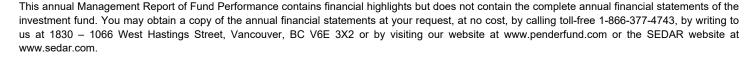


For the year ended December 31, 2022

Annual Management Report of Fund Performance



You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

For the year ended December 31, 2022

#### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE

#### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The objective of the Pender Alternative Arbitrage Fund (the "Fund") is to generate consistent, positive returns, with low volatility and low correlation to equity markets by investing primarily in North American securities. The Fund may also invest in foreign and other securities.

PenderFund Capital Management Ltd. ("Pender") is the Manager and Portfolio Advisor of the Fund.

#### Risks

The risks of investing in the Fund are outlined in the Simplified Prospectus dated August 29, 2022. There were no significant changes to the Fund's objectives and strategies that affected its overall level of risk during the year.

The economic uncertainties around persistent inflation pressure, bank failures, geopolitical events and the lingering COVID-19 pandemic have the potential to slow growth in the global economy. Future developments in these challenging areas could impact the Funds' results and financial condition and the full extent of that impact remains unknown.

As at December 31, 2022, the Fund had exposure to the banking sector. Subsequent to year-end, the Fund continues to have exposure to this sector. In certain cases, government agencies have assumed control or otherwise intervened in the operations of certain banks due to liquidity and solvency concerns. The extent of the situation remains uncertain and as such the Manager continues to assess across the broader financial sector and will take potential actions, as deemed necessary. The ultimate resolution of these liquidity and solvency concerns and the extent of the related impact to the Fund is uncertain and could be significant.

#### **Results of Operations**

The net assets of the Fund were \$26,851,852 as at December 31, 2022 versus \$11,885,352 as at December 31, 2021. Of this \$14,966,500 increase, \$1,051,555 is attributable to positive investment performance and \$13,914,945 is attributable to net unitholder purchases of Fund units.

For the year ended December 31, 2022, Class A units of the Fund generated a total return of 2.8%. Returns for Class A (USD), Class F (USD), Class H (USD) and Class I (USD) will differ primarily due to foreign currency as these classes are denominated in U.S. dollars whereas all remaining classes of the Fund are denominated in Canadian dollars. Returns for all other classes of the Fund will be similar to Class A with any difference in performance being primarily due to the different management fees that are applicable to different classes. Please see the "Past Performance" section for the performance of the Fund's other classes.

The Fund's benchmark, the HRFI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD), returned 2.5% during the year. In accordance with National Instrument 81-106, we have included a comparison to this benchmark to help you understand the Fund's performance relative to the general performance of the market, but we caution that the Fund's mandate may be significantly different from the index. Further, the Fund's returns are reported net of all management fees and expenses for all classes, unlike the returns of the Fund's benchmark, which are based on the performance of an index that does not pay fees or incur expenses.

The following comments and the comments under "Recent Developments" reflect the views of the portfolio management team and are based on information as at December 31, 2022. Please read the caution regarding forward-looking statements located on the last page of this document.

We are pleased to report positive fund flows for the year ended December 31, 2022 and we are optimistic that the Fund will see a continuation of positive fund flows as investment advisors assess the Fund's strategy and risk/reward profile.

To achieve the Fund's objective of generating consistent, positive returns with low volatility and low correlation to equity markets, the Fund employs arbitrage strategies, which are specialized investment techniques designed with the goal of profiting from the successful completion of mergers, take-overs, tender offers, leveraged buyouts, spin-offs, liquidations and other corporate reorganizations. We may also use a variety of additional investment strategies permitted within an alternative mutual fund, including but not limited to investing in special purpose acquisition companies ("SPACs"), convertible securities, and preferred shares.

For the year ended December 31, 2022

Portfolio transactions during the year were made based on our investment process that aims to identify attractive arbitrage opportunities, particularly in merger deals. In general, we added positions to the portfolio that we felt offered an attractive spread relative to the probability that a merger deal closed. The strategy seeks to exploit this return opportunity and deliver a relatively low volatility return to unitholders. We are constantly looking for new investment ideas and we may liquidate our positions for various reasons, such as when share prices have reached our assessment of fair value, when an acquisition has occurred, or where we have changed our investment thesis.

As at the end of the year, the Fund was 84.7% invested in long positions, -4.6% invested in short positions. The geographic positioning of the Fund remains predominantly tilted towards the US with 78.4% of net exposure in this jurisdiction. The Fund remains broadly diversified across various industries and skewed to smaller companies. As at December 31, 2022, the Fund had a net exposure of 80.1% invested in small, mid and micro-cap businesses. We feel this smaller market cap size is less exposed to the regulatory risk faced by larger merger deals and leverages the broader equity investment process at the Manager with its extensive research relating to smaller companies.

