

# RELIABLE RESEARCH

Very Unattractive Rating

10/18/2021 NAV as of 10/14/2021: \$31.85

12%

0% cash

# LMGAX

## Lord Abbett Research Fund, Inc: Lord Abbett Growth Opportunities Fund

- · Predictive Ratings are based on the aggregation of our models for the fund's holdings, all of the fund's expenses, & the fund's overall rank.
- Stock-picking (Portfolio Management) and fund expenses (Total Annual Costs) drive fund performance.

#### • Get the PROOF that our research outperforms.

#### Investment Recommendation

- We strongly recommend investors avoid LMGAX. We recommend its ETF benchmark IUSG.
- · Despite strong past performance, we expect the fund to significantly underperform the market on a total return basis.
- LMGAX's Portfolio Management rating does not justify its high Total Annual Costs.

#### Portfolio Management Rating Details

- LMGAX receives our Unattractive Portfolio Management rating because its aggregate holdings are expected to underperform the aggregate holdings of IUSG.
- IUSG, LMGAX's benchmark, receives our Attractive rating.
- Our fund analytics are based on aggregating our models and ratings for each fund's holdings.
- Best Fundamental data in the world The Journal of Financial Economics
- Superior analytics to Bloomberg & Capital IQ, see appendix of this paper
- · Superior stock ratings: our Robo-Analyst outperforms human analysts
- Best Investment Research Tech: Benzinga's Global Fintech Winner

#### Fund Rankings

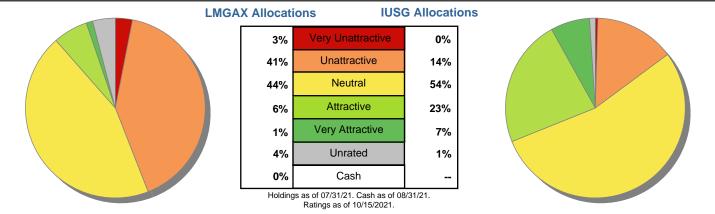
- 8th percentile of the 7000+ equity funds we cover.
- · 452 out of 461 All Cap Growth funds.
- · 26 of 27 ETFs in the same category rank better.
- · See rankings for all US equity funds on our fund screener.

#### Portfolio Management Rating Breakdown Quality of Earnings Components: Ratings & Values Attractive Economic vs Reported EPS Positive EE Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) Attractive

| Allactive                              | Retuin on invested Capital (ROIC)  | 12/0       |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------------------|------------|--|--|--|
| Valuation Components: Ratings & Values |                                    |            |  |  |  |
| Neutral                                | Free Cash Flow Yield               | 0%         |  |  |  |
| Very Unattractive                      | Price to Economic Book Value Ratio | 4.8        |  |  |  |
| Very Unattractive                      | e Growth Appreciation Period       | 72 year(s) |  |  |  |
| Fund Asset Allocation: Rating & Value  |                                    |            |  |  |  |

#### Cash Allocation Very Attractive

Stock and Cash Rating Allocations vs Benchmark - iShares Trust: iShares Core S&P US Growth ETF (IUSG)



#### **Active Management Commentary**

. . . . .

LMGAX allocates 44% of its value to Unattractive-or-worse-rated stocks while IUSG allocates 15%.

LMGAX allocates 7% of its value to Attractive-or-better-rated stocks while IUSG allocates 30%.

