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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM N-1A

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

☒

Pre-Effective Amendment No. \_

☐

Post-Effective Amendment No. 8

☒

and/or

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940

☒

Amendment No. 9

☒

GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

4900 Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's Telephone Number, including area code: (312) 655-4400

Howard B. Surloff, Esq.  
Goldman, Sachs & Co.  
One New York Plaza, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10004  
(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

copies to:

Jeffrey A. Dalke, Esq.  
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP  
One Logan Square  
18th and Cherry Streets  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box):

☐ Immediately upon filing pursuant to paragraph (b)

☒ on April 29, 2004 pursuant to paragraph (b)

☐ 60 days after filing pursuant to paragraph (a)(1)

☐ on (date) pursuant to paragraph (a)(1)

☐ 75 days after filing pursuant to paragraph (a)(2)

☐ on (date) pursuant to paragraph (a)(2) of rule 485.

If appropriate, check the following box:

☐ this post-effective amendment designates a new effective date for a previously filed post-effective amendment.

# Prospectus

April 29, 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

■ Goldman Sachs International  
Equity Fund

Shares of the Trust are offered to separate accounts of participating life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND IS NOT A BANK DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND INVOLVES INVESTMENT RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE MONEY IN THE FUND.



**Asset  
Management**

NOT FDIC-INSURED	May Lose Value	No Bank Guarantee
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# General Investment Management Approach

Goldman Sachs Asset Management International (“GSAMI”) serves as investment adviser to the International Equity Fund. GSAMI is referred to in this Prospectus as the “Investment Adviser.”

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) offers shares of the Fund to separate accounts of participating insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the public. The participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. The Fund pools the monies of these separate accounts and invests these monies in a portfolio of securities pursuant to the Fund’s stated investment objective.

The investment objective and policies of the Fund are similar to the investment objectives and policies of other mutual funds that the Investment Adviser manages. Although the objectives and policies may be similar, the investment results of the Fund may be higher or lower than the results of such other mutual funds. The Investment Adviser cannot guarantee, and makes no representation, that the investment results of similar funds will be comparable even though the funds have the same Investment Adviser.

## ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL STYLE FUND

### GSAMI’s Active International Investment Philosophy:

Belief	How the Investment Adviser Acts on Belief
■ Equity markets are inefficient	Seeks excess return through team driven, research intensive and bottom-up stock selection.
■ Returns are variable	Seeks to capitalize on variability of market and regional returns through asset allocation decisions.
■ Corporate fundamentals ultimately drive share price	Seeks to conduct rigorous, first-hand research of business and company management.
■ A business’ intrinsic value will be achieved over time	Seeks to realize value through a long-term investment horizon.
■ Portfolio risk must be carefully analyzed and monitored	Seeks to systematically monitor and manage risk through diversification, multifactor risk models and currency management.

The Investment Adviser attempts to manage risk in the Fund through disciplined portfolio construction and continual portfolio review and analysis. As a result, bottom-up stock selection, driven by fundamental research, should be a main driver of returns.

References in this Prospectus to the Fund’s benchmark are for informational purposes only, and unless otherwise noted are not an indication of how the Fund is managed.

# Fund Investment Objective and Strategies

## Goldman Sachs International Equity Fund

### FUND FACTS

<b>Objective:</b>	Long-term capital appreciation
<b>Benchmark:</b>	MSCI® Europe, Australasia, Far East (“EAFE®”) Index (unhedged)
<b>Investment Focus:</b>	Equity investments in companies organized outside the United States or whose securities are principally traded outside the United States
<b>Investment Style:</b>	Active International

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Equity Investments.** The Fund invests, under normal circumstances, substantially all, and at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes (measured at time of purchase) (“Net Assets”) in a diversified portfolio of equity investments in companies that are organized outside the United States or whose securities are principally traded outside the United States. The Fund intends to invest in companies with public stock market capitalizations that are larger than \$1 billion at the time of investment.

The Fund may allocate its assets among countries as determined by the Investment Adviser from time to time, provided the Fund’s assets are invested in at least three foreign countries.

The Fund expects to invest a substantial portion of its assets in the securities of issuers located in the developed countries of Western Europe and in Japan. From time to time, the Fund’s investments in a particular developed country may exceed 25% of its investment portfolio. In addition, the Fund may also invest in the securities of issuers located in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and in emerging countries. Currently, emerging countries include, among others, most Latin, Central and South American, African, Asian, Middle Eastern and Eastern European nations.

**Other.** The Fund may also invest up to 20% of its Net Assets in fixed-income securities, such as government, corporate and bank debt obligations.

## Other Investment Practices and Securities

The table below identifies some of the investment techniques that may (but are not required to) be used by the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objective. Numbers in this table show allowable usage only; for actual usage, consult the Fund's annual/semi-annual reports. For more information about these and other investment practices and securities, see Appendix A.

	International Equity Fund
<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</li> </ul>	
<b>Investment Practices</b>	
Borrowings	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Cross Hedging of Currencies	•
Currency Swaps*	15
Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates	•
Equity Swaps*	15
Foreign Currency Transactions	•
Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts	•
Investment Company Securities (including iShares <sup>SM</sup> and Standard & Poor's Depository Receipts <sup>TM</sup> )	10
Options on Foreign Currencies <sup>1</sup>	•
Options on Securities and Securities Indices <sup>2</sup>	•
Repurchase Agreements	•
Securities Lending	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Short Sales Against the Box	25
Unseasoned Companies	•
Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights	•
When-Issued and Forward Commitments	•
<p>10 Percent of total assets (excluding securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (including borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</li> </ul>	
<b>Investment Securities</b>	
American, European and Global Depository Receipts	•
Asset-Backed and Mortgage-Backed Securities <sup>3</sup>	•
Bank Obligations	•
Convertible Securities <sup>4</sup>	•
Corporate Debt Obligations <sup>3</sup>	•
Equity Investments	80+
Emerging Country Securities	•
Fixed Income Securities <sup>5</sup>	20
Foreign Securities	•
Foreign Government Securities <sup>3</sup>	•
Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities <sup>3, 6</sup>	•
Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	•
Structured Securities*	•
Temporary Investments	100
U.S. Government Securities <sup>3</sup>	•

\* Limited to 15% of net assets (together with other illiquid securities) for all structured securities which are not deemed to be liquid and all swap transactions.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options.

<sup>2</sup> The Fund may sell covered call and put options and purchase call and put options.

<sup>3</sup> Limited by the amount the Fund invests in fixed-income securities.

<sup>4</sup> The Fund uses the same rating criteria for convertible and non-convertible debt securities.

<sup>5</sup> Except as noted under "Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities," fixed-income securities must be investment grade (i.e., BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's"), Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's")) or have a comparable rating by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO") at the time of investment.

<sup>6</sup> May be BB or lower by Standard & Poor's, Ba or lower by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO at the time of investment.

# Principal Risks of the Fund

Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. The following summarizes important risks that apply to the Fund and may result in a loss of your investment. The Fund should not be relied upon as a complete investment program. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

- Applicable

Fund	Interest Rate	Credit/Default	Foreign	Emerging Countries	Derivatives	Management	Liquidity	Market	Investment Style	Stock	Geographic
International Equity	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## RISKS THAT APPLY TO THE FUND:

- **Interest Rate Risk**—The risk that when interest rates increase, fixed income securities held by the Fund will decline in value. Long-term fixed-income securities will normally have more price volatility because of this risk than short-term fixed-income securities.
- **Credit/Default Risk**—The risk that an issuer or guarantor of fixed-income securities held by the Fund may default on its obligation to pay interest and repay principal.
- **Foreign Risk**—The risk that when the Fund invests in foreign securities, it will be subject to risks of loss not typically associated with domestic issuers. Loss may result because of less foreign government regulation, less public information and less economic, political and social stability. Loss may also result from the imposition of exchange controls, confiscations and other government restrictions. A Fund will also be subject to the risk of negative foreign currency rate fluctuations. Foreign risks will normally be greatest when the Fund invests in issuers located in emerging countries.
- **Emerging Countries Risk**—The securities markets of Asian, Latin, Central and South American, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, African and other emerging countries are less liquid, are especially subject to greater price volatility, have smaller market capitalizations, have less government regulation and are not subject to as extensive and frequent accounting, financial and other reporting requirements as the securities markets of more developed countries. Further, investment in equity securities of issuers located in certain emerging countries involves risk of loss resulting from problems in share registration and custody and substantial economic and political disruptions. These risks are not normally associated with investments in more developed countries.
- **Derivatives Risk**—The risk that loss may result from the Fund's investments in options, futures, swaps, structured securities and other derivative instruments. These instruments may be leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses to the Fund.
- **Management Risk**—The risk that a strategy used by the Investment Adviser may fail to produce the intended results.
- **Liquidity Risk**—The risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the time period stated in this Prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. A fund that invests in non-investment grade fixed-income securities, small and mid-capitalization stocks, REITs or emerging country issuers will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate.
- **Market Risk**—The risk that the value of the securities in which the Fund invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies, particular industry sectors or governments and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or last for extended periods. The Fund's investments may be overweighted from time to time in one or more industry sectors, which will increase the Fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those sectors.
- **Investment Style Risk**—Different investment styles tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions as well as investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that employ a different investment style. Examples of different investment styles include growth and value investing. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks because they are more sensitive to investor perceptions of the issuing company's growth of earnings potential. Also, since growth companies usually invest a high portion of

earnings in their business, growth stocks may lack the dividends of some value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. Growth oriented funds will typically underperform when value investing is in favor. Value stocks are those that are undervalued in comparison to their peers due to adverse business developments or other factors.

- **Stock Risk**—The risk that stock prices have historically risen and fallen in periodic cycles. Recently, U.S. and foreign stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.
- **Geographic Risks**—Concentration of the investments of the Fund, in issuers located in a particular country or

region will subject the Fund, to a greater extent than if investments were less concentrated, to risks of adverse securities markets, exchange rates and social, political, regulatory or economic events in that country or region.

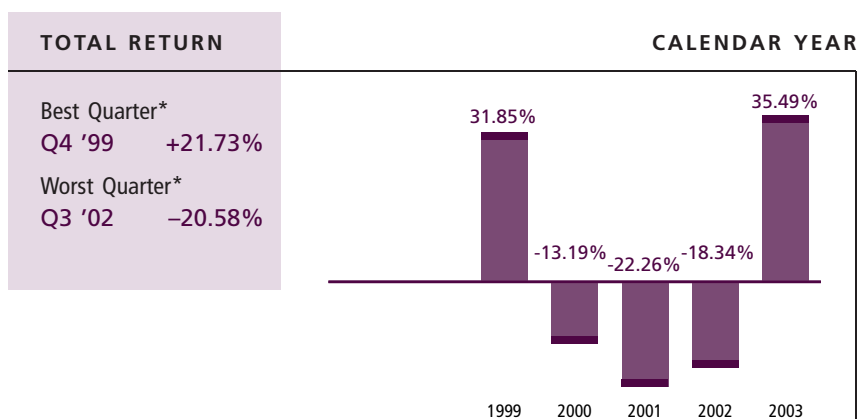
More information about the Fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and their associated risks, is provided in Appendix A. You should consider the investment risks discussed in this section and in Appendix A. Both are important to your investment choice.

# Fund Performance

## HOW THE FUND HAS PERFORMED

The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing: (a) changes in the performance of the Fund's shares from year to year; and (b) how the average annual total returns of the Fund's shares compares to those of a broad-based securities market index.

The bar chart and table assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Performance reflects expense limitations in effect. If expense limitations were not in place, the Fund's performance would have been reduced. In addition, performance reflects Fund level expenses but does not reflect the fees and expenses associated with any variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy that uses the Fund as an investment option for any contract or policy. Had performance reflected all of those fees and expenses, performance would have been reduced.



## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended December 31, 2003	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
Fund (Inception 1/12/98)	35.49%	-0.31%	2.84%
MSCI® EAFE® (unhedged)**	39.17%	0.26%	3.84%

\* Please note that "Best Quarter" and "Worst Quarter" figures are applicable only to the time period covered by the bar chart.

\*\* The unmanaged MSCI® EAFE® Index (unhedged) is a market capitalization-weighted composite of securities in 21 developed markets. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.