The overall sector exposure of the Fund is determined by stock selection decisions and may shift from time to time. As at December 31, 2022, we were weighted toward long position holdings in Diversified Financials, Information Technology and Health Care sectors, because those are the sectors where we believe we are finding the best investment opportunities currently. These top three sectors accounted for 62.3% (long positions) of the Fund at the end of the year.

#### **Recent Developments**

We have seen the record pace of M&A activity from 2021 slow to \$3.6 trillion globally in 2022, down 37% from 2021's historic peak but still outpacing 2020 activity and in line with pre-pandemic levels. Macro events, including rising and elevated inflation caused central banks to raise interest rates one of the fastest rates on record. Risks of slower economic growth and a recession have risen and have driven spreads wider across merger deals. This has created opportunities for the Fund to invest in merger deals from a financially strong sponsor and where we see a high probability of closing, particularly for the small and mid-sized companies where we are focused.

The Biden administration's executive order to promote competition provides the US government's key regulators, the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice, with greater ability to scrutinize mergers which may impact competition. We believe this will result in higher regulatory risk with a high probability of a merger being blocked for mega-cap and large-cap companies in industries with high concentration. Given the higher regulatory scrutiny on larger deals, we have focused the Fund on small and mid-cap merger deals where competition risk is less of a factor and therefore the risk of facing regulatory issues is lower.

Another opportunity we see today is in SPACs. The SPAC industry raised a record amount of capital through SPAC IPO issuances in 2021, surpassing the previous record for issuance set in 2020. With the volume of SPAC issuances surpassing the number of announced business combinations, the average share value of SPAC's searching for target acquisitions has fallen below trust value. This provides a positive yield to maturity by either holding a SPAC to maturity or redeeming for trust value on vote of a proposed business combination. With the capital raised by a SPAC held in trust and invested in US treasury bills, we believe that many SPACs currently offer a favorable and low risk investment opportunity. Our focus for the Fund is investing in SPACs with a positive yield to maturity with a sponsor that has an established track record of successful SPAC combinations, the ability to source unique or differentiated deal-flow and the access to funding should that SPAC see a high redemption rate.

We believe the Fund is positioned to benefit from a wide spread environment for merger deals and a positive spread environment for SPACs while diversifying deal risk exposure and minimizing downside exposure through position sizing.

Investment results may be affected by future developments and new information that may emerge regarding inflation and the impact of central bank measures, geopolitical events, the lingering impact of COVID-19, and other global events, factors that are beyond the Fund's control.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

The Fund pays management and administration fees to the Manager for management and portfolio advisory services (see "Management Fees"). The Fund also pays the Manager performance fees (see "Performance Fees").

As at the end of the year, parties related to the Manager collectively held 1% of the Fund's units. In addition, the Pender Enhanced Income Fund, Pender Income Advantage Fund and Pender Strategic Growth and Income Fund, funds also managed by the Manager, collectively held 18% of the Fund's outstanding units.

For the year ended December 31, 2022

#### **Management Fees**

The Fund pays management and administration fees calculated as a percentage of the net asset value of each respective class. The Management Expense Ratio ("MER") before applicable taxes such as GST or HST for each class does not exceed certain levels as set out in the Fund's offering documents. The fees are calculated at the close of business on each valuation day and are paid monthly. In exchange for the administration fee, the Manager pays the operating costs of the Fund. During the period from January 1, 2022 to March 31, 2022, the Manager waived management and administration fees and custody related transaction costs for the Fund.

Management fees are used by the Manager, in part, to pay sales commissions, trailer fees, marketing costs and other associated distribution costs relating to the sale of units of the Fund.

Such expenses represented approximately 23% of the management fees paid by the Fund to the Manager for the year.

#### **Performance Fees**

The Manager is also entitled to a performance fee plus applicable taxes such as GST or HST on all classes of units of the Fund. For Class O units, this fee is or will be charged directly to Unitholders, as applicable. The performance fee is equal to 15% of the amount by which the total return of the class of units exceeds the previous high-water mark for each applicable class of units for the period since the performance fee was last paid. The high-water mark is the net asset value of the applicable class of units to which it applies as at the most recent determination date on which a performance fee was payable. Performance fees will be calculated and accrued daily, and such accrued fees will be payable by the Fund at the end of each year. The Manager has reserved the right to change the period for which any performance fee may be paid by a Fund. The Manager, at its discretion, may reduce or waive performance fees. During the period from January 1, 2022, through to March 31, 2022, the Manager waived all performance fees of \$36,386 for the Pender Alternative Arbitrage Fund.

