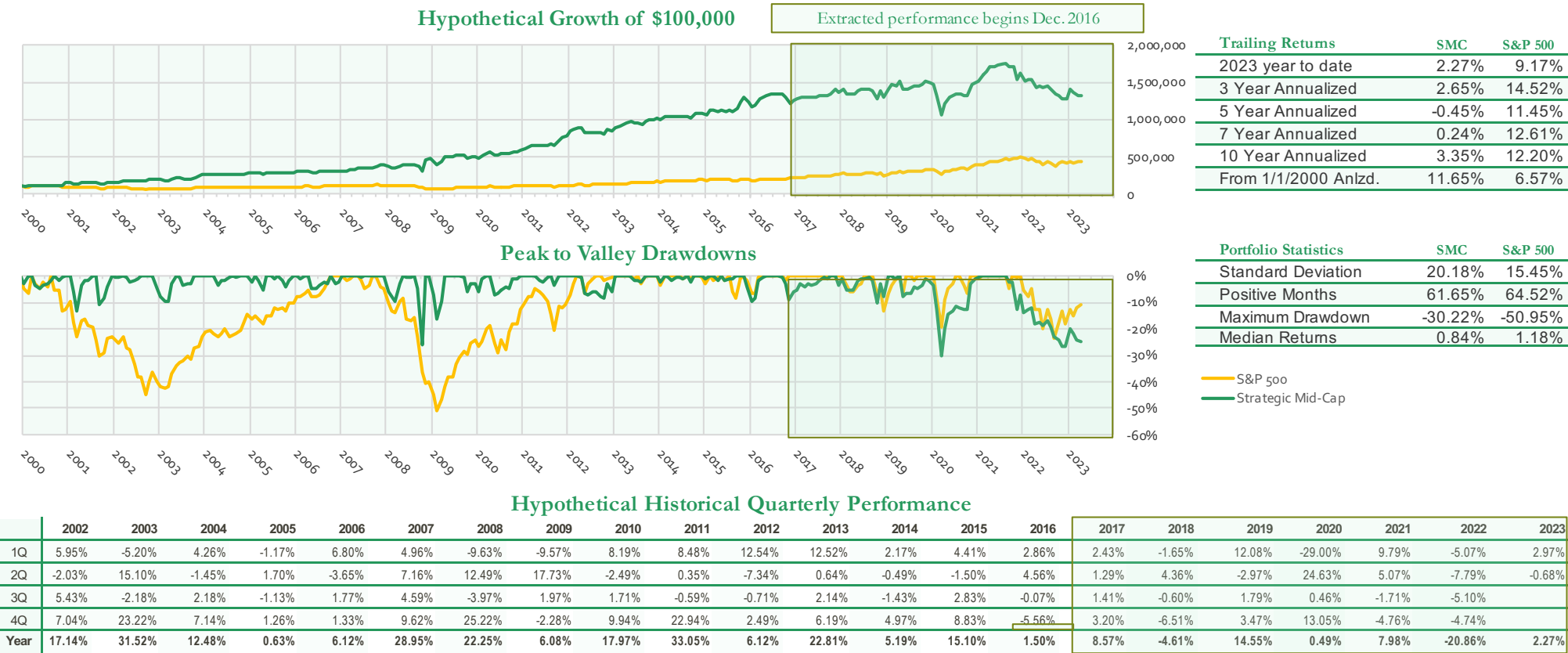
Hypothetical Strategic Mid-Cap Portfolio

For period ending April, 30 2023



Description

The Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy is a FTAWA proprietary investment model designed to identify and exploit seasonal influences on the U.S. equity market. Seasonal forces have historically skewed returns in certain months of the year, particularly during specific sub-periods in the final three months of the year. Each year, the Strategy holds an S&P Mid-Cap 400 Index ETF from late-October to the end of May, it then changes the holdings to intermediate-term bond ETFs from June to late-October. During the third and fourth quarters of each year, the Strategy increases the leverage exposure to the Mid-Cap market by 100% during certain sub-periods totaling less than twenty-five (25) days. The sub-periods are heavily influenced by end-of-month and holiday seasonal forces. Investors should be aware that the use of leverage in this Strategy potentially increases its risk and volatility and therefore may not be suitable for all investors.



Disclosure: Past Performance is not a guarantee of future returns. Returns are hypothetical. For performance reporting purposes results presented are net of annual advisory fee of 2.00%. See following page for important disclosures. © 2023 Financial & Tax Architects, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy (SMC)

Disclosures

Performance prior to 9/30/16 has been independently verified by Alpha Performance Verification Services. Please ask your financial advisors for a copy of the performance verification report.

Description

The Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy (SMC) strives to exploit two seasonal influences on the stock market which have, historically, “skewed” returns in certain months of the year and specific sub-periods in the final three months of the year. Each year, the SMC strategy holds an S&P MidCap 400 Index ETF from late-October to the end of May and then invests in intermediate-term bond ETFs from June to late-October. During the third and fourth quarters of each year, the strategy raises the leverage of the midcap exposure by 100% during certain sub-periods totaling less than 25 days. These sub-periods are influenced by end-of-month and holiday seasonal forces.