## Fund Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you buy and hold Shares of the Fund.

	International Equity Fund
<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment):	
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends	None
Redemption Fees	None
Exchange Fees	None
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that are deducted from Fund assets): <sup>1</sup>	
Management Fees	1.00%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses*	1.60%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses*</b>	<b>2.60%</b>

\* The "Other Expenses" and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" (after current expense limitations) set forth below have been restated to reflect the current expense limitations that are expected for the current fiscal year.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Current Expense Limitations	International Equity Fund
Management Fees	1.00%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.20%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses (after current expense limitations)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1.20%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Fund's annual operating expenses are based on actual expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> "Other Expenses" include transfer agency fees and expenses equal on an annualized basis to 0.04% of the average daily net assets of the Fund plus all other ordinary expenses not detailed above. Effective December 22, 2003, the Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to limit "Other Expenses" (excluding management fees, transfer agent fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage, litigation and indemnification costs, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" to the extent that such expenses exceed, on an annual basis, 0.16% and 1.20%, respectively of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to maintain these expense limitations through June 30, 2005.

## Example

The following Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund (without the waivers and expense limitations) with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

**Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies and are not reflected in the Table above and Example below. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses. Such fees or charges, if any, may affect the return you may realize with respect to your investments.**

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in Shares of the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Fund	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
International Equity	\$263	\$808	\$1,380	\$2,934

Certain participating insurance companies that invest in Shares may receive other compensation in connection with the sale and distribution of Shares or for services to their customers' accounts and/or the Fund. For additional information regarding such compensation, see "Service Providers" in the Prospectus and "Other Information" in the Statement of Additional Information ("Additional Statement").

# Service Providers

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management International ("GSAMI")  
Christchurch Court, 10-15 Newgate Street  
London, England EC1A 7HD

GSAMI, a member of the Investment Management Regulatory Organization Limited since 1990 and a registered investment adviser since 1991, is an affiliate of Goldman Sachs. As of December 31, 2003, GSAMI, along with other units of the Investment Management Division of Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"), had assets under management of \$375.7 billion.

The Investment Adviser provides day-to-day advice regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. The Investment Adviser makes the investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund's portfolio transactions in U.S. and foreign markets. As permitted by applicable law, these orders may be directed to any brokers, including Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. While the Investment Adviser is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. In addition, the Investment Adviser has access to the research and certain proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs, and may apply quantitative and qualitative analysis in determining the appropriate allocations among categories of issuers and types of securities.

The Investment Adviser also performs the following additional services for the Fund:

- Supervises all non-advisory operations of the Fund
- Provides personnel to perform necessary executive, administrative and clerical services to the Fund
- Arranges for the preparation of all required tax returns, reports to shareholders, prospectuses and Additional Statements and other reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and other regulatory authorities
- Maintains the records of the Fund
- Provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services

The Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to participating insurance companies for administrative services that such companies provide to their variable annuity and variable life insurance contract owners who are invested in the Fund. In addition, the Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to various securities dealers (including affiliates of participating insurance companies) that distribute variable annuity contracts and/or variable life insurance contracts of such companies in connection with the sale, distribution and/or servicing of such contracts and, subject to applicable National Association of Securities Dealers rules, contribute to various cash and non-cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of such contracts.

As compensation for its services and its assumption of certain expenses, the Investment Adviser is entitled to a fee, computed daily and payable monthly, at an annual rate of 1.00% of the Fund's average daily net assets.



## INTERNATIONAL EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

- London-based portfolio management team leverages GSAM's global research teams based in London, Singapore, Tokyo, New York and Tampa. Local presence is a key to the Investment Adviser's fundamental research capabilities
- Team manages over \$7.7 billion in international equities for retail, institutional and high net worth clients
- Focus on bottom-up stock selection as main driver of returns, though the team leverages the asset allocation, currency and risk management capabilities of the Investment Adviser

### London-Based Management Team

Name and Title	Fund Responsibility	Years Primarily Responsible	Five Year Employment History
Mark Ferguson Executive Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— International Equity	Since 2003	Mr. Ferguson joined the Investment Adviser as Co-Head of European Equity Research in March 1999 and became a senior portfolio manager for the International Equity investment team in March 2003. From October 1993 to February 1999, he was a research analyst/fund manager in the Continental Europe team at Schroder Investment Management.
Nuno Fernandes Executive Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— International Equity	Since 1999	Mr. Fernandes joined the Investment Adviser as a research analyst on the Global Emerging Markets Equity team in April 1998. He was named a senior portfolio manager in April 1999. From 1994 to 1998, he worked for ING Barings and Smith Barney where he followed Latin American financial stocks.
Susan Noble Managing Director Chief Investment Officer, Global/EAFE Equity	Senior Portfolio Manager— International Equity	Since 1997	Ms. Noble joined the Investment Adviser as a senior portfolio manager and head of the European Equity team in October 1997.
Michael Stanes Executive Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— International Equity	Since 2002	Mr. Stanes joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in November 2002. From 1986 to 2001, he worked at Mercury Asset Management where he managed UK equity portfolios in London, Japanese equity portfolios in Tokyo and, most recently, US and global portfolios in the US.

#### DISTRIBUTOR AND TRANSFER AGENT

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor (the “Distributor”) of the Fund’s shares. Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6372, also serves as the Fund’s transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and, as such, performs various shareholder servicing functions.

#### ACTIVITIES OF GOLDMAN SACHS AND ITS AFFILIATES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY GOLDMAN SACHS

The involvement of the Investment Adviser, Goldman Sachs and their affiliates in the management of, or their interest in, other accounts and other activities of Goldman Sachs may present conflicts of interest with respect to the Fund or limit the Fund’s investment activities. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds which have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or which engage in and compete for transactions in the same type of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates will not have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund. The results of the Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and it is possible that the

Fund could sustain losses during periods in which Goldman Sachs and its affiliates and other accounts achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which Goldman Sachs or its other clients have an adverse interest. The Fund’s activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a global financial services firm, Goldman Sachs also provides a wide range of investment banking and financial services to issuers of securities and investors in securities. Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and others associated with it may create markets or specialize in, have positions in and affect transactions in, securities of issuers held by the Funds, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking and financial services for those issuers.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees, the Fund has retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Funds engage in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund’s investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, the Fund may make brokerage and other payments to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates in connection with the Fund’s portfolio investment transactions.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On April 2, 2004, Lois Burke, a plaintiff identifying herself as a shareholder of the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund, filed a purported class and derivative action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (“GSG”), GSAM, the Trustees and Officers of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex, and John Doe Defendants. In addition, certain investment portfolios of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex (collectively, the “Goldman Sachs Funds”) were named as nominal defendants.

The action, which is brought on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased, redeemed or held shares in the Goldman Sachs Funds between April 2, 1999 and January 9, 2004, inclusive (the “Class Period”), alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and common law

breach of fiduciary duty. The complaint alleges, among other things, that during the Class Period, GSAM charged the Goldman Sachs Funds improper Rule 12b-1 fees; made improper brokerage commission and other payments to brokers that sold shares of the Goldman Sachs Funds and made untrue statements of material fact in registration statements and reports filed pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The complaint further alleges that the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex Officers and Trustees breached their fiduciary duties by, among other things, permitting the payments to occur. The plaintiffs in the case are seeking compensatory damages; punitive damages; rescission of GSAM’s investment advisory agreement and return of fees paid; an accounting of all Goldman Sachs Funds-related fees, commissions and soft dollar payments; restitution of all unlawfully or discriminatorily obtained fees and charges; and reasonable costs and expenses, including counsel fees and expert fees.

# Dividends

Dividends from investment company taxable income and distributions from net realized capital gains (if any) are declared and paid by the Fund at least annually. Over the course of the year, accrued and paid dividends and distributions will equal all or substantially all of the Fund's investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains. All dividends will be automatically reinvested in

additional shares of the Fund at the net asset value ("NAV") of such shares on the payment date, unless an insurance company's separate account is permitted to hold cash and elects to receive payment in cash. From time to time, a portion of the Fund's dividends may constitute a return of capital.

# Shareholder Guide

The following section will provide you with answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding buying and selling the Fund's shares.

## How Can I Purchase Or Sell Shares Of The Fund?

Shares of the Fund are not sold directly to the public. Instead, Fund shares are sold to unaffiliated separate accounts that fund variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts issued by participating insurance companies. You may purchase or sell (redeem) shares of the Fund through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered through the separate accounts. The variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies. You should refer to those prospectuses for information on how to purchase a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, how to select a specific Fund as an investment option for your contract or policy and how to redeem monies from the Fund.

The separate accounts of the participating insurance companies place orders to purchase and redeem shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of premium payments to be invested and the amount of surrender and transfer requests (as defined in the prospectus describing the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the participating insurance companies) to be effected on that day pursuant to variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.

The separate accounts of unaffiliated participating insurance companies may purchase shares of the Fund. The sale of Fund shares to these unaffiliated separate accounts may present certain conflicts of interests among variable annuity owners, variable life insurance policy owners and plan investors. The Trust's Board of Trustees will monitor the Trust for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflict of interest. The Trust currently does not foresee any disadvantages to the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies arising from the fact that interests of the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies may differ due to differences of tax treatment or other considerations or due to conflicts among the unaffiliated participating insurance companies. If, however, a material unreconcilable conflict arises between the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies of unaffiliated participating insurance companies, a participating insurance company may be required to withdraw the assets allocable to some or all of the separate accounts from the Fund. Any such withdrawal could disrupt orderly portfolio management to the potential detriment of such holders.

Shares of the Fund (and other existing and new funds that might be added to the Trust) may also be offered to:

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are sold in non-public offerings.

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are offered exclusively to qualified pension and profit-sharing plans and/or certain governmental plans.
- Qualified pension and profit-sharing plans. The Trust does not currently anticipate offering shares directly to such plans.

## How Are Shares Priced?

Shares of the Fund are purchased and sold at the Fund's next determined NAV. The Fund calculates NAV as follows:

$$\text{NAV} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(Value of Assets of the Fund)} \\ - \text{(Liabilities of the Fund)} \end{array}}{\text{Number of the Fund's Outstanding Shares}}$$

The Fund's investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Fund's NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Fund's investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Fund's daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Fund to price its investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

- NAV per share of the Fund is generally calculated by the accounting agent on each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. Fund shares will generally not be priced on any day the New York Stock Exchange is closed.
- Shares are purchased and redeemed at the NAV next calculated *after* an order is received in proper form by the Trust.
- The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were processed at an NAV other than the Fund's official closing NAV that is subsequently adjusted, and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders accordingly based on the official closing NAV.
- The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC.

**Note: The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on**

*the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York time. In the event the New York Stock Exchange does not open for business because of an emergency, the Trust may, but is not required to open the Fund for purchase, redemption and exchange transactions if the Federal Reserve wire payment system is open. To learn whether the Fund is open for business during an emergency situation, please call 1-800-621-2550.*

Foreign securities may trade in their local markets on days the Fund is closed. As a result, if the Fund holds foreign securities, its NAV may be impacted on days when its shares may not be purchased or redeemed.

In addition, if an event that affects the value of a security occurs after the publication of market quotations or independent service information used by the Fund to price its securities but before the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Trust in its discretion and consistent with applicable regulatory guidance may determine whether to make an adjustment in light of the nature and significance of the event.

### **Do I Have To Pay Any Fees When Purchasing Or Selling Shares Of The Fund?**

The Fund does not charge any fees when it sells or redeems its shares. Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses.

### **What Else Should I Know About Share Purchases And Redemptions?**

The Trust reserves the right to:

- Suspend the right of redemption under certain extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the rules of the SEC.
- Suspend the offering of shares for a period of time.
- Reject any purchase order.
- Close the Fund to new investors from time to time and reopen the Fund whenever it is deemed appropriate by the Fund's Investment Adviser.

Orders received by the Trust are effected on business days. The separate accounts purchase and redeem shares of each Fund at the Fund's NAV per share calculated as of the day an order is received by the Fund although such purchases and redemptions may be executed the next morning. Redemption proceeds paid by wire transfer will normally be wired in federal funds on the next business day after the Trust receives actual notice of the redemption order, but may be paid up to three business days after receipt of actual notice of the order.