#### **Financial Highlights**

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the calendar years indicated.

#### Fund's Net Assets Per Unit (a)

	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Class A		
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	(0.15)	-
Total expenses	(0.34)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	1.69	(0.03)
Unrealized gains (losses)	(0.71)	0.25
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.49	0.21
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	-	(0.01)
From dividends	-	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.33)	-
Return of capital	-	-
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.33)	(0.02)
Net Assets, end of year	10.14	10.19

For the year ended December 31, 2022

- und o recentle of orme (a) (come a)		
	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Class AF	(Ψ)	(Ψ)
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:	10.19	10.00
Total revenue	0.15	_
Total expenses	(0.27)	(0.02)
Realized gains (losses)	0.33	(0.02)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.35	0.29
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.15	0.29
Distributions:	0.00	0.21
From income (excluding dividends)	_	(0.01)
From dividends	_	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.05)	(0.01)
· · ·	(0.03)	-
Return of capital	(0.05)	(0.00)
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.05)	(0.02)
Net Assets, end of year	10.48	10.19
Class E		
Net Assets, beginning of period (a)	10.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	(0.09)	
Total expenses	(0.04)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.77	
Unrealized gains (losses)	(0.37)	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.27	
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.13)	
From dividends	(0.02)	
From capital gains	(0.28)	
Return of capital	-	
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.43)	
Net Assets, end of period	9.72	
Class F		
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.34	0.01
Total expenses	(0.41)	(0.04)
Realized gains (losses)	0.22	(0.04)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.23	0.21
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.38	0.14
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.08)	(0.01)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.07)	-
Return of capital	-	-
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.16)	(0.02)
Net Assets, end of year	10.35	10.19

For the year ended December 31, 2022

Fund's Net Assets Fer Offit (a) (Cont u)		
	2022	2021
	(\$)	(\$)
Class FF		
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.17	0.01
Total expenses	(0.20)	(0.02)
Realized gains (losses)	0.28	(0.07)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.19	0.30
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.44	0.22
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.03)	(0.01)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.01)
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	-	-
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.04)	(0.02)
Net Assets, end of year	10.56	10.19
Class H		
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.38	-
Total expenses	(0.50)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	, , , <u>-</u>	(0.03)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.55	0.25
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.43	0.21
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.07)	(0.01)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.10)	-
Return of capital	-	-
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.18)	(0.02)
Net Assets, end of year	10.33	10.19
Class I		
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:	.0	
Total revenue	0.21	_
Total expenses	(0.34)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	0.50	(0.03)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.15	0.25
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.52	0.21
Distributions:	0.02	0.21
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.07)	(0.01)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.15)	(0.01)
Return of capital	(0.13)	-
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.23)	(0.02)
		(0.02)

For the year ended December 31, 2022

- unu o 1101/100010 1 01 0 1111 (u) (00111 u)	2000	0004
	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Class N	(+)	(+)
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:	10.10	10.00
Total revenue	0.14	_
Total expenses	(0.19)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	0.34	(0.03)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.13	0.25
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.42	0.21
Distributions:	V.12	V
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.05)	(0.01)
From dividends	(0.01)	(0.01)
From capital gains	(0.05)	(0.01)
Return of capital	(0.00)	_
	(0.44)	(0.02)
Total distributions (b), (c)  Net Assets, end of year	(0.11) 10.49	(0.02)
	10.43	10.13
Class O	42.42	40.00
Net Assets, beginning of year	10.19	10.00
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.31	- 
Total expenses	(0.11)	(0.01)
Realized gains (losses)	0.14	(0.03)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.42	0.25
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.76	0.21
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.15)	(0.01)
From dividends	(0.02)	(0.01)
From capital gains	-	-
Return of capital	<u> </u>	-
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.17)	(0.02)
Net Assets, end of year	10.56	10.19
Class A (USD)		
Net Assets, beginning of period (a)	13.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.06	
Total expenses	(0.16)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.38	
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.25	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.53	
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.12)	
From dividends	(0.02)	
From capital gains	(0.36)	
Return of capital	<del>-</del>	
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.50)	
Net Assets, end of period	13.19	