- Investors should expect funds with higher Total Annual Costs to allocate more value to Attractive and Very Attractive Stocks and less to Unattractive and Very Unattractive stocks than alternative funds with lower costs.
- Active portfolio management of LMGAX does not add value versus its ETF benchmark IUSG.

| Return - Anı  | nual  | Top 5 Holdings         |      | Key Mutual Fund Statistics |  |           |                     |
|---|-------|------------------------|------|----------------------------|--|-----------|---------------------|
| Year to Date  | 9.3%  | DocuSign Inc           | DOCU | Net Assets(mm)             | \$929.40                               | Category  | All Cap Growth      |
| 1 Year  | 21.6% | Dexcom Inc             | DXCM | NAV                        | \$31.85                                | Mgmt Co   | Lord Abbett         |
| 3 Year  | 24.7% |                        | CMG  | Benchmark                  | IUSG                                   | Manager   | Rabinowitz/Lawrence |
| 5 Year  | 20.3% | Palo Alto Networks Inc | PANW | # of Holdings              | 94                                     | Tenure    | 2017                |
| Inception   | 11.3% | Paycom Software Inc    | PAYC | Initial Min                | \$1,000                                | Inception | 08/01/1995          |
| Data from Lipper, a Thomson Reuters Company, and New Constructs, LLC. Details on Total Annual Costs Rating are on page 2. |       |                        |      |                            | tal Annual Costs Rating are on page 2. |           |                     |



# **RELIABLE RESEARCH**

10/18/2021

### Total Annual Costs Rating and Ranking

| Rating       | Total Annual<br>Costs | Fund Universe<br>% Rank | Category Rank |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Unattractive | 3.50%                 | 9%                      | 427 of 461    |

This rating reflects all expenses, loads, fees, and transaction costs in a single value that is comparable across all funds.

#### Total Annual Costs Breakdown

|                    | Annualized Values |                 |  |  |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| All Cost Types     | LMGAX             | Benchmark: IUSG |  |  |
| Front-End Load     | 2.19%             |                 |  |  |
| Expense Ratio      | 1.20%             | 0.04%           |  |  |
| Back-End Load      | 0.00%             |                 |  |  |
| Redemption Fee     | 0.00%             |                 |  |  |
| Transaction Costs  | 0.11%             |                 |  |  |
| Total Annual Costs | 3.50%             | 0.04%           |  |  |

 To justify its higher Total Annual Costs, LMGAX must outperform its ETF benchmark before all costs by 3.46% annually over 3 years or 1.90% annually over 10 years.

- This analysis assumes a 3-year holding period, the average for all funds.
- Transaction costs are estimated using the fund's annual portfolio turnover ratio of 50%.

Data from Lipper, a Thomson Reuters Company, and New Constructs. LLC.

#### **Overview of Our Predictive Mutual Fund Rating System**

New Constructs' <u>Predictive Fund Ratings</u> enable smarter investing by assessing the key drivers of future fund performance. We start by analyzing every fund holding based on New Constructs' stock ratings, which are regularly featured as among the <u>best by Barron's</u>. Next, we measure and rank the all-in costs of investing in a fund. Finally, we rank the fund compared to all other funds to identify the best and worst funds in the market.

- Intuitively, there are two drivers of future fund performance.
  - 1) New stock-picking (Portfolio Management Rating) and
  - 2) Fund expenses (Total Annual Costs Rating) drive investment performance

The figure below details the criteria that drive our Predictive Rating system for funds. The drivers of our predictive rating system are Portfolio Management and Total Annual Costs. The Portfolio Management Rating is the same as our Stock Rating except that we incorporate Asset Allocation in the Portfolio Management Rating. The Total Annual Costs Rating captures the all-in cost of being in a fund over a 3-year holding period, the average period for all mutual fund investors.