### **What Types Of Reports Will I Be Sent Regarding Investments In The Fund?**

As a holder of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, you will receive annual reports containing

audited financial statements and semiannual reports from your participating insurance company.

### **What Are The Fund's Voting Procedures?**

Participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. To the extent required by law:

- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts in a manner consistent with timely voting instructions received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.
- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts for which no timely instructions are received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies, as well as shares they own, in the same proportion as those shares for which voting instructions are received.

It is anticipated that Fund shares held by unregistered separate accounts or qualified plans generally will be voted for or against any proposition in the same proportion as all other Fund shares are voted unless the unregistered separate account's participating insurance company or the plan makes other arrangements.

Additional information concerning voting rights of the participants in the separate accounts is more fully set forth in the prospectus relating to those accounts issued by the participating insurance companies.

### **Restrictions on Excessive Trading Practices**

The Trust does not permit market-timing or other excessive trading practices. Purchases and exchanges should be made for long-term investment purposes only. The Trust and Goldman Sachs reserve the right to reject or restrict purchase or exchange requests from any investor. Excessive, short-term (market-timing) trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies, harm Fund performance and negatively impact long-term shareholders. The Trust and Goldman Sachs will not be held liable for any loss resulting from rejected purchase or exchange orders. To minimize harm to the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) and its shareholders, the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) will exercise these rights if, in the Trust's (or Goldman Sachs') judgment, an investor has a history of excessive trading or if an investor's trading, in the judgment of the Trust (or Goldman Sachs), has been or may be disruptive to a Fund. In making this judgment, trades executed in multiple accounts under common ownership or control may be considered together.

## Taxation

The Fund is treated as a separate corporate entity for federal tax purposes. The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company and to qualify for such treatment for each taxable year under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In addition, the Fund intends to qualify under the Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to variable contracts. Provided that the Fund and a separate account investing in the Fund satisfy applicable tax requirements, the Fund will not be subject to

federal tax and any distributions from the Fund to the separate account will be exempt from current federal income taxation to the extent that such distributions accumulate in a variable annuity contract or a variable life insurance contract.

Persons investing in variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts should refer to the prospectuses with respect to such contracts for further information regarding the tax treatment of the contracts and the separate accounts in which the contracts are invested.



# Appendix A

## Additional Information on Portfolio Risks, Securities and Techniques

### A. GENERAL PORTFOLIO RISKS

The Fund will be subject to the risks associated with equity investments. “Equity investments” may include common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants, stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities. In general, the values of equity investments fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and in response to general market and economic conditions. Accordingly, the values of the equity investments that the Fund holds may decline over short or extended periods. The stock markets tend to be cyclical, with periods when stock prices generally rise and periods when prices generally decline. This volatility means that the value of your investment in the Fund may increase or decrease. In recent years, stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

To the extent it invests in fixed-income securities, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with fixed-income securities. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and call/extension risk. In general, interest rate risk involves the risk that when interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to increase (although many mortgage-related securities will have less potential than other debt securities for capital appreciation during periods of declining rates). Conversely, when interest rates increase, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to decline. Credit risk involves the risk that an issuer or guarantor could default on its obligations, and the Fund will not recover its investment. Call risk and extension risk are normally present in mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities. For example, homeowners have the option to prepay their mortgages. Therefore, the duration of a security backed by home mortgages can either shorten (call risk) or lengthen (extension risk). In general, if interest rates on new mortgage loans fall sufficiently below the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to increase. Conversely, if mortgage loan interest rates rise above the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to decrease. In either case, a change in the prepayment rate can result in losses to investors. The same would be true of asset-backed securities, such as securities backed by car loans.

The Investment Adviser will not consider the portfolio turnover rate a limiting factor in making investment decisions for the Fund. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or

more) involves correspondingly greater expenses which must be borne by the Fund and its shareholders. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of the dollar amount of sales or purchases of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund’s portfolio securities, excluding securities having a maturity at the date of purchase of one year or less. See “Financial Highlights” in Appendix B for a statement of the Fund’s historical portfolio turnover rates.

The following sections provide further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. Additional information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request. Among other things, the Additional Statement describes certain fundamental investment restrictions that cannot be changed without shareholder approval. You should note, however, that all investment objectives, and all investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. If there is a change in the Fund’s investment objective, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment in light of your then current financial position and needs.

### B. OTHER PORTFOLIO RISKS

**Risks of Derivative Investments.** The Fund’s transactions, if any, in options, futures, options on futures, swaps, structured securities and foreign currency transactions involve additional risk of loss. Loss can result from a lack of correlation between changes in the value of derivative instruments and the portfolio assets (if any) being hedged, the potential illiquidity of the markets for derivative instruments, or the risks arising from margin requirements and related leverage factors associated with such transactions. The use of these management techniques also involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or currency prices. The Fund may also invest in derivative investments for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return). Investing for non-hedging purposes is considered as a speculative practice and presents even greater risk of loss.

**Risks of Foreign Investments.** In general, the Fund may make foreign investments. Foreign investments involve special risks that are not typically associated with U.S. dollar denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign investments may be affected by changes in currency rates, changes in foreign or U.S. laws or restrictions applicable to such investments and changes in exchange control regulations



(e.g., currency blockage). A decline in the exchange rate of the currency (*i.e.*, weakening of the currency against the U.S. dollar) in which a portfolio security is quoted or denominated relative to the U.S. dollar would reduce the value of the portfolio security. In addition, if the currency in which the Fund receives dividends, interest or other payments declines in value against the U.S. dollar before such income is distributed as dividends to shareholders or converted to U.S. dollars, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to pay such dividends.

Brokerage commissions, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in international securities markets generally are more expensive than in the United States. In addition, clearance and settlement procedures may be different in foreign countries and, in certain markets, such procedures have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, thus making it difficult to conduct such transactions.

Foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. issuers. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than about a U.S. issuer. In addition, there is generally less government regulation of foreign markets, companies and securities dealers than in the United States, and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Furthermore, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is a possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividend or interest payments (or, in some cases, capital gains distributions), limitations on the removal of funds or other assets from such countries, and risks of political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Concentration of the Fund's assets in one or a few countries and currencies will subject the Fund to greater risks than if the Fund's assets were not geographically concentrated.

Investment in sovereign debt obligations by the Fund involves risks not present in debt obligations of corporate issuers. The issuer of the debt or the governmental authorities that control the repayment of the debt may be unable or unwilling to repay principal or pay interest when due in accordance with the terms of such debt, and the Fund may have limited recourse to compel payment in the event of a default. Periods of economic uncertainty may result in the volatility of market prices of

sovereign debt, and in turn the Fund's NAV, to a greater extent than the volatility inherent in debt obligations of U.S. issuers.

A sovereign debtor's willingness or ability to repay principal and pay interest in a timely manner may be affected by, among other factors, its cash flow situation, the extent of its foreign currency reserves, the availability of sufficient foreign exchange on the date a payment is due, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole, the sovereign debtor's policy toward international lenders, and the political constraints to which a sovereign debtor may be subject.

Investments in foreign securities may take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs") and Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs") or other similar instruments representing securities of foreign issuers. ADRs, EDRs and GDRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs and certain GDRs are traded in the United States. GDRs may be traded in either the United States or in foreign markets. EDRs are traded primarily outside of the United States. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. Similarly, EDRs and GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

**Risks of Euro.** On January 1, 1999, the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) introduced a new single currency called the euro. The euro has replaced the national currencies of the following member countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. In addition, ten new countries, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, are preparing for entry into the EMU in 2004.

The new European Central Bank has control over each country's monetary policies. Therefore, the member countries no longer control their own monetary policies by directing independent interest rates for their currencies. The national governments of the participating countries, however, have retained the authority to set tax and spending policies and public debt level.

The change to the euro as a single currency is relatively new and untested. The elimination of currency risk among EMU countries has affected the economic environment and behavior of investors, particularly in European markets, but the long-term impact of those changes on currency values or on the business or financial condition of European countries and issuers cannot be fully assessed at this time. In addition, the introduction of the euro presents other unique uncertainties,

including the fluctuation of the euro relative to non-euro currencies; whether the interest rate, tax and labor regimes of European countries participating in the euro will converge over time; and whether the conversion of the currencies of other countries that now are or may in the future become members of the European Union (“EU”) will have an impact on the euro. Also it is possible that the euro could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use. These or other events, including political and economic developments, could cause market disruptions, and could adversely affect the value of securities held by the Fund. Because of the number of countries using this single currency, a significant portion of the assets held by the Fund may be denominated in the euro.

**Risks of Emerging Countries.** The Fund may invest in securities of issuers located in emerging countries. The risks of foreign investment are heightened when the issuer is located in an emerging country. Emerging countries are generally located in the Asia and Pacific regions, The Middle East, Eastern Europe, Latin, Central and South America and Africa. The Fund’s purchase and sale of portfolio securities in certain emerging countries may be constrained by limitations relating to daily changes in the prices of listed securities, periodic trading or settlement volume and/or limitations on aggregate holdings of foreign investors. Such limitations may be computed based on the aggregate trading volume by or holdings of the Fund, the Investment Adviser, its affiliates and their respective clients and other service providers. The Fund may not be able to sell securities in circumstances where price, trading or settlement volume limitations have been reached.

Foreign investment in the securities markets of certain emerging countries is restricted or controlled to varying degrees which may limit investment in such countries or increase the administrative costs of such investments. For example, certain Asian countries require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit investment by foreign persons to only a specified percentage of an issuer’s outstanding securities or a specific class of securities which may have less advantageous terms (including price) than securities of the issuer available for purchase by nationals. In addition, certain countries may restrict or prohibit investment opportunities in issuers or industries deemed important to national interests. Such restrictions may affect the market price, liquidity and rights of securities that may be purchased by the Fund. The repatriation of both investment income and capital from certain emerging countries is subject to restrictions such as the need for governmental consents. In situations where a country restricts direct investment in securities (which may occur in certain Asian and other

countries) the Fund may invest in such countries through other investment funds in such countries.

Many emerging countries have experienced currency devaluations and substantial (and, in some cases, extremely high) rates of inflation. Other emerging countries have experienced economic recessions. These circumstances have had a negative effect on the economies and securities markets of such emerging countries. Economies in emerging countries generally are dependent heavily upon commodity prices and international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by the economies of their trading partners, trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade.

Many emerging countries are subject to a substantial degree of economic, political and social instability. Governments of some emerging countries are authoritarian in nature or have been installed or removed as a result of military coups, while governments in other emerging countries have periodically used force to suppress civil dissent. Disparities of wealth, the pace and success of democratization, and ethnic, religious and racial disaffection, among other factors, have also led to social unrest, violence and/or labor unrest in some emerging countries. Unanticipated political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses. Investing in emerging countries involves greater risk of loss due to expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested. As an example, in the past some Eastern European governments have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and many claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that similar expropriations will not recur in Eastern Europe or other countries.

The Fund’s investment in emerging countries may also be subject to withholding or other taxes, which may be significant and may reduce the return from an investment in such countries to the Fund.

Settlement procedures in emerging countries are frequently less developed and reliable than those in the United States and may involve the Fund’s delivery of securities before receipt of payment for their sale. In addition, significant delays may occur in certain markets in registering the transfer of securities. Settlement or registration problems may make it more difficult for the Fund to value its portfolio securities and could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities, to have a portion of its assets uninvested or to incur losses due to the failure of a counterparty to pay for securities

the Fund has delivered or the Fund's inability to complete its contractual obligations because of theft or other reasons.

The creditworthiness of the local securities firms used by the Fund in emerging countries may not be as sound as the creditworthiness of firms used in more developed countries. As a result, the Fund may be subject to a greater risk of loss if a securities firm defaults in the performance of its responsibilities.

The small size and inexperience of the securities markets in certain emerging countries and the limited volume of trading in securities in those countries may make the Fund's investments in such countries less liquid and more volatile than investments in countries with more developed securities markets (such as the United States, Japan and most Western European countries). The Fund's investments in emerging countries are subject to the risk that the liquidity of a particular investment, or investments generally, in such countries will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political conditions, or adverse investor perceptions, whether or not accurate. Because of the lack of sufficient market liquidity, the Fund may incur losses because it will be required to effect sales at a disadvantageous time and then only at a substantial drop in price. Investments in emerging countries may be more difficult to price precisely because of the characteristics discussed above and lower trading volumes.