For the year ended December 31, 2022

	2022	2021
	(\$)	(\$
Class F (USD)		
Net Assets, beginning of period (a)	13.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	(0.04)	
Total expenses	(0.10)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.64	
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.02	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.52	
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.10)	
From dividends	(0.01)	
From capital gains	-	
Return of capital	-	
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.11)	
Net Assets, end of period	13.49	
Class H (USD)		
Net Assets, beginning of period (a)	13.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.06	
Total expenses	(0.15)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.38	
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.25	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.54	
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.13)	
From dividends	(0.02)	
From capital gains	(0.36)	
Return of capital	-	
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.51)	
Net Assets, end of period	13.19	

For the year ended December 31, 2022

### Fund's Net Assets Per Unit (a) (cont'd)

	2022	2021
	(\$)	(\$)
Class I (USD)		
Net Assets, beginning of period (a)	13.00	
Increase (decrease) from operations:		
Total revenue	0.06	
Total expenses	(0.12)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.38	
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.25	
Total increase (decrease) from operations (b)	0.57	
Distributions:		
From income (excluding dividends)	(0.16)	
From dividends	(0.02)	
From capital gains	(0.36)	
Return of capital	-	
Total distributions (b), (c)	(0.54)	
Net Assets, end of period	13.19	

- (a) This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements as at December 31 for the year/period stated, prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards. Class A (USD), Class E, Class F (USD), Class H (USD) and Class I (USD) commenced operations on September 1, 2022.
- (b) Net assets per unit and distributions per unit are based on the actual number of units for the relevant Fund class outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding during the year.
- (c) Distributions were paid in cash and/or reinvested in additional units of the Fund.

#### **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

	2022	2021
Class A		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	91	5
Number of units outstanding (a)	8,983	501
Management expense ratio (b)	2.37%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	2.43%	2.47%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.14	10.19
Class AF		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	2,551	1,782
Number of units outstanding (a)	243,197	174,924
Management expense ratio (b)	1.43%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	1.81%	1.74%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.48	10.19
Class E		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	84	
Number of units outstanding (a)	8,589	
Management expense ratio (b)	0.54%	
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	0.54%	
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	9.72	

For the year ended December 31, 2022

## Ratios and Supplemental Data (cont'd)

	2022	2021
Class F		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	2,579	5
Number of units outstanding (a)	249,224	501
Management expense ratio (b)	1.36%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	1.37%	1.38%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.35	10.19
Class FF		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	15,012	9,910
Number of units outstanding (a)	1,420,719	972,836
Management expense ratio (b)	0.58%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	0.71%	0.69%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.56	10.19
Class H		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	166	5
Number of units outstanding (a)	16,031	501
Management expense ratio (b)	2.05%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	2.10%	2.11%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.33	10.19
Class I		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	1,237	5
Number of units outstanding (a)	119,853	501
Management expense ratio (b)	1.19%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	1.21%	1.24%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.32	10.19
Class N		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	5	5
Number of units outstanding (a)	506	501
Management expense ratio (b)	0.64%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	0.96%	0.88%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.49	10.19
Class O		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	5,100	168
Number of units outstanding (a)	482,623	16,528
Management expense ratio (b)	0.00%	0.00%
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	0.00%	0.00%
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	0.69%
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	43.18%
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	10.56	10.19

For the year ended December 31, 2022

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data (cont'd)

	2022	2021
Class A (USD)		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	7	
Number of units outstanding (a)	519	
Management expense ratio (b)	2.40%	
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	2.40%	
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	13.19	
Class F (USD)		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	7	
Number of units outstanding (a)	507	
Management expense ratio (b)	1.34%	
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	1.34%	
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	13.49	
Class H (USD)		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	7	
Number of units outstanding (a)	519	
Management expense ratio (b)	2.09%	
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	2.09%	
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	13.19	
Class I (USD)		
Total net asset value (\$000s) (a)	7	
Number of units outstanding (a)	521	
Management expense ratio (b)	1.20%	
Management expense ratio before absorptions (c)	1.20%	
Trading expense ratio (d)	0.51%	
Portfolio turnover rate (e)	242.20%	
Net asset value per unit (\$) (a)	13.19	