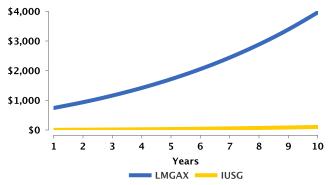
|                      | Portfolio Management Rating |                                      |           |                       |                                     |                  |                                |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Predictive<br>Rating | Quality of Earnings         |                                      | Valuation |                       |                                     | Asset Allocation | n Total Annual<br>Costs Rating |
|                      | Economic vs<br>Reported EPS | Return on Invested<br>Capital (ROIC) | FCF Yield | Price-to-EBV<br>Ratio | Growth Appreciation<br>Period (yrs) | Cash %           |                                |
| Very Unattractive    | Misleading Trend            | Bottom Quintile                      | < -5%     | > 3.5 or -1 < 0       | > 50                                | > 20%            | > 4%                           |
| Unattractive         | False Positive              | 4th Quintile                         | -5% < -1% | 2.4 < 3.5 or < -1     | 20 < 50                             | 8% < 20%         | 2% < 4%                        |
| Neutral              | Neutral EE                  | 3rd Quintile                         | -1% < 3%  | 1.6 < 2.4             | 10 < 20                             | 2.5% < 8%        | 1% < 2%                        |
| Attractive           | Positive EE                 | 2nd Quintile                         | 3% < 10%  | 1.1 < 1.6             | 3 < 10                              | 1% < 2.5%        | 0.5% < 1%                      |
| Very Attractive      | Rising EE                   | Top Quintile                         | > 10%     | 0 < 1.1               | 0 < 3                               | < 1%             | < 0.5%                         |

### Reported Costs vs Benchmark: as of 04/01/2021

|                | LMGAX | Benchmark: IUSG |
|----------------|-------|-----------------|
| Front-End Load | 5.75% |                 |
| Expense Ratio  | 1.06% | 0.04%           |
| Back-End Load  | 0.00% |                 |
| Redemption Fee | 0.00% |                 |

#### Accumulated Total Costs vs Benchmark

Accumulated Total Costs represent the dollar value of costs investors incur during a 10-yr holding period. Assumes a \$10,000 investment and a 10% annual return for the fund and its benchmark.



 3-year Accumulated Total Costs are \$1,160.03 for LMGAX and \$15.97 for IUSG. 10-year Accumulated Total Costs are \$3,962.51 for LMGAX and \$103.56 for IUSG. \* New Constructs®

10/18/2021

## It's Official: We Offer the Best Fundamental Data in the World

Many firms claim their research is superior, but none of them can prove it with independent studies from highly-respected institutions as we can. Three different papers from both the public and private sectors show:

- 1. Legacy fundamental datasets suffer from significant inaccuracies, omissions, and biases.
- 2. Only our "novel database" enables investors to overcome these flaws and apply reliable fundamental data in their research.
- 3. Our proprietary measures of <u>Core Earnings</u> and <u>Earnings Distortion</u> materially improve stock picking and forecasting of profits.

#### Best Fundamental Data in the World

Forthcoming in <u>The Journal of Financial Economics</u>, a top peer-reviewed journal, <u>Core Earnings: New Data & Evidence</u> proves our Robo-Analyst technology overcomes material shortcomings in legacy firms' data collection processes to provide superior <u>fundamental data</u>, <u>earnings</u> models, and <u>research</u>. More <u>details</u>.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "[New Constructs'] Total Adjustments differs significantly from the items identified and excluded from Compustat's adjusted earnings measures. For example... 50% to 70% of the variation in Total Adjustments is not explained by S&P Global's (SPGI) Adjustments individually." -pp. 14, 1<sup>st</sup> para.
- "A final source of differences [between New Constructs' and S&P Global's data] is due to data collection oversights... we identified cases where Compustat did not collect information relating to firms' income that is useful in assessing core earnings." pp. 16, 2<sup>nd</sup> para.

#### **Superior Models**

A top accounting firm features the superiority of our ROIC, NOPAT, and Invested Capital research to Capital IQ & Bloomberg's in <u>Getting ROIC Right</u>. See the <u>Appendix</u> for direct comparison details.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "...an accurate calculation of ROIC requires more diligence than often occurs in some of the common, off-the-shelf ROIC calculations. Only by scouring the footnotes and the MD&A [as New Constructs does] can investors get an accurate calculation of ROIC." -pp. 8, 5<sup>th</sup> para.
- "The majority of the difference... comes from New Constructs' machine learning approach, which leverages technology to calculate ROIC by applying accounting adjustments that may be buried deeply in the footnotes across thousands of companies." -pp. 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> para.

