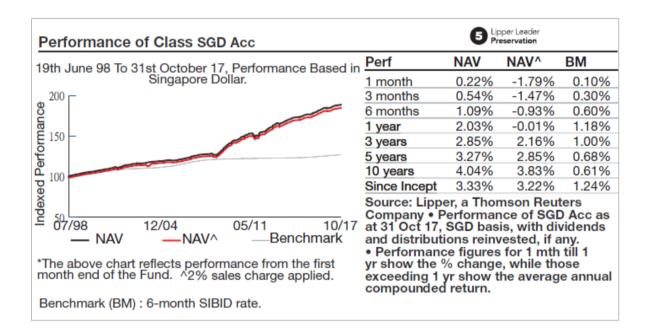


## United SGD Fund

## **Fund Performance**

The performance of the United SGD Fund Class A (Acc) SGD (the "Fund") was up by 0.22%<sup>1</sup> in the month of October 2017. The Fund's benchmark, the 6-month Singapore Interbank Bid Rate ("SIBID rate"), increased 0.10%<sup>2</sup>.



## **Market Review**

The Fund had a NAV at \$1.856 in October 2017.

Yields on 10-year US Treasuries (UST) hit an intra-month high of 2.47% on talk of possible hawkish US Federal Reserve Chairperson replacement, as well as increasing momentum of US tax reform efforts. The 10 year rate eventually moderated and ended the month at 2.38% or just 5 basis points above last month on reports that the Fed Chairmanship could go to Jerome Powell which signalled a continuation of a dovish Fed policy. While 10-year USTs temporary tested and breached the 2.4% technical level, we think it will remain range-bound given that (1) the market had already priced in an 82.8% chance of a December rate hike, (2) a continuity of current Fed dovish stance should limit any further upside in ten year yields and (3) a relatively arduous path for tax reforms going forward.

## **Outlook and Strategy**

We maintain our defensive positioning with preference for quality credits with leading market share, of systemic importance, in defensive sectors and which are professionally managed. We continue to invest up the credit rating scale and increase exposure to developed markets, to insulate the portfolio against spurts of volatility. The Fund will continue to buy fairly priced bonds and sell/take-profit on expensive bonds based on

<sup>1</sup> Source: Lipper, Performance from 30 September 2017 to 31 October 2017 in SGD terms, on a NAV (Net Asset Value) basis, with dividends and distributions reinvested (if any).

<sup>2</sup> Source: Lipper, Performance from 30 September 2017 to 31 October 2017 in SGD terms.

Fund Awards include: The Edge Lipper SGD Fund Awards (2010-2011, 2013-2015), SG Inv Fund Awards (2000-2001) All statistics quoted in the write-up are sourced from Bloomberg as 31 October 2017unless otherwise stated.







# United SGD Fund

relative value. We will focus on companies that have good access to capital markets and have defensive business models. We will also continue to invest in bonds that are maturing, callable or putable up to 3 years to enhance overall return. The Fund will maintain 3% to 5% in cash for liquidity purposes and hedge foreign currency risk to the Singapore dollar.







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