- (a) This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements as at December 31 for the year/period stated, prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards. Class A (USD), Class E, Class F (USD), Class H (USD) and Class I (USD) commenced operations on September 1, 2022.
- (b) Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the year and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the year. The MER may vary from one class of units to another because of differences in the applicable management fees and certain fees and expenses may have been absorbed by the Manager which would otherwise be paid by the Fund.
- (c) The Manager of the Fund has agreed to absorb sufficient expenses of the Fund, as necessary, so that the annual MER before applicable taxes such as GST or HST will not exceed certain limits as outlined in the Fund's Simplified Prospectus. The amount of expenses absorbed is at the discretion of the Manager as set out in the Fund's Simplified Prospectus, and the Manager may in its sole discretion cease to absorb expenses.
- (d) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the year.
- (e) The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio adviser manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. In general, the higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

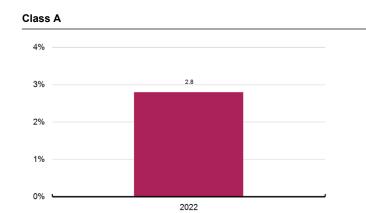
For the year ended December 31, 2022

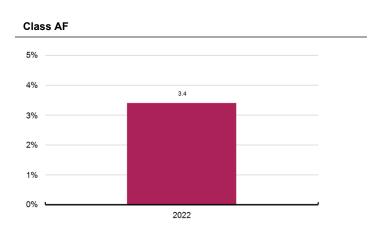
#### **Past Performance**

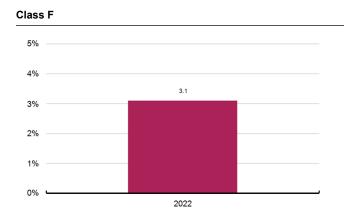
The following charts show the past performance for the units of each class of the Fund and do not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future. The information shown assumes that any distributions made by the Fund were reinvested in additional units of the Fund. Returns would be different if an investor did not reinvest distributions. In addition, the information does not take into account sales, redemptions, income taxes payable or other charges that would have reduced returns or performance. Past performance for Class A (USD), Class E, Class F (USD), Class H (USD) and Class I (USD) units of the Fund are not available for disclosure because, having commenced operations on September 1, 2022, they have been in operation for less than one year.

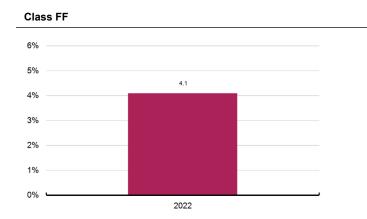
#### Year-by-Year Returns

To illustrate how the Fund's performance has varied over time, the following bar charts show the annual returns for the calendar years indicated. The information is presented starting from the first full financial year of the respective Fund class. In percentage terms, the bar charts show how much an investment held on the first day of the year would have increased or decreased by the last day of the year.

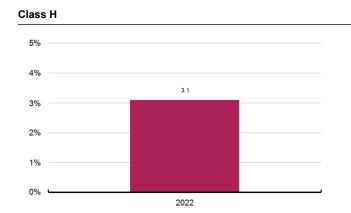


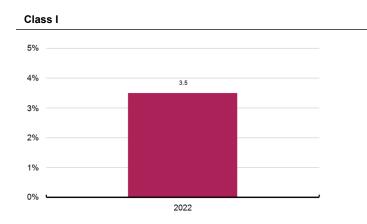


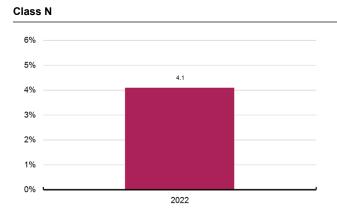


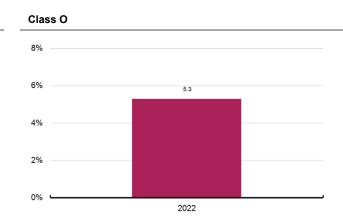


For the year ended December 31, 2022









#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The annual compound returns table compares the Fund's performance to one or more benchmarks. Benchmarks are usually an index or a composite of more than one index. An index is generally made up of a group of securities. Since the Fund does not necessarily invest in the same securities as an index or in the same proportion, the Fund's performance is not expected to equal the performance of the index. Fund returns are reported net of all management fees and expenses for all classes, unlike the returns of the Fund's benchmark, which are based on the performance of an index that does not pay fees or incur expenses. It may be more helpful to compare the Fund's performance to that of other mutual funds with similar objectives and investment strategies.

The Fund's benchmark is the HRFI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD), The HRFI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index is based on merger arbitrage strategies which employ an investment process primarily focused on opportunities in equity and equity related instruments of companies which are currently engaged in a corporate transaction. The index involves primarily announced transactions, typically with limited or no exposure to situations which pre-, post-date or situations in which no formal announcement is expected to occur. Opportunities are frequently presented in cross border, collared and international transactions which incorporate multiple geographic regulatory institutions, with typically involve minimal exposure to corporate credits.