Disclosure

Performance presented is hypothetical (back-tested) from inception of the strategy until November 2016. Beginning December 2016, the presented returns reflect the performance of an extraction of real portfolios invested in the strategy. Prospective application of the methodology used to manage the strategy may not actually result in a performance commensurate with the hypothetical returns or the returns of the extracted performance, as shown. The hypothetical period does not necessarily correspond to the entire available history of the back-test or any individual instrument. The actual strategy invests in equities or index, equity and bond ETFs which may be similar but different from the instruments used in the model. Model results have inherent limitations due to the fact that they do not reflect actual trading

and may not reflect the impact that material economic and market factors might have had on the advisor’s decision-making if actual client funds had been invested in the strategy. All investments carry with them the possibility of loss.

Up until the point that performance was first audited in 2016, the investment strategy that the results were based upon could theoretically have been changed with the benefit of hindsight in order to create the best possible results. Therefore, hypothetical data must be approached with caution because it is constructed with hindsight and may not reflect material conditions that could affect a manager’s decision process, thus altering the application of the discipline. There is no assurance that these results could, or would have been achieved by Financial & Tax Architects (FTA) during the periods prior to December 2016.

Calculation Methodologies

From January 2000 through November 2016 the performance is prepared using the following methodologies:

- (i) by a hypothetical model portfolio to which an investment methodology is applied on a current and on-going basis;
- (ii) at the start of the performance track-record, the model begins with \$100,000 which is tied to the performance of a market index or indexes;
- (iii) all index performance is calculated at month’s end and the invested amount grows or is diminished by the monthly return of its’ assigned index;

- (iv) the cost basis and proceeds for the index is based on the day and time the decision was made to allocate the investment to the index;
- (v) on a monthly basis, performance is calculated using the associated index monthly return;
- (vi) annual performance for the model is computed by linking the monthly performance results for the indicated number of months;
- (vii) the hypothetical performance includes both realized and unrealized gains and losses, but does not take into consideration any interest on cash;
- (viii) all performance results are net of management fees;
- (ix) net-of-fee performance has been reduced by the management fee but is gross of all other fees and transaction costs;
- (x) net-of-fee performance is calculated using an annual management fee of 2% applied monthly, in arrears; and
- (xi) the U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance.

Beginning December 2016, the presented returns represent the strategy-specific SMC performance of FTA’s multi-strategy accounts under management with an allocation to SMC. Variances in holdings may have occurred across portfolios invested in this strategy, due to timing of cash flow additions and liquidations or other client-specific constraints, which may have resulted in performance for individual portfolios that is different than that of the returns presented. New accounts invested in this strategy may be invested similarly but not identically to the investments of the extracted portfolios which were

used to calculate the presented extracted performance.

Differences between Hypothetical Performance and Extracted Performance

Differences in hypothetical performance and extracted performance may be attributed but not limited to the following:

- (i) hypothetical returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends, whereas extracted returns do not;
- (ii) timing of investments of the hypothetical returns were generated retroactively, whereas investment decisions used for the extracted portfolios may suffer from slower implementation due to their real-time nature;
- (iii) the hypothetical performance presented was prepared using a rules-based formula which does not deviate from the structured parameters, whereas FTA's discretionary status of its managed accounts enables the firm to deviate from the aforementioned rules, if desired;
- (iv) hypothetical returns do not utilize dollar-cost averaging, whereas the extracted returns may. Because of the differences between hypothetical performance calculations and extracted performance from actual portfolios, the extracted performance may be materially higher or lower than the hypothetical performance when compared during the same time periods.

Limitations of Hypothetical Model Performance

The performance represents hypothetical model results for Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy from January 2000 through November 2016.

As such, these results have limitations, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (i) Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy results do not reflect actual trading by specific FINANCIAL AND TAX ARCHITECTS clients, but were achieved by means of the calculation methodologies described above;
- (ii) model performance may not reflect the impact that all or any material market or economic conditions would had on use of Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy by an individual client;
- (iii) for differing reasons FINANCIAL AND TAX ARCHITECTS clients would have experienced investment results, either positive or negative, during the measurement period that were or may have been materially different from those reflected by the Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy model performance. For Example, variances in client account holdings, investment management fees incurred, the date on which a client began using Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy, client account contributions or withdrawals and general market conditions, would have

caused the performance of a specific client's portfolio to vary substantially from the Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy model performance results; and (iv) different types of investments and investment strategies involve varying levels of risk, and there can be no assurance that any specific investment or strategy will be either suitable or profitable for a prospective client.

The model performance does not reflect other earnings, brokerage commissions, and custodian expenses. It is important to note that actual portfolios would be charged other fees and transaction costs and performance would be lower. Hypothetical past performance is not indicative of future results.

Therefore, no client should assume that future performance will be profitable, equal the hypothetical performance reflected for Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy, or equal the corresponding historical benchmark index.

Benchmark Description

The historical index performance results for the index reflect reinvested dividends, but do not reflect the deduction of transaction and custodial charges, or the deduction of an advisor fee, the incurrence of which would have the effect of decreasing the historical index performance results. The historical index performance results are provided for comparison purposes only, so as to provide general information to assist a prospective client in determining whether the index performance meets the client's investment objectives. Historical index performance results do not reflect the impact of taxes. It should not be assumed that portfolios will correspond directly to any such comparative benchmark index. Further, the comparative index may be more or less volatile than Strategic Mid-Cap Strategy.
