# Loftus Peak Global Disruption Fund

# Investing | Future Focused

#### **Research Ratings:**



Lonsec Research



SQM Research



Zenith Investment Partners - Approved

Founded in 2014, Loftus Peak is a global equities fund manager with a focus on investment in listed disruptive businesses. We have extensive experience and bring significant discipline to the process. Our Australian Securities Exchange listed Fund **(ASX code: LPGD)** comprises some of the best and fastest-growing companies in the world – companies that we believe are driving change across all industries globally, constructed on the basis of strict criteria and included at carefully determined valuations. Holdings include large capitalisation names like Microsoft and Google (Alphabet) as well as many others that we expect to be household names in the future, such as Advanced Micro Devices and Qualcomm. This approach to investment across a wide range of global industries lowers the concentration risk inherent in the typical Australian portfolio, with its heavy skew toward banks, resources and the Australian dollar.

## **Review and Performance**

March quarter earnings were reported in the first weeks of April. Five of the so-called "Magnificent Seven" reported with four of those beating expectations - **Alphabet**, **Meta**, **Amazon** and **Microsoft** with broadly positive guidance. These companies represent the key customers for Artificial intelligence (AI) hardware and their earnings show significant growth in capital expenditure (capex) - a strong read-through for the likes of Nvidia, Broadcom and Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) all three of which are vendors.

April was also a turning point in macro sentiment. The market abandoned its aggressive outlook for rate cuts in 2024. For example, UBS went from a forecast of 275 bps of interest rate reductions (this forecast was given in November 2023) to just 50 bps for 2024. At least Fed Chair Jerome Powell did not indicate that rate hikes were on the table.

	1m	3m	6m	1y	Зу p.a.	5y p.a.	7y p.a	Inception p.a.
Loftus Peak (Net) <sup>1</sup>	-3.82%	+6.02%	+31.68%	+52.60%	+13.22%	+18.00%	+19.11%	+20.45%
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	-2.79%	+5.75%	+17.04%	+19.82%	+10.45%	+11.28%	+11.72%	+12.84%
Outperformance (Net) <sup>3</sup>	-1.03%	+0.27%	+14.64%	+32.78%	+2.77%	+6.72%	+7.39%	+7.62%

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Returns greater than one-year are annualised. Source: Loftus Peak, Bloomberg

<sup>1</sup> Net-of-fees performance for the Fund is based on end-of-month redemption prices after the deduction of fees and expenses and the reinvestment of all distributions. Investment return and the principal value fluctuate, so your units, when sold, may be worth more or less than the original cost. For further details, please refer to the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement and Target Market Determination. <sup>2</sup> The benchmark for the Fund is the MSCI All Countries World Index (net) as expressed in AUD from Bloomberg.

<sup>3</sup> Outperformance is shown as the Loftus Peak (Net) minus the Benchmark.

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# **Contributors and Detractors to Return**

Alphabet was the largest contributor for the month, adding +0.6% to the Fund after a strong earnings report. The company beat revenue expectations across most of the major segments. Advertising re-accelerated after lapping weak year numbers with cloud revenue up +28% to USD 9.6 billion. The company referenced meaningful AI uptake across the board, from start-ups, unicorns and large enterprise, demonstrating the importance of existing distribution when monetising AI functionalities. The company expects YouTube and cloud combined to exit 2024 at an annual run rate of over USD 100 billion - roughly equivalent to the entire search business in 2018.

**Teradyne** also reported strongly, adding +0.2% to the Fund. Teradyne runs a semiconductor testing business. Demand for data-centre hardware has increased meaningfully due to AI. This demand has persisted leading to a greater-than-usual number of chip designers seeking to design hardware. This includes Nvidia (which is doubling the speed of its product roll out), AMD, Broadcom and more. Teradyne is the direct beneficiary of an increased volume of hardware design. This was reflected in the stronger than expected quarter and the stronger than expected guidance.

**Spotify** was the third largest contributor, adding +0.1% to the Fund. Spotify, which is already the world's leading audio streaming platform, has an ambition to reach 1 billion users. It delivered accelerating revenue growth to 20%+ with a step change in gross margins. CEO Daniel Ek stated that 2024 will be a year of monetisation as the company seeks to bring the margins of audiobooks and podcasting in line with the mainstay music-streaming business. The margin expansion of these other products is accretive to the bottom line.



# April 2024 Update

Key Facts			
Inception Date	15 November 2016		
ASX Code APIR Code	LPGD MMC0110AU		
Fund FUM (AUD)	\$424 million		
Strategy FUM (AUD)	\$820 million		
Product Type	Registered Managed Investment Scheme domiciled in Australia		
Responsible Entity	Equity Trustees Limited		
Investment Universe	Listed Global Equities		
Benchmark	MSCI All Countries World Index (net) (as expressed in AUD from Bloomberg)		
Carbon Intensity 1	68% less carbon intensive than benchmark:		
	O2e/Mil USD		
	42.8 (LPGD)		
	132.6 (benchmark)		
	No exposure to companies involved in fossil fuel extraction, generation and related products and services.		
No. of Investments	15-35		
Minimum Cash	1%		
Maximum Cash	20%		
Suggested time frame	3-5 years		
Minimum Investment <sup>2</sup>	\$5,000		
Additional Investment via BPAY®	BPAY® Biller Code: 349845 Customer Reference Number (CRN): generated after initial application.		
	Please note that BPAY® is not available for purchasing units on the ASX.		
Pricing Frequency	Daily		
Distributions	Paid annually as at 30 June		
Withdrawal Notice	Generally, notice received by 2pm (Sydney time) receives the price effective for that business day.		
Research Ratings (Lonsec, SQM, Zenith)	Click Lonsec, SQM or Zenith logo on our website to request a copy.		