A discussion of the performance of the Fund as compared to its benchmarks is found in the "Results of Operations" section of this report.

		1 Year	Since Inception
	Inception Date	(%)	(%)
Class A	08-Sep-21	2.8	3.7
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8
Class AF	08-Sep-21	3.4	4.2
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8

For the year ended December 31, 2022

		1 Year	Since Inception
	Inception Date	(%)	(%)
Class F	08-Sep-21	3.1	4.0
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8
Class FF	08-Sep-21	4.1	4.7
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8
Class H	08-Sep-21	3.1	3.9
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8
Class I	08-Sep-21	3.5	4.3
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8
Class N	08-Sep-21	4.1	4.7
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8
Class O	08-Sep-21	5.3	5.7
HFRI ED: Merger Arbitrage Index (USD)		2.5	3.8

### **Summary of Investment Portfolio**

The largest holdings of the Fund as at the end of the year and the major asset classes in which the Fund was invested are indicated below. Where the Fund has less than 25 holdings, the table will show the Fund's entire investment portfolio. The investment portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions. An update of the Fund's summary of investment portfolio as at the end of each calendar quarter is available from the Manager. Please see the front page of this document for information about how this can be obtained.

### **Top 25 Holdings**

	% of Net Assets
LONG POSITIONS	
Mountain Crest Acquisition Corp. V	3.1
MoneyGram International, Inc.	2.9
STORE Capital Corporation	2.7
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings, Inc.	2.6
Churchill Capital Corp VII, Class 'A'	2.4
Sierra Wireless, Inc.	2.4
Summit Industrial Income REIT	2.4
First Light Acquisition Group, Inc., Class 'A'	2.2
Meridian Bioscience, Inc.	2.2
Health Sciences Acquisitions Corporation 2	2.1
Shaw Communications Inc., Class 'B'	2.1
Churchill Capital Corp VI, Class 'A	2.0
ForgeRock, Inc.	2.0
Interprivate III Financial Partners Inc., Class 'A'	2.0
KL Acquisition Corp, Class 'A'	2.0
SeaSpine Holdings Corporation	2.0
Tufin Software Technologies Ltd.	2.0
UserTesting, Inc.	1.9
1Life Healthcare, Inc.	1.6
AVEO Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	1.6
EVO Payments, Inc., Class 'A'	1.6
Professional Holding Corp.	1.5
Tegna Inc.	1.5
SHORT POSITIONS	
Orthofix Medical Inc.	(2.1)
Seacoast Banking Corporation of Florida	(1.5)

For the year ended December 31, 2022

## Composition of the Portfolio

	% of Net Assets
LONG POSITIONS	
Diversified financials	34.2
Information technology	17.7
Health care	10.4
Industrials	7.1
Real estate	5.1
Communication services	3.6
Banks	2.9
Materials	1.0
Consumer discretionary	0.8
Consumer staples	0.7
Insurance	0.6
Utilities	0.5
Total Long Positions	84.6
SHORT POSITIONS	
Health care	(3.1)
Banks	(1.5)
Total Short Positions	(4.6)
Warrants	0.1
Total investments	80.1
Derivative liabilities	0.2
Total investment portfolio	80.3
Cash	19.7
Other assets less liabilities	0.0
Total net assets	100.0

For the year ended December 31, 2022

#### **Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This report contains forward-looking statements about the Fund, including its strategy, prospects and further actions. Forward-looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates", or negative versions thereof and similar expressions.

In addition, any statement made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future Fund action is also a forward-looking statement. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future events and are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about the Fund and economic factors, among other things.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events and results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. Any number of important factors could contribute to these digressions, including, but not limited to: geopolitical events, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally; including the collapse of banks; interest and foreign exchange rates and the measures taken by central banks to manage inflation; global equity and capital markets; business competition; technological change; changes in government regulations; unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings; pandemics and catastrophic events.

We stress that the above-mentioned list of important factors is not exhaustive. We encourage you to consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions and we urge you to avoid placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Further, except as may be required under applicable law, the Manager has no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, prior to the release of the next Management Report of Fund Performance.



MANAGED BY:
PENDERFUND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LTD.
1830 – 1066 West Hastings St. Vancouver, BC V6E 3X2
TELEPHONE 604 688-1511 FACSIMILE 604 563-3199 TOLL FREE 1 866 377-4743
www.penderfund.com