The Fund's use of foreign currency management techniques in emerging countries may be limited. Due to the limited market for these instruments in emerging countries, the Investment Adviser does not currently anticipate that a significant portion of the Fund's currency exposure in emerging countries, if any, will be covered by such instruments.

**Risks of Illiquid Securities.** The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities which cannot be disposed of in seven days in the ordinary course of business at fair value. Illiquid securities include:

- Both domestic and foreign securities that are not readily marketable
- Repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days
- Certain over-the-counter options
- Certain structured securities and all swap transactions
- Certain restricted securities, unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so called "4(2) commercial paper" or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 ("144A Securities").

Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund's portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

**Credit/Default Risks.** Debt securities purchased by the Fund may include securities (including zero coupon bonds) issued by the U.S. government (and its agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises), foreign governments, domestic and foreign corporations, banks and other issuers. Some of these fixed-income securities are described in the next section below. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement.

Debt securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's") or Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO are considered "investment grade." Securities rated BBB or Baa are considered medium-grade obligations with speculative characteristics, and adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances may weaken the issuers' capacity to pay interest and repay principal. A security will be deemed to have met a rating requirement if it receives the minimum required rating from at least one such rating organization even though it has been rated below the minimum rating by one or more other rating organizations, or if unrated by such rating organizations, the security is determined by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. A security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement regardless of its relative ranking (for example, plus or minus) within a designated major rating category (for example, BBB or Baa). If a security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, the Investment Adviser will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

The Fund may invest in fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) which are commonly referred to as "junk bonds." Junk bonds are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments.

In some cases, junk bonds may be highly speculative, have poor prospects for reaching investment grade standing and be in default. As a result, investment in such bonds will present greater speculative risks than those associated with investment in investment grade bonds. Also, to the extent that the rating

assigned to a security in the Fund's portfolio is downgraded by a rating organization, the market price and liquidity of such security may be adversely affected.

**Geographic Risks.** The Fund may invest more than 25% of its total assets in the securities of corporate and governmental issuers located in a particular foreign country or region. Concentration of the Fund's investments in such issuers will subject the Fund, to a greater extent than if investment was more limited, to the risks of adverse securities markets, exchange rates and social, political or economic events which may occur in that country or region.

**Temporary Investment Risks.** The Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, invest a certain percentage of its total assets in:

- U.S. government securities
- Commercial paper rated at least A-2 by Standard & Poor's, P-2 by Moody's or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO
- Certificates of deposit
- Bankers' acceptances
- Repurchase agreements
- Non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible corporate bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year

When the Fund's assets are invested in such instruments, the Fund may not be achieving its investment objective.

**Risks of Initial Public Offerings ("IPOs").** The Fund may invest in IPOs. An IPO is a company's first offering of stock to the public. IPO risk is the risk that the market value of IPO shares will fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, the small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The purchase of IPO shares may involve high transaction costs. IPO shares are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. When the Fund's asset base is small, a significant portion of the Fund's performance could be attributable to investments in IPOs, because such investments would have a magnified impact on the Fund. As the Fund's assets grow, the effect of the Fund's investments in IPOs on the Fund's performance probably will decline, which could reduce the Fund's performance. Because of the price volatility of IPO shares, the Fund may choose to hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase the turnover of the Fund's portfolio and may lead to increased expenses to the Fund, such as commissions and transaction costs. In addition, the market for IPO shares can be speculative and/or inactive for extended periods of time. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to obtain allocable portions of IPO shares. The limited number of shares available for trading in some IPOs may make it more difficult for the

Fund to buy or sell significant amounts of shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing prices. Investors in IPO shares can be affected by substantial dilution in the value of their shares, by sales of additional shares and by concentration of control in existing management and principal shareholders.

## C. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND TECHNIQUES

This section provides further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. The Fund may purchase other types of securities or instruments similar to those described in this section if otherwise consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request.

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury (b) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury (c) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the issuer; or (d) only the credit of the issuer. U.S. Government Securities also include Treasury receipts, zero coupon bonds and other stripped U.S. Government Securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. Government Securities are traded independently.

**Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates.** The Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. Government Securities or other types of securities in which the Fund may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. If for tax purposes, the Fund is not considered to be the owner of the underlying securities held in the custodial or trust account, the Fund may suffer adverse tax consequences. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Fund may also



invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

**Mortgage-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in mortgage-backed securities. Mortgage-backed securities represent direct or indirect participations in, or are collateralized by and payable from, mortgage loans secured by real property. Mortgage-backed securities can be backed by either fixed rate mortgage loans or adjustable rate mortgage loans, and may be issued by either a governmental or non-governmental entity. Privately issued mortgage-backed securities are normally structured with one or more types of “credit enhancement.” However, these mortgage-backed securities typically do not have the same credit standing as U.S. government guaranteed mortgage-backed securities.

Mortgage-backed securities may include multiple class securities, including collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) and Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit (“REMIC”) pass-through or participation certificates. A REMIC is a CMO that qualifies for special tax treatment and invests in certain mortgages principally secured by interests in real property and other permitted investments. CMOs provide an investor with a specified interest in the cash flow from a pool of underlying mortgages or of other mortgage-backed securities. CMOs are issued in multiple classes each with a specified fixed or floating interest rate and a final scheduled distribution rate. In many cases, payments of principal are applied to the CMO classes in the order of their respective stated maturities, so that no principal payments will be made on a CMO class until all other classes having an earlier stated maturity date are paid in full.

Sometimes, however, CMO classes are “parallel pay,” *i.e.*, payments of principal are made to two or more classes concurrently. In some cases, CMOs may have the characteristics of a stripped mortgage-backed security whose price can be highly volatile. CMOs may exhibit more or less price volatility and interest rate risk than other types of mortgage-related obligations, and under certain interest rate and payment scenarios, a Fund may fail to recoup fully its investment in certain of these securities regardless of their credit quality.

Mortgage-backed securities also include stripped mortgage-backed securities (“SMBS”), which are derivative multiple class mortgage-backed securities. SMBS are usually structured with two different classes: one that receives substantially all of the interest payments and the other that receives substantially all of the principal payments from a pool of mortgage loans. The market value of SMBS consisting entirely of principal payments generally is unusually volatile in response to changes in interest rates. The yields on SMBS that receive all or most of the interest from mortgage loans are generally

higher than prevailing market yields on other mortgage-backed securities because their cash flow patterns are more volatile and there is a greater risk that the initial investment will not be fully recouped.

**Asset-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in asset-backed securities. Asset-backed securities are securities whose principal and interest payments are collateralized by pools of assets such as auto loans, credit card receivables, leases, installment contracts and personal property. Asset-backed securities are often subject to more rapid repayment than their stated maturity date would indicate as a result of the pass-through of prepayments of principal on the underlying loans. During periods of declining interest rates, prepayment of loans underlying asset-backed securities can be expected to accelerate. Accordingly, the Fund’s ability to maintain positions in such securities will be affected by reductions in the principal amount of such securities resulting from prepayments, and its ability to reinvest the returns of principal at comparable yields is subject to generally prevailing interest rates at that time. Asset-backed securities present credit risks that are not presented by mortgage-backed securities. This is because asset-backed securities generally do not have the benefit of a security interest in collateral that is comparable to mortgage assets. If the issuer of an asset-backed security defaults on its payment obligations, there is the possibility that, in some cases, the Fund will be unable to possess and sell the underlying collateral and that the Fund’s recoveries on repossessed collateral may not be available to support payments on the securities. In the event of a default, the Fund may suffer a loss if it cannot sell collateral quickly and receive the amount it is owed.

**Bank Obligations.** The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks. Bank obligations, including without limitation, time deposits, bankers’ acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by government regulations. Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

**Corporate Debt Obligations and Convertible Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations and

convertible securities. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures, commercial paper and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal, and include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations issued by U.S. and certain non-U.S. issuers which issue securities denominated in the U.S. dollar (including Yankee and Euro obligations). In addition to obligations of corporations, corporate debt obligations include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions and supranational entities (*i.e.*, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.).

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are preferred stock or debt obligations that are convertible into common stock. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities in which the Fund invests are subject to the same rating criteria as its other investments in fixed-income securities. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security exceeds the conversion price of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

**Rating Criteria.** The Fund may invest in debt securities rated at least investment grade at the time of investment. Investment grade debt securities are securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's, Baa or higher by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO. The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Net Assets in debt securities which are rated in the lowest rating categories by Standard & Poor's or Moody's (*i.e.*, BB or lower by Standard & Poor's, Ba or lower by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO), including securities rated D by Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Fixed income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) are commonly referred to as "junk bonds," are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments as described above.

**Structured Securities.** The Fund may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is

determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indices or other financial indicators (the "Reference") or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than many types of securities, and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Fund may, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase or sell foreign currencies on a cash basis or through forward contracts. A forward contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates. In addition, the Fund may enter into foreign currency transactions to seek a closer correlation between the Fund's overall currency exposures and the currency exposures of the Fund's performance benchmark. The Fund may also enter into such transactions to seek to increase total return, which is considered a speculative practice.

The Fund may also engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in a currency different from that in which the hedged security is denominated or quoted. The Fund may hold foreign currency received in connection with investments in foreign securities when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, it would be beneficial to convert such currency into U.S. dollars at a later date (*e.g.*, the Investment Adviser may anticipate that the foreign currency will appreciate against the U.S. dollar).

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time causing, along with other factors, the Fund's NAV to fluctuate (when the Fund's NAV fluctuates, the value of your shares may go up or down). Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by the intervention of U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. The market in forward foreign currency exchange contracts, currency swaps and other

privately negotiated currency instruments offers less protection against defaults by the other party to such instruments than is available for currency instruments traded on an exchange. Such contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the contract will default on its obligations. Since these contracts are not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on a contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or could force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price.

**Options on Securities, Securities Indices and Foreign Currencies.** A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying instrument during the option period. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument during the option period. The Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options and purchase put and call options on any securities in which the Fund may invest or on any securities index consisting of securities in which it may invest. The Fund may also, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase and sell (write) put and call options on foreign currencies.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves special investment risks. Options may be used for either hedging or cross-hedging purposes, or to seek to increase total return (which is considered a speculative activity). The successful use of options depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities (or currency) markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in market prices or determination of the correlation between the instruments or indices on which options are written and purchased and the instruments in the Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The use of options can also increase the Fund's transaction costs. Options written or purchased by the Fund may be traded on either U.S. or foreign exchanges or over-the-counter. Foreign and over-the-counter options will present greater possibility of loss because of their greater illiquidity and credit risks.

**Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.**

Futures contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that provide for the sale or purchase of a specified financial instrument or currency at a future time at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (and the writer of the option the obligation) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price within a specified period of time. A futures contract may be

based on particular securities, foreign currencies, securities indices and other financial instruments and indices. The Fund may engage in futures transactions on U.S. and foreign exchanges.

The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, and purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts, in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in interest rates, securities prices or to the extent the Fund invests in foreign securities, currency exchange rates, or to otherwise manage its term structure, sector selection and duration in accordance with its investment objective and policies. The Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts and related options present the following risks:

- While the Fund may benefit from the use of futures and options on futures, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance than if the Fund had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions.
- Because perfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position that is intended to be protected is impossible to achieve, the desired protection may not be obtained and the Fund may be exposed to additional risk of loss.
- The loss incurred by the Fund in entering into futures contracts and in writing call options on futures is potentially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the premium received.
- Futures markets are highly volatile and the use of futures may increase the volatility of a Fund's NAV.
- As a result of the low margin deposits normally required in futures trading, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- Futures contracts and options on futures may be illiquid, and exchanges may limit fluctuations in futures contract prices during a single day.
- Foreign exchanges may not provide the same protection as U.S. exchanges.

**Preferred Stock, Warrants and Rights.** The Fund may invest in preferred stock, warrants and rights. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike

debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock.

Warrants and other rights are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price at any time during the life of the warrant or right. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

**Other Investment Companies.** The Fund may invest in other investment companies (including exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup>, as defined below) subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the Investment Company Act. These limitations include a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by such other investment companies. Although the Fund does not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, the Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, other investment companies in which the Fund may invest include money market funds for which the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator or distributor.

Exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup> are shares of unaffiliated investment companies which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> National Market System.

■ **Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup>.** The Fund may, consistent with its investment policies, purchase Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup> ("SPDRs"). SPDRs are securities traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") that represent ownership in the SPDR Trust, a trust which has been established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>. The SPDR Trust is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading, or reducing transaction

costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price action of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>.

■ **iShares<sup>SM</sup>.** iShares are shares of an investment company that invests substantially all of its assets in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares on the AMEX. However, iShares have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, the Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares as part of its investment strategy.

**Unseasoned Companies.** The Fund may invest in companies (together with their predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

**Equity Swaps.** The Fund may invest in equity swaps. Equity swaps allow the parties to a swap agreement to exchange the dividend income or other components of return on an equity investment (for example, a group of equity securities or an index) for a component of return on another non-equity or equity investment.

An equity swap may be used by the Fund to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in circumstances in which direct investment may be restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise deemed impractical or disadvantageous. Equity swaps are derivatives and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that the Investment Adviser does not accurately analyze and predict the potential relative fluctuation of the components swapped with another party, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The value of some components of an equity swap (such as the dividends on a common stock) may also be sensitive to changes in interest rates. Furthermore, the Fund may suffer a loss if the



counterparty defaults. Because equity swaps are normally illiquid, the Fund may be unable to terminate its obligations when desired.

***When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.***

The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and make contracts to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. When-issued securities are securities that have been authorized, but not yet issued. When-issued securities are purchased in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. A forward commitment involves the entering into a contract to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond the customary settlement period.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines before the settlement date. Conversely, the sale of securities on a forward commitment basis involves the risk that the value of the securities sold may increase before the settlement date. Although the Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of when-issued securities or forward commitments prior to settlement if the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate.

***Repurchase Agreements.*** Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of securities subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with securities dealers and banks which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of its repurchase obligation.

If the other party or "seller" defaults, the Fund might suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the underlying securities and other collateral held by the Fund are less than the repurchase price and the Fund's costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the seller, the Fund could suffer additional losses if a court determines that the Fund's interest in the collateral is not enforceable.

The Fund, together with other registered investment companies having advisory agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

***Lending of Portfolio Securities.*** The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the lending of securities owned by the Fund to financial institutions such as

certain broker-dealers, including, as permitted by the SEC, Goldman Sachs. The borrowers are required to secure their loans continuously with cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or letters of credit in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash collateral may be invested by the Fund in short-term investments, including unregistered investment pools managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates and from which the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may receive fees. To the extent that cash collateral is so invested, such collateral will be subject to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund will be responsible for any loss that might result from its investment of the borrowers' collateral. If the Investment Adviser determines to make securities loans, the value of the securities loaned may not exceed 33⅓% of the value of the total assets of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of that collateral) is not subject to the percentage limitations described elsewhere in this Prospectus regarding investments in fixed-income instruments and cash equivalents.

The Fund may lend its securities to increase its income. The Fund may, however, experience delay in the recovery of its securities or incur a loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund or becomes insolvent.

***Short Sales Against-the-Box.*** The Fund may make short sales against-the-box. A short sale against-the-box means that at all times when a short position is open the Fund will own an equal amount of securities sold short, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for, without payment of any further consideration, an equal amount of the securities of the same issuer as the securities sold short.

***Borrowings.*** The Fund can borrow money from banks and other financial institutions in amounts not exceeding one-third of their total assets for temporary or emergency purposes. The Fund may not make additional investments if borrowings exceed 5% of its total assets.

***Currency Swaps.*** Currency swaps involve the exchange of the parties' respective rights to make or receive payments in specified currencies.

The Fund may enter into currency swap transactions for hedging purposes or to seek to increase total return. The use of currency swaps is a highly specialized activity which involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its forecasts of currency exchange rates, the investment performance of the Fund would

be less favorable than it would have been if these investment techniques were not used.

**REITs.** The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in either real estate or real estate related loans. The value of a REIT is affected by changes in the value of the properties owned by the REIT or securing mortgage loans held by the REIT. REITs are dependent upon the ability of the REITs' managers, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and the qualification of the REITs under applicable regulatory

requirements for favorable income tax treatment. REITs are also subject to risks generally associated with investments in real estate including possible declines in the value of real estate, general and local economic conditions, environmental problems and changes in interest rates. To the extent that assets underlying a REIT are concentrated geographically, by property type or in certain other respects, these risks may be heightened. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any expenses, including management fees, paid by a REIT in which it invests.

## Appendix B

### Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the periods ended December 31, 2000 and thereafter has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's annual report (available upon request without charge). The information for all periods prior to the year ended December 31, 2000 has been audited by the Fund's previous independent auditors, who have ceased operations.

	Net asset value, beginning of year	Income (loss) from investment operations		Distributions to shareholders				Net asset value, end of year	Total return <sup>(a)</sup>	Net assets at end of year (in 000s)	Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets		Portfolio turnover rate
		Net investment income	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	From net investment income	In excess of net investment income	From tax return of capital	From net realized gain					Ratio of expenses to average net assets	Ratio of investment income (loss) to average net assets	
<b>International Equity Fund</b>														
For the year ended December 31, 2003	\$ 7.25	\$0.04 <sup>(b)</sup>	\$ 2.53	\$ (0.34)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 9.48	35.49%	\$106,792	1.37%	0.49%	(0.74)%	49%
For the year ended December 31, 2002	8.99	0.03 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.68)	(0.09)	—	—	—	7.25	(18.34)	13,214	1.46	0.32	(1.18)	86
For the year ended December 31, 2001	11.78	0.05 <sup>(b)</sup>	(2.68)	(0.09)	—	(0.04)	(0.03)	8.99	(22.26)	17,773	1.35	0.47	(0.23)	76
For the year ended December 31, 2000	14.47	0.05 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.99)	—	—	—	(0.75)	11.78	(13.19)	29,261	1.34	0.37	(0.28)	70
For the year ended December 31, 1999	11.91	0.07	3.66	(0.07)	(0.13)	—	(0.97)	14.47	31.85	20,159	1.25	0.41	(0.91)	87

(a) Assumes investment at the net asset value at the beginning of the year, reinvestment of all distributions and a complete redemption of the investment at the net asset value at the end of year.

(b) Calculated based on the average shares outstanding methodology.

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# Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust

## Prospectus

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Annual/Semi-annual Report

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Your insurance company will provide you with annual and semi-annual reports if the Fund serves as the investment vehicle for your variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy.

#### Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Fund and its policies is also available in the Fund's Additional Statement. The Additional Statement is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (is legally considered part of this Prospectus).

The Additional Statement is available free upon request by calling Goldman Sachs at 1-800-621-2550.

To obtain other information and for shareholder inquiries:

By telephone – 1-800-621-2550

By mail – Goldman Sachs Funds

4900 Sears Tower, 51st Floor

Chicago, IL 60606-6372

By e-mail – [gs-funds@gs.com](mailto:gs-funds@gs.com)

On the Internet – Text-only versions of Trust documents are located online and may be downloaded from:  
SEC EDGAR database – <http://www.sec.gov>

You may review and obtain copies of Trust documents by visiting the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. You may also obtain copies of Trust documents, after paying a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 or by electronic request to: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov). Information on the operation of the public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.



**Asset  
Management**

The Trust's investment company registration number is 811-08361.

# Prospectus

April 29, 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

■ Goldman Sachs Growth and Income Fund

Shares of the Trust are offered to separate accounts of participating life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND IS NOT A BANK DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND INVOLVES INVESTMENT RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE MONEY IN THE FUND.



**Asset  
Management**

NOT FDIC-INSURED	May Lose Value	No Bank Guarantee
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# General Investment Management Approach

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM®”) serves as investment adviser to the Growth and Income Fund. GSAM is referred to in this Prospectus as the “Investment Adviser.”

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) offers shares of the Fund to separate accounts of participating insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the public. The participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. The Fund pools the monies of these separate accounts and invests these monies in a portfolio of securities pursuant to the Fund’s stated investment objective.

The investment objective and policies of the Fund are similar to the investment objectives and policies of other mutual funds that the Investment Adviser manages. Although the objectives and policies may be similar, the investment results of the Fund may be higher or lower than the results of such other mutual funds. The Investment Adviser cannot guarantee, and makes no representation, that the investment results of similar funds will be comparable even though the funds have the same Investment Adviser.

## VALUE STYLE FUNDS

### GSAM’s Value Investment Philosophy:

*Through intensive, firsthand fundamental research our portfolio team seeks to identify quality businesses selling at compelling valuations.*

**1. Businesses represent compelling value when:**

- Market uncertainty exists.
- Their economic value is not recognized by the market.

**2. By quality, we mean companies that have:**

- Sustainable operating or competitive advantage.
- Excellent stewardship of capital.
- Capability to earn above their cost of capital.
- Strong or improving balance sheets and cash flow.

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Business quality, conservative valuation, and thoughtful portfolio construction are the key elements of our value approach.

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References in this Prospectus to the Fund’s benchmark are for informational purposes only, and unless otherwise noted are not an indication of how the Fund is managed.

# Fund Investment Objective and Strategies

## Goldman Sachs Growth and Income Fund

FUND FACTS	
Objective:	Long-term growth of capital and growth of income
Benchmark:	S&P 500® Index
Investment Focus:	Large-cap U.S. equity investments that are believed to be undervalued.
Investment Style:	Value

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term growth of capital and growth of income.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Equity Investments.** The Fund invests, under normal circumstances, at least 65% of its total assets (not including securities lending collateral and any investment of that collateral) measured at time of purchase (“Total Assets”) in equity investments that the Investment Adviser considers to have favorable prospects for capital appreciation and/or dividend-paying ability. Although the Fund will invest primarily in publicly traded U.S. securities, it may invest up to 25% of its Total Assets in foreign securities, including securities of issuers in countries with emerging markets or economies (“emerging countries”) and securities quoted in foreign currencies.

**Other.** The Fund may also invest up to 35% of its Total Assets in fixed-income securities, such as government, corporate and bank debt obligations, that offer the potential to further the Fund’s investment objective.

## Other Investment Practices and Securities

The table below identifies some of the investment techniques that may (but are not required to) be used by the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objective. Numbers in this table show allowable usage only; for actual usage, consult the Fund's annual/semi-annual reports. For more information about these and other investment practices and securities, see Appendix A.

	Growth and Income Fund
<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</li> </ul>	
<b>Investment Practices</b>	
Borrowings	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Cross Hedging of Currencies	•
Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates	•
Equity Swaps*	15
Foreign Currency Transactions**	•
Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts	•
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Options on Foreign Currencies <sup>1</sup>	•
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Repurchase Agreements	•
Securities Lending	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Short Sales Against the Box	25
Unseasoned Companies	•
Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights	•
When-Issued and Forward Commitments	•
<p>10 Percent of total assets (excluding securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (including borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</li> </ul>	
<b>Investment Securities</b>	
American, European and Global Depositary Receipts	•
Asset-Backed and Mortgage-Backed Securities <sup>3</sup>	•
Bank Obligations <sup>3</sup>	•
Convertible Securities <sup>4</sup>	•
Corporate Debt Obligations <sup>3</sup>	•
Equity Investments	65+
Emerging Country Securities <sup>5</sup>	25
Fixed Income Securities <sup>6</sup>	35
Foreign Securities <sup>5</sup>	25
Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities <sup>3,7</sup>	10
Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	•
Structured Securities*	•
Temporary Investments	100
U.S. Government Securities <sup>3</sup>	•

\* Limited to 15% of net assets (together with other illiquid securities) for all structured securities which are not deemed to be liquid and all swap transactions.

\*\* Limited by the amount the Fund invests in foreign securities.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options.

<sup>2</sup> The Fund may sell covered call and put options and purchase call and put options.

<sup>3</sup> Limited by the amount the Fund invests in fixed-income securities.

<sup>4</sup> The Fund uses the same rating criteria for convertible and non-convertible debt securities.

<sup>5</sup> The Fund may invest in the aggregate up to 25% of its Total Assets in foreign securities, including emerging country securities.

<sup>6</sup> Except as noted under "Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities," fixed-income securities must be investment grade (i.e., BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's"), Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or have a comparable rating by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO")) at the time of investment.