#### Superior Stock Ratings

Robo-Analysts' stock ratings outperform those from human analysts as shown in this paper from Indiana's Kelley School of business. Bloomberg features the paper here.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "the portfolios formed following the buy recommendations of Robo-Analysts earn abnormal returns that are statistically and economically significant." -pp. 6, 3<sup>rd</sup> para.
- "Our results ultimately suggest that Robo-Analysts are a valuable, alternative information intermediary to traditional sell-side analysts." -pp. 20, 3<sup>rd</sup> para.

Our mission is to provide the best fundamental analysis of public and private businesses in the world and make it affordable for all investors, not just Wall Street insiders.

We believe every investor deserves to know the whole truth about the profitability and valuation of any company they consider for investment. More details on our cutting-edge technology and how we use it are <u>here</u>.



### **DISCLOSURES**

New Constructs®, LLC (together with any subsidiaries and/or affiliates, 'New Constructs') is an independent organization with no management ties to the companies it covers. None of the members of New Constructs' management team or the management team of any New Constructs' affiliate holds a seat on the Board of Directors of any of the companies New Constructs covers. New Constructs does not perform any investment or merchant banking functions and does not operate a trading desk. New Constructs' Stock Ownership Policy prevents any of its employees or managers from engaging in Insider Trading and restricts any trading whereby an employee may exploit inside information regarding our stock research. In addition, employees and managers of the company are bound by a code of ethics that restricts them from purchasing or selling a security that they know or should have known was under consideration for inclusion in a New Constructs report nor may they purchase or sell a security for the first 15 days after New Constructs issues a report on that security.

### DISCLAIMERS

The information and opinions presented in this report are provided to you for information purposes only and are not to be used or considered as an offer or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell securities or other financial instruments. New Constructs has not taken any steps to ensure that the securities referred to in this report are suitable for any particular investor and nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting or tax advice. This report includes general information that does not take into account your individual circumstance, financial situation or needs, nor does it represent a personal recommendation to you. The investments or services contained or referred to in this report may not be suitable for you and it is recommended that you consult an independent investment advisor if you are in doubt about any such investments or investment services.

Information and opinions presented in this report have been obtained or derived from sources believed by New Constructs to be reliable, but New Constructs makes no representation as to their accuracy, authority, usefulness, reliability, timeliness or completeness. New Constructs accepts no liability for loss arising from the use of the information presented in this report, and New Constructs makes no warranty as to results that may be obtained from the information presented in this report. Past performance should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of future performance, and no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made regarding future performance. Information and opinions contained in this report reflect a judgment at its original date of publication by New Constructs and are subject to change without notice. New Constructs may have issued, and may in the future issue, other reports that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented in this report. Those reports reflect the different assumptions, views and analytical methods of the analysts who prepared them and New Constructs is under no obligation to insure that such other reports are brought to the attention of any recipient of this report.

New Constructs' reports are intended for distribution to its professional and institutional investor customers. Recipients who are not professionals or institutional investor customers of New Constructs should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor prior to making any investment decision or for any necessary explanation of its contents.

This report is not directed to, or intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or jurisdiction where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation or which would be subject New Constructs to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction.

This report may provide the addresses of websites. Except to the extent to which the report refers to New Constructs own website material, New Constructs has not reviewed the linked site and takes no responsibility for the content therein. Such address or hyperlink (including addresses or hyperlinks to New Constructs own website material) is provided solely for your convenience and the information and content of the linked site do not in any way form part of this report. Accessing such websites or following such hyperlink through this report shall be at your own risk.

All material in this report is the property of, and under copyright, of New Constructs. None of the contents, nor any copy of it, may be altered in any way, copied, or distributed or transmitted to any other party without the prior express written consent of New Constructs. All trademarks, service marks and logos used in this report are trademarks or service marks or registered trademarks or service marks of New Constructs.

Copyright New Constructs, LLC 2003 through the present date. All rights reserved.