<sup>1</sup>Source: Sustainalytics as at 30 April 2024.

Entry Price (in AUD)

Exit Price (in AUD)

<sup>2</sup>No minimum investment for units purchased on the ASX

Fees				
Annual Management Costs	1.20% per annum (inc. GST)			
Performance	15% in excess of the hurdle return with a high watermark payable six monthly as at 30 June and 31 December each year			
Unit Prices				
Date	30 April 2024			

4.2633

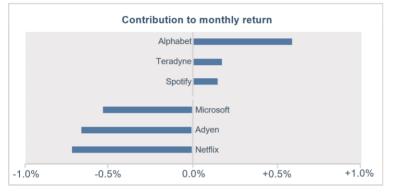
4.2421

**Netflix** was the largest detractor of the month, cutting -0.7% from Fund value. The company implied a slower exit rate for revenue heading into FY25 and signalled that subscriber numbers would no longer be regularly disclosed in the future. The market reacted negatively. Our thesis remains unchanged; in our view, cracking down on password sharing and the advertising tier, for example, offer longer term opportunities for more subscriber growth than the market assumes. The company is also slowing the rate of content spend growth relative to revenue growth, directly improving earnings.

Dutch FinTech company **Adyen** provided a quarterly business update. Although payment volumes accelerated as Adyen gains market share, the take rate compressed. This led to less than expected net revenue growth of 21% year-over-year. Adyen cut -0.6% from the Fund and was the second largest detractor. Microsoft was the third largest detractor for the month, cutting -0.5% from the Fund. Momentum in the stock waned across the month until earnings where the company showed the success (so far) of the AI ramp.

The Australian dollar depreciated -0.5% against the US dollar over the month, so the Fund's US dollar positions increased. As at 30 April 2024, the Fund carried a foreign currency exposure of 91.8%.

# **Selected Contributors and Detractors**



# **Portfolio Construction**

At April month end, the Fund was 94.5% invested in 30 holdings with the balance in cash exposure. The Fund has a high exposure to large capitalisation names which are highly cash generative with strong balance sheets. Focusing on high quality companies helps the Fund to withstand difficult periods in the market and drive strong, long-term outcomes for investors.

Top 10 Holdings (in	alphabetical order)	Capitalisation USD		
Alphabet	Micron Technology	Mega Cap > \$100b 71.8%		
Amazon	Microsoft	Large Cap \$50-100b 7.8%		
AMD	Netflix	Mid Cap \$2-50b 14.9%		
Broadcom	Qualcomm	Small Cap < \$2b 0.0%		
Meta	Taiwan Semiconductor			

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The Loftus Peak Global Disruption Fund's Target Market Determination is available at http://www.loftuspeak.com.au in the downloads tab. It describes who this financial product is likely to be appropriate for (i.e. the target market), and any conditions around how the product can be distributed to investors. It also describes the events or circumstances where the Target Market Determination for this financial product may need to be reviewed.

### The Team



#### Alex Pollak CIO and Founder

With 25 years' experience in disruptive business models gained during a career with Macquarie Bank, Alex heads one of the best-performing teams in global investment management in Australia.

He was instrumental in bringing both Seek and Carsales.com to the Australian stock market. He has a deep understanding of the mechanisms through which disruption changes business models and the impact it has on company valuation.



### Anshu Sharma Portfolio Manager and Founder

Anshu began his career as an analyst in global disruption investment more than fifteen years ago. This was soon followed by portfolio manager responsibilities across information technology and communications services sectors, before taking on the Portfolio Manager role at Loftus Peak as one of the founders of the firm in 2014.

Being mentored by the best in this space early on in his career, and having travelled extensively to meet hundreds of global companies, Anshu brings a wealth of experience to investing in disruption.



# **Rick Steele**

CEO

Drawing on more than 30 years in funds management and government Rick is the CEO of Loftus Peak. After a successful career in the Australian Treasury, Rick held senior positions in a number of financial services firms in Australia, including more than a decade at BT Funds Management.

Rick is also Chairman of CitizenBlue, an impact enterprise operating a container recycling service for its environmental members.

Firm Awards		BEST AUSTRALIAN BASE GLOBAL EQUITY MANAG	Responsib investor D 2023	
		International Constraints Constraints Constraints	MOREYMANAGEMENT FUND MANAGER OF THE YEAR 2021 FINALIST Global Equilies	MONTYMANAGEMENT FUND MANAGER OF THE YEAR 2020 FINALIST Global Equities
Platforms		OLIV/IA123	connexian	
	netwealth	HUB <sup>24</sup>		Powerwrap.
	Colonial First State	<b>♦</b> BT	Asgard	Grow Wrap
	🜔 præmium	Acclaim	XPLORE	Centric <sup>©</sup>
	North	PLATFORM+ HRAP	🖍 AMM	clearstream

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