<sup>7</sup> May be BB or lower by Standard & Poor's, Ba or lower by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO at the time of investment.

# Principal Risks of the Fund

Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. The following summarizes important risks that apply to the Fund and may result in a loss of your investment. The Fund should not be relied upon as a complete investment program. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

- Applicable

Fund	Interest Rate	Credit/Default	Foreign	Emerging Countries	Derivatives	Management	Liquidity	Market	Investment Style	Stock	Initial Public Offering ("IPO")
Growth and Income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## RISKS THAT APPLY TO THE FUND:

- **Interest Rate Risk**—The risk that when interest rates increase, fixed income securities held by the Fund will decline in value. Long-term fixed-income securities will normally have more price volatility because of this risk than short-term fixed-income securities.
- **Credit/Default Risk**—The risk that an issuer or guarantor of fixed-income securities held by the Fund may default on its obligation to pay interest and repay principal.
- **Foreign Risk**—The risk that when the Fund invests in foreign securities, it will be subject to risks of loss not typically associated with domestic issuers. Loss may result because of less foreign government regulation, less public information and less economic, political and social stability. Loss may also result from the imposition of exchange controls, confiscations and other government restrictions. The Fund will also be subject to the risk of negative foreign currency rate fluctuations. Foreign risks will normally be greatest when the Fund invests in issuers located in emerging countries.
- **Emerging Countries Risk**—The securities markets of Asian, Latin, Central and South American, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, African and other emerging countries are less liquid, are especially subject to greater price volatility, have smaller market capitalizations, have less government regulation and are not subject to as extensive and frequent accounting, financial and other reporting requirements as the securities markets of more developed countries. Further, investment in equity securities of issuers located in certain emerging countries involves risk of loss resulting from problems in share registration and custody and substantial economic and political disruptions. These risks are not normally associated with investments in more developed countries.
- **Derivatives Risk**—The risk that loss may result from the Fund's investments in options, futures, swaps, structured securities and other derivative instruments. These instruments may be leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses to the Fund.
- **Management Risk**—The risk that a strategy used by the Investment Adviser may fail to produce the intended results.
- **Liquidity Risk**—The risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the time period stated in this Prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. A fund that invests in non-investment grade fixed-income securities, small and mid-capitalization stocks, REITs or emerging country issuers will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate.
- **Market Risk**—The risk that the value of the securities in which the Fund invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies, particular industry sectors or governments and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or last for extended periods. The Fund's investments may be overweighted from time to time in one or more industry sectors, which will increase the Fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those sectors.
- **Investment Style Risk**—Different investment styles tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions as well as investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that employ a different investment style. Examples of different investment styles include growth and value investing. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks because they are more sensitive to investor perceptions of

the issuing company's growth of earnings potential. Also, since growth companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their business, growth stocks may lack the dividends of some value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. Growth oriented funds will typically underperform when value investing is in favor. Value stocks are those that are undervalued in comparison to their peers due to adverse business developments or other factors.

- **Stock Risk**—The risk that stock prices have historically risen and fallen in periodic cycles. Recently, U.S. and foreign stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.
- **IPO Risk**—The risk that the market value of IPO shares will fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, the

small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The purchase of IPO shares may involve high transaction costs. IPO shares are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. When a Fund's asset base is small, a significant portion of the Fund's performance could be attributable to investments in IPOs, because such investments would have a magnified impact on the Fund. As the Fund's assets grow, the effect of the Fund's investments in IPOs on the Fund's performance probably will decline, which could reduce the Fund's performance.

More information about the Fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and their associated risks, is provided in Appendix A. You should consider the investment risks discussed in this section and in Appendix A. Both are important to your investment choice.

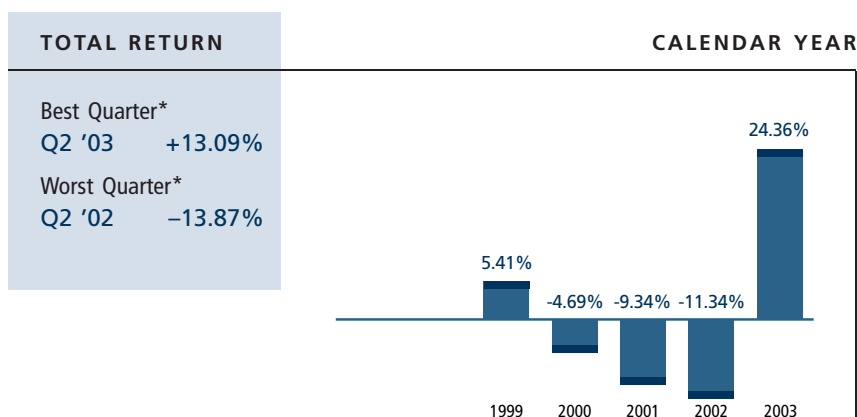
# Fund Performance

## HOW THE FUND HAS PERFORMED

The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing: (a) changes in the performance of the Fund's shares from year to year; and (b) how the average annual total returns of the Fund's shares compares to those of a broad-based securities market index.

The bar chart and table assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Performance reflects expense limitations in effect. If expense

limitations were not in place, the Fund's performance would have been reduced. In addition, performance reflects Fund level expenses but does not reflect the fees and expenses associated with any variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy that uses the Fund as an investment option for any contract or policy. Had performance reflected all of those fees and expenses, performance would have been reduced.



## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended December 31, 2003	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund</b> (Inception 1/12/98)	24.36%	0.09%	0.97%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Index**</b>	28.69%	-0.57%	4.58%

\* Please note that "Best Quarter" and "Worst Quarter" figures are applicable only to the time period covered by the bar chart.

\*\* The S&P 500® Index is the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Price Index of 500 stocks, an unmanaged index of common stock prices. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.

## Fund Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you buy and hold Shares of the Fund.

	Growth and Income Fund
<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment):	
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends	None
Redemption Fees	None
Exchange Fees	None
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that are deducted from Fund assets): <sup>1</sup>	
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses*	0.45%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses*</b>	<b>1.20%</b>

\*The "Other Expenses" and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" (after current expense limitations) set forth below have been restated to reflect the current expense limitations that are expected for the current fiscal year.

	Growth and Income Fund
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Current Expense Limitations</b>	
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.15%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses (after current expense limitations)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.90%</b>

<sup>1</sup>The Fund's annual operating expenses are based on actual expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup>"Other Expenses" include transfer agency fees and expenses equal on an annualized basis to 0.04% of the average daily net assets of the Fund plus all other ordinary expenses not detailed above. Effective December 22, 2003, the Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to limit "Other Expenses" (excluding management fees, transfer agent fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage, litigation and indemnification costs, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" to the extent that such expenses exceed, on an annual basis, 0.11% and 0.90%, respectively of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to maintain these expense limitations through June 30, 2005.

## Example

The following Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund (without the waivers and expense limitations) with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

**Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies and are not reflected in the Table above and Example below. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses. Such fees or charges, if any, may affect the return you may realize with respect to your investments.**

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in Shares of the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Fund	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Growth and Income	\$122	\$381	\$660	\$1,455

Certain participating insurance companies that invest in Shares may receive other compensation in connection with the sale and distribution of Shares or for services to their customers' accounts and/or the Fund. For additional information regarding such compensation, see "Service Providers" in the prospectus and "Other Information" in the Statement of Additional Information ("Additional Statement").



# Service Providers

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. ("GSAM")  
32 Old Slip  
New York, New York 10005

GSAM has been registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") since 1990 and is an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"). As of December 31, 2003, GSAM, along with other units of the Investment Management Division of Goldman Sachs, had assets under management of \$375.7 billion.

The Investment Adviser provides day-to-day advice regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. The Investment Adviser makes the investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund's portfolio transactions in U.S. and foreign markets. As permitted by applicable law, these orders may be directed to any brokers, including Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. While the Investment Adviser is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. In addition, the Investment Adviser has access to the research and certain proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs, and may apply quantitative and qualitative analysis in determining the appropriate allocations among categories of issuers and types of securities.

The Investment Adviser also performs the following additional services for the Fund:

- Supervises all non-advisory operations of the Fund
- Provides personnel to perform necessary executive, administrative and clerical services to the Fund
- Arranges for the preparation of all required tax returns, reports to shareholders, prospectuses and Additional Statements and other reports filed with the SEC and other regulatory authorities
- Maintains the records of the Fund
- Provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services

The Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to participating insurance companies for administrative services that such companies provide to their variable annuity and variable life insurance contract owners who are invested in the Fund. In addition, the Investment Advisers, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to various securities dealers (including affiliates of participating insurance companies) that distribute variable annuity contracts and/or variable life insurance contracts of such companies in connection with the sale, distribution and/or servicing of such contracts and, subject to applicable National Association of Securities Dealers rules, contribute to various cash and non-cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of such contracts.

As compensation for its services and its assumption of certain expenses, the Investment Adviser is entitled to a fee, computed daily and payable monthly, at an annual rate of 0.75% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

## VALUE INVESTMENT TEAM

- Fourteen portfolio managers/analysts with over 180 years of combined financial experience comprise the Investment Adviser's value investment team
- The team is organized by industry in order to deliver depth and breadth of research expertise
- Portfolio decision makers are actively conducting the research, which brings intensity and focus to the Value team process

### Value Investment Team

Name and Title	Fund Responsibility	Years Primarily Responsible	Five Year Employment History
Dolores Bamford, CFA Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2002	Ms. Bamford joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager for the Value team in April 2002. Prior to that, she was a portfolio manager at Putnam Investments for various products since 1991.
David L. Berdon Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2002	Mr. Berdon joined the Investment Adviser as a research analyst in March 2001 and became a portfolio manager in October 2002. From September 1999 to March 2001, he was a Vice President for Business Development and Strategic Alliances at Soliloquy Inc. From September 1997 to September 1999, he was a principal consultant at Diamond Technology partners.
Andrew Braun Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2001	Mr. Braun joined the Investment Adviser as a mutual fund product development analyst in July 1993. From January 1997 to April 2001, he was a research analyst on the Value team and became a portfolio manager in May 2001.
Scott Carroll, CFA Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2002	Mr. Carroll joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager for the Value team in May 2002. From 1996 to 2002, he worked at Van Kampen Funds where he had portfolio management and analyst responsibilities for Growth and Income and Equity Income funds.
Sally Pope Davis Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2001	Ms. Davis joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in August 2001. From December 1999 to July 2001, she was a relationship manager in Private Wealth Management at Goldman Sachs. From August 1989 to November 1999, she was a bank analyst in the Goldman Sachs Investment Research Department.
Stacey Ann DeMatteis Vice President	Client Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2002	Ms. DeMatteis joined the Investment Adviser as a product-marketing analyst in September 1993. From December 1997 to April 2000, she was a relationship manager in Broker-Dealer sales. In May 2000, she became a client portfolio manager on the Value Team.
Sean Gallagher Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2001	Mr. Gallagher joined the Investment Adviser as a research analyst in May 2000. He became a portfolio manager in December 2001. From October 1993 to May 2000, he was a research analyst at Merrill Lynch Asset Management.
Don Gervais Vice President	Client Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2003	Mr. Gervais joined the Investment Adviser in April 2003 as a portfolio manager. From September 1999 to March 2003 he was a U.S. Equity client portfolio manager at JPMorgan Fleming. Prior to that, from December 1997 to September 1999 he was an analyst with Capital Guardian Trust.
Lisa Parisi, CFA Managing Director	Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 2002	Ms. Parisi joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in August 2001. From December 2000 to August 2001, she was a portfolio manager at John A. Levin & Co. From March 1995 to December 2000, she was a portfolio manager and managing director at Valenzuela Capital.
Eileen Rominger Managing Director Chief Investment Officer	Senior Portfolio Manager— Growth and Income	Since 1999	Ms. Rominger joined the Investment Adviser as a senior portfolio manager and Chief Investment Officer of the Value team in August 1999. From 1981 to 1999, she worked at Oppenheimer Capital, most recently as a senior portfolio manager.

## DISTRIBUTOR AND TRANSFER AGENT

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor (the “Distributor”) of the Fund’s shares. Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6372, also serves as the Fund’s transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and, as such, performs various shareholder servicing functions.

## ACTIVITIES OF GOLDMAN SACHS AND ITS AFFILIATES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY GOLDMAN SACHS

The involvement of the Investment Adviser, Goldman Sachs and their affiliates in the management of, or their interest in, other accounts and other activities of Goldman Sachs may present conflicts of interest with respect to the Fund or limit the Fund’s investment activities. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds which have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or which engage in and compete for transactions in the same type of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates will not have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund. The results of the Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and it is possible that the Fund could sustain losses during periods in which Goldman Sachs and its affiliates and other accounts achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which Goldman Sachs or its other clients have an adverse interest. The Fund’s activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a global financial services firm, Goldman Sachs also provides a wide range of investment

banking and financial services to issuers of securities and investors in securities. Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and others associated with it may create markets or specialize in, have positions in and affect transactions in, securities of issuers held by the Funds, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking and financial services for those issuers.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees, the Fund has retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Fund engages in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund’s investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, the Fund may make brokerage and other payments to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates in connection with the Fund’s portfolio investment transactions.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On April 2, 2004, Lois Burke, a plaintiff identifying herself as a shareholder of the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund, filed a purported class and derivative action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (“GSG”), GSAM, the Trustees and Officers of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex, and John Doe Defendants. In addition, certain investment portfolios of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex (collectively, the “Goldman Sachs Funds”) were named as nominal defendants.

The action, which is brought on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased, redeemed or held shares in the Goldman Sachs Funds between April 2, 1999 and January 9, 2004, inclusive (the “Class Period”), alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and common law

breach of fiduciary duty. The complaint alleges, among other things, that during the Class Period, GSAM charged the Goldman Sachs Funds improper Rule 12b-1 fees; made improper brokerage commission and other payments to brokers that sold shares of the Goldman Sachs Funds and made untrue statements of material fact in registration statements and reports filed pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The complaint further alleges that the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex Officers and Trustees breached their fiduciary duties by, among other things, permitting the payments to occur. The plaintiffs in the case are seeking compensatory damages; punitive damages; rescission of GSAM’s investment advisory agreement and return of fees paid; an accounting of all Goldman Sachs Funds-related fees, commissions and soft dollar payments; restitution of all unlawfully or discriminatorily obtained fees and charges; and reasonable costs and expenses, including counsel fees and expert fees.

# Dividends

Dividends from investment company taxable income and distributions from net realized capital gains (if any) are declared and paid by the Fund at least annually. Over the course of the year, accrued and paid dividends and distributions will equal all or substantially all of the Fund's investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains. All dividends will be automatically reinvested in

additional shares of the Fund at the net asset value ("NAV") of such shares on the payment date, unless an insurance company's separate account is permitted to hold cash and elects to receive payment in cash. From time to time, a portion of the Fund's dividends may constitute a return of capital.

# Shareholder Guide

The following section will provide you with answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding buying and selling the Fund's shares.

## How Can I Purchase Or Sell Shares Of The Fund?

Shares of the Fund are not sold directly to the public. Instead, Fund shares are sold to unaffiliated separate accounts that fund variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts issued by participating insurance companies. You may purchase or sell (redeem) shares of the Fund through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered through the separate accounts. The variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies. You should refer to those prospectuses for information on how to purchase a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, how to select a specific Fund as an investment option for your contract or policy and how to redeem monies from the Fund.

The separate accounts of the participating insurance companies place orders to purchase and redeem shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of premium payments to be invested and the amount of surrender and transfer requests (as defined in the prospectus describing the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the participating insurance companies) to be effected on that day pursuant to variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.

The separate accounts of unaffiliated participating insurance companies may purchase shares of the Fund. The sale of Fund shares to these unaffiliated separate accounts may present certain conflicts of interests among variable annuity owners, variable life insurance policy owners and plan investors. The Trust's Board of Trustees will monitor the Trust for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflict of interest. The Trust currently does not foresee any disadvantages to the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies arising from the fact that interests of the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies may differ due to differences of tax treatment or other considerations or due to conflicts among the unaffiliated participating insurance companies. If, however, a material unreconcilable conflict arises between the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies of unaffiliated participating insurance companies, a participating insurance company may be required to withdraw the assets allocable to some or all of the separate accounts from the Fund. Any such withdrawal could disrupt orderly portfolio management to the potential detriment of such holders.

Shares of the Fund (and other existing and new funds that might be added to the Trust) may also be offered to:

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are sold in non-public offerings.
- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are offered

exclusively to qualified pension and profit-sharing plans and/or certain governmental plans.

- Qualified pension and profit-sharing plans. The Trust does not currently anticipate offering shares directly to such plans.

## How Are Shares Priced?

Shares of the Fund are purchased and sold at the Fund's next determined NAV. The Fund calculates NAV as follows:

$$\text{NAV} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(Value of Assets of the Fund)} \\ - \text{(Liabilities of the Fund)} \end{array}}{\text{Number of the Fund's Outstanding Shares}}$$

The Fund's investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Fund's NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Fund's investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Fund's daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Fund to price its investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

- NAV per share of the Fund is generally calculated by the accounting agent on each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. Fund shares will generally not be priced on any day the New York Stock Exchange is closed.
- Shares are purchased and redeemed at the NAV next calculated *after* an order is received in proper form by the Trust.
- The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were processed at an NAV other than the Fund's official closing NAV that is subsequently adjusted, and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders accordingly based on the official closing NAV.
- The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC.

***Note: The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York time. In the event the New York Stock Exchange does not open for business because of an emergency, the Trust may, but is not required to open the***

***Fund for purchase, redemption and exchange transactions if the Federal Reserve wire payment system is open. To learn whether the Fund is open for business during an emergency situation, please call 1-800-621-2550.***

Foreign securities may trade in their local markets on days the Fund is closed. As a result, if the Fund holds foreign securities, its NAV may be impacted on days when its shares may not be purchased or redeemed.

In addition, if an event that affects the value of a security occurs after the publication of market quotations or independent service information used by the Fund to price its securities but before the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Trust in its discretion and consistent with applicable regulatory guidance may determine whether to make an adjustment in light of the nature and significance of the event.

#### **Do I Have To Pay Any Fees When Purchasing Or Selling Shares Of The Fund?**

The Fund does not charge any fees when it sells or redeems its shares. Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses.

#### **What Else Should I Know About Share Purchases And Redemptions?**

The Trust reserves the right to:

- Suspend the right of redemption under certain extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the rules of the SEC.
- Suspend the offering of shares for a period of time.
- Reject any purchase order.
- Close the Fund to new investors from time to time and reopen the Fund whenever it is deemed appropriate by the Fund's Investment Adviser.

Orders received by the Trust are effected on business days. The separate accounts purchase and redeem shares of each Fund at the Fund's NAV per share calculated as of the day an order is received by the Fund although such purchases and redemptions may be executed the next morning. Redemption proceeds paid by wire transfer will normally be wired in federal funds on the next business day after the Trust receives actual notice of the redemption order, but may be paid up to three business days after receipt of actual notice of the order.

#### **What Types Of Reports Will I Be Sent Regarding Investments In The Fund?**

As a holder of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, you will receive annual reports containing

audited financial statements and semiannual reports from your participating insurance company.

#### **What Are The Fund's Voting Procedures?**

Participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. To the extent required by law:

- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts in a manner consistent with timely voting instructions received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.
- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts for which no timely instructions are received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies, as well as shares they own, in the same proportion as those shares for which voting instructions are received.

It is anticipated that Fund shares held by unregistered separate accounts or qualified plans generally will be voted for or against any proposition in the same proportion as all other Fund shares are voted unless the unregistered separate account's participating insurance company or the plan makes other arrangements.

Additional information concerning voting rights of the participants in the separate accounts is more fully set forth in the prospectus relating to those accounts issued by the participating insurance companies.

#### **Restrictions on Excessive Trading Practices**

The Trust does not permit market-timing or other excessive trading practices. Purchases and exchanges should be made for long-term investment purposes only. The Trust and Goldman Sachs reserve the right to reject or restrict purchase or exchange requests from any investor. Excessive, short-term (market-timing) trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies, harm Fund performance and negatively impact long-term shareholders. The Trust and Goldman Sachs will not be held liable for any loss resulting from rejected purchase or exchange orders. To minimize harm to the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) and its shareholders, the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) will exercise these rights if, in the Trust's (or Goldman Sachs') judgment, an investor has a history of excessive trading or if an investor's trading, in the judgment of the Trust (or Goldman Sachs), has been or may be disruptive to a Fund. In making this judgment, trades executed in multiple accounts under common ownership or control may be considered together.



# Taxation

The Fund is treated as a separate corporate entity for federal tax purposes. The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company and to qualify for such treatment for each taxable year under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In addition, the Fund intends to qualify under the Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to variable contracts. Provided that the Fund and a separate account investing in the Fund satisfy applicable tax requirements, the Fund will not be subject to

federal tax and any distributions from the Fund to the separate account will be exempt from current federal income taxation to the extent that such distributions accumulate in a variable annuity contract or a variable life insurance contract.

Persons investing in variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts should refer to the prospectuses with respect to such contracts for further information regarding the tax treatment of the contracts and the separate accounts in which the contracts are invested.

# Appendix A

## Additional Information on Portfolio Risks, Securities and Techniques

### A. GENERAL PORTFOLIO RISKS

The Fund will be subject to the risks associated with equity investments. “Equity investments” may include common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants, stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities. In general, the values of equity investments fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and in response to general market and economic conditions. Accordingly, the values of the equity investments that the Fund holds may decline over short or extended periods. The stock markets tend to be cyclical, with periods when stock prices generally rise and periods when prices generally decline. This volatility means that the value of your investment in the Fund may increase or decrease. In recent years, stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

To the extent it invests in fixed-income securities, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with fixed-income securities. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and call/extension risk. In general, interest rate risk involves the risk that when interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to increase (although many mortgage-related securities will have less potential than other debt securities for capital appreciation during periods of declining rates). Conversely, when interest rates increase, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to decline. Credit risk involves the risk that an issuer or guarantor could default on its obligations, and the Fund will not recover its investment. Call risk and extension risk are normally present in mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities. For example, homeowners have the option to prepay their mortgages. Therefore, the duration of a security backed by home mortgages can either shorten (call risk) or lengthen (extension risk). In general, if interest rates on new mortgage loans fall sufficiently below the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to increase. Conversely, if mortgage loan interest rates rise above the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to decrease. In either case, a change in the prepayment rate can result in losses to investors. The same would be true of asset-backed securities, such as securities backed by car loans.

The Investment Adviser will not consider the portfolio turnover rate a limiting factor in making investment decisions for the Fund. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or

more) involves correspondingly greater expenses which must be borne by the Fund and its shareholders. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of the dollar amount of sales or purchases of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund’s portfolio securities, excluding securities having a maturity at the date of purchase of one year or less. See “Financial Highlights” in Appendix B for a statement of the Fund’s historical portfolio turnover rates.

The following sections provide further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. Additional information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request. Among other things, the Additional Statement describes certain fundamental investment restrictions that cannot be changed without shareholder approval. You should note, however, that all investment objectives and all investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. If there is a change in the Fund’s investment objective, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment in light of your then current financial position and needs.

### B. OTHER PORTFOLIO RISKS

**Risks of Derivative Investments.** The Fund’s transactions, if any, in options, futures, options on futures, swaps, structured securities and foreign currency transactions involve additional risk of loss. Loss can result from a lack of correlation between changes in the value of derivative instruments and the portfolio assets (if any) being hedged, the potential illiquidity of the markets for derivative instruments, or the risks arising from margin requirements and related leverage factors associated with such transactions. The use of these management techniques also involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or currency prices. The Fund may also invest in derivative investments for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return). Investing for non-hedging purposes is considered as a speculative practice and presents even greater risk of loss.

**Risks of Foreign Investments.** In general, the Fund may make foreign investments. Foreign investments involve special risks that are not typically associated with U.S. dollar denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign investments may be affected by changes in currency rates, changes in foreign or U.S. laws or restrictions applicable to such investments and changes in exchange control regulations

(e.g., currency blockage). A decline in the exchange rate of the currency (*i.e.*, weakening of the currency against the U.S. dollar) in which a portfolio security is quoted or denominated relative to the U.S. dollar would reduce the value of the portfolio security. In addition, if the currency in which the Fund receives dividends, interest or other payments declines in value against the U.S. dollar before such income is distributed as dividends to shareholders or converted to U.S. dollars, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to pay such dividends.

Brokerage commissions, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in international securities markets generally are more expensive than in the United States. In addition, clearance and settlement procedures may be different in foreign countries and, in certain markets, such procedures have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, thus making it difficult to conduct such transactions.

Foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. issuers. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than about a U.S. issuer. In addition, there is generally less government regulation of foreign markets, companies and securities dealers than in the United States, and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Furthermore, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is a possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividend or interest payments (or, in some cases, capital gains distributions), limitations on the removal of funds or other assets from such countries, and risks of political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Concentration of the Fund's assets in one or a few countries and currencies will subject the Fund to greater risks than if the Fund's assets were not geographically concentrated.

Investments in foreign securities may take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs"), European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs") or other similar instruments representing securities of foreign issuers. ADRs, EDRs and GDRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs and certain GDRs are traded in the United States. GDRs may be

traded in either the United States or in foreign markets. EDRs are primarily traded outside of the United States. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. Similarly, EDRs and GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

**Risks of Euro.** On January 1, 1999, the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) introduced a new single currency called the euro. The euro has replaced the national currencies of the following member countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. In addition, ten new countries, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, are preparing for entry into the EMU in 2004.

The new European Central Bank has control over each country's monetary policies. Therefore, the member countries no longer control their own monetary policies by directing independent interest rates for their currencies. The national governments of the participating countries, however, have retained the authority to set tax and spending policies and public debt levels.

The change to the euro as a single currency is relatively new and untested. The elimination of currency risk among EMU countries has affected the economic environment and behavior of investors, particularly in European markets, but the long-term impact of those changes on currency values or on the business or financial condition of European countries and issuers cannot be fully assessed at this time. In addition, the introduction of the euro presents other unique uncertainties, including the fluctuation of the euro relative to non-euro currencies; whether the interest rate, tax and labor regimes of European countries participating in the euro will converge over time; and whether the conversion of the currencies of other countries that now are or may in the future become members of the European Union ("EU") will have an impact on the euro. Also it is possible that the euro could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use. These or other events, including political and economic developments, could cause market disruptions, and could adversely affect the value of securities held by the Fund. Because of the number of countries using this single currency, a significant portion of the assets held by the Fund may be denominated in the euro.

**Risks of Emerging Countries.** The Fund may invest in securities of issuers located in emerging countries. The risks of foreign investment are heightened when the issuer is located in an emerging country. Emerging countries are generally located in the Asia and Pacific regions, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Latin, Central and South America and

Africa. The Fund's purchase and sale of portfolio securities in certain emerging countries may be constrained by limitations relating to daily changes in the prices of listed securities, periodic trading or settlement volume and/or limitations on aggregate holdings of foreign investors. Such limitations may be computed based on the aggregate trading volume by or holdings of the Fund, the Investment Adviser, its affiliates and their respective clients and other service providers. The Fund may not be able to sell securities in circumstances where price, trading or settlement volume limitations have been reached.

Foreign investment in the securities markets of certain emerging countries is restricted or controlled to varying degrees which may limit investment in such countries or increase the administrative costs of such investments. For example, certain Asian countries require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit investment by foreign persons to only a specified percentage of an issuer's outstanding securities or a specific class of securities which may have less advantageous terms (including price) than securities of the issuer available for purchase by nationals. In addition, certain countries may restrict or prohibit investment opportunities in issuers or industries deemed important to national interests. Such restrictions may affect the market price, liquidity and rights of securities that may be purchased by the Fund. The repatriation of both investment income and capital from certain emerging countries is subject to restrictions such as the need for governmental consents. In situations where a country restricts direct investment in securities (which may occur in certain Asian and other countries) the Fund may invest in such countries through other investment funds in such countries.

Many emerging countries have experienced currency devaluations and substantial (and, in some cases, extremely high) rates of inflation. Other emerging countries have experienced economic recessions. These circumstances have had a negative effect on the economies and securities markets of such emerging countries. Economies in emerging countries generally are dependent heavily upon commodity prices and international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by the economies of their trading partners, trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade.

Many emerging countries are subject to a substantial degree of economic, political and social instability. Governments of some emerging countries are authoritarian in nature or have been installed or removed as a result of military coups, while

governments in other emerging countries have periodically used force to suppress civil dissent. Disparities of wealth, the pace and success of democratization, and ethnic, religious and racial disaffection, among other factors, have also led to social unrest, violence and/or labor unrest in some emerging countries. Unanticipated political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses. Investing in emerging countries involves greater risk of loss due to expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested. As an example, in the past some Eastern European governments have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and many claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that similar expropriations will not recur in Eastern Europe or other countries.

The Fund's investment in emerging countries may also be subject to withholding or other taxes, which may be significant and may reduce the return from an investment in such countries to the Fund.

Settlement procedures in emerging countries are frequently less developed and reliable than those in the United States and may involve the Fund's delivery of securities before receipt of payment for their sale. In addition, significant delays may occur in certain markets in registering the transfer of securities. Settlement or registration problems may make it more difficult for the Fund to value its portfolio securities and could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities, to have a portion of its assets uninvested or to incur losses due to the failure of a counterparty to pay for securities the Fund has delivered or the Fund's inability to complete its contractual obligations because of theft or other reasons.

The creditworthiness of the local securities firms used by the Fund in emerging countries may not be as sound as the creditworthiness of firms used in more developed countries. As a result, the Fund may be subject to a greater risk of loss if a securities firm defaults in the performance of its responsibilities.

The small size and inexperience of the securities markets in certain emerging countries and the limited volume of trading in securities in those countries may make the Fund's investments in such countries less liquid and more volatile than investments in countries with more developed securities markets (such as the United States, Japan and most Western European countries). The Fund's investments in emerging countries are subject to the risk that the liquidity of a particular investment, or investments generally, in such countries will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political conditions, or

adverse investor perceptions, whether or not accurate. Because of the lack of sufficient market liquidity, the Fund may incur losses because it will be required to effect sales at a disadvantageous time and then only at a substantial drop in price. Investments in emerging countries may be more difficult to price precisely because of the characteristics discussed above and lower trading volumes.

The Fund's use of foreign currency management techniques in emerging countries may be limited. Due to the limited market for these instruments in emerging countries, the Investment Adviser does not currently anticipate that a significant portion of the Fund's currency exposure in emerging countries, if any, will be covered by such instruments.

**Risks of Illiquid Securities.** The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities which cannot be disposed of in seven days in the ordinary course of business at fair value. Illiquid securities include:

- Both domestic and foreign securities that are not readily marketable
- Repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days
- Certain over-the-counter options
- Certain structured securities and all swap transactions
- Certain restricted securities, unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so called "4(2) commercial paper" or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 ("144A Securities").

Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund's portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

**Credit/Default Risks.** Debt securities purchased by the Fund may include securities (including zero coupon bonds) issued by the U.S. government (and its agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises), foreign governments, domestic and foreign corporations, banks and other issuers. Some of these fixed-income securities are described in the next section below. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement.

Debt securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's"), Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO are considered "invest-

ment grade." Securities rated BBB or Baa are considered medium-grade obligations with speculative characteristics, and adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances may weaken the issuers' capacity to pay interest and repay principal. A security will be deemed to have met a rating requirement if it receives the minimum required rating from at least one such rating organization even though it has been rated below the minimum rating by one or more other rating organizations, or if unrated by such rating organizations, the security is determined by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. A security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement regardless of its relative ranking (for example, plus or minus) within a designated major rating category (for example, BBB or Baa). If a security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, the Investment Adviser will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

The Fund may invest in fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) which are commonly referred to as "junk bonds." Junk bonds are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments.

In some cases, junk bonds may be highly speculative, have poor prospects for reaching investment grade standing and be in default. As a result, investment in such bonds will present greater speculative risks than those associated with investment in investment grade bonds. Also, to the extent that the rating assigned to a security in the Fund's portfolio is downgraded by a rating organization, the market price and liquidity of such security may be adversely affected.

**Temporary Investment Risks.** The Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, invest a certain percentage of its total assets in:

- U.S. government securities
- Commercial paper rated at least A-2 by Standard & Poor's, P-2 by Moody's or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO
- Certificates of deposit
- Bankers' acceptances
- Repurchase agreements
- Non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible corporate bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year

When the Fund's assets are invested in such instruments, the Fund may not be achieving its investment objective.



**Risks of Initial Public Offerings (“IPOs”).** The Fund may invest in IPOs. An IPO is a company’s first offering of stock to the public. IPO risk is the risk that the market value of IPO shares will fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, the small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The purchase of IPO shares may involve high transaction costs. IPO shares are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. When the Fund’s asset base is small, a significant portion of the Fund’s performance could be attributable to investments in IPOs, because such investments would have a magnified impact on the Fund. As the Fund’s assets grow, the effect of the Fund’s investments in IPOs on the Fund’s performance probably will decline, which could reduce the Fund’s performance. Because of the price volatility of IPO shares, the Fund may choose to hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase the turnover of the Fund’s portfolio and may lead to increased expenses to the Fund, such as commissions and transaction costs. In addition, the market for IPO shares can be speculative and/or inactive for extended periods of time. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to obtain allocable portions of IPO shares. The limited number of shares available for trading in some IPOs may make it more difficult for the Fund to buy or sell significant amounts of shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing prices. Investors in IPO shares can be affected by substantial dilution in the value of their shares, by sales of additional shares and by concentration of control in existing management and principal shareholders.

### C. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND TECHNIQUES

This section provides further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks.

The Fund may purchase other types of securities or instruments similar to those described in this section if otherwise consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and policies. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request.

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; (b) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; (c) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the issuer; or (d) only the credit of the issuer. U.S. Government Securities also include Treasury

receipts, zero coupon bonds and other stripped U.S. Government Securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. Government Securities are traded independently.

**Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates.** The Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. government securities or other types of securities in which the Fund may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. If for tax purposes, the Fund is not considered to be the owner of the underlying securities held in the custodial or trust account, the Fund may suffer adverse tax consequences. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Fund may also invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

**Mortgage-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in mortgage-backed securities. Mortgage-backed securities represent direct or indirect participations in, or are collateralized by and payable from, mortgage loans secured by real property. Mortgage-backed securities can be backed by either fixed rate mortgage loans or adjustable rate mortgage loans, and may be issued by either a governmental or non-governmental entity. Privately issued mortgage-backed securities are normally structured with one or more types of “credit enhancement.” However, these mortgage-backed securities typically do not have the same credit standing as U.S. government guaranteed mortgage-backed securities.

Mortgage-backed securities may include multiple class securities, including collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) and Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit (“REMIC”) pass-through or participation certificates. A REMIC is a CMO that qualifies for special tax treatment and invests in certain mortgages principally secured by interests in real property and other permitted investments. CMOs provide an investor with a specified interest in the cash flow from a pool of underlying mortgages or of other mortgage-backed securities. CMOs are issued in multiple classes each with a specified fixed or floating interest rate and a final scheduled distribution rate. In many cases, payments of principal are applied to the CMO

classes in the order of their respective stated maturities, so that no principal payments will be made on a CMO class until all other classes having an earlier stated maturity date are paid in full.

Sometimes, however, CMO classes are “parallel pay,” *i.e.*, payments of principal are made to two or more classes concurrently. In some cases, CMOs may have the characteristics of a stripped mortgage-backed security whose price can be highly volatile. CMOs may exhibit more or less price volatility and interest rate risk than other types of mortgage-related obligations, and under certain interest rate and payment scenarios, a Fund may fail to recoup fully its investment in certain of these securities regardless of their credit quality.

Mortgage-backed securities also include stripped mortgage-backed securities (“SMBS”), which are derivative multiple class mortgage-backed securities. SMBS are usually structured with two different classes: one that receives substantially all of the interest payments and the other that receives substantially all of the principal payments from a pool of mortgage loans. The market value of SMBS consisting entirely of principal payments generally is unusually volatile in response to changes in interest rates. The yields on SMBS that receive all or most of the interest from mortgage loans are generally higher than prevailing market yields on other mortgage-backed securities because their cash flow patterns are more volatile and there is a greater risk that the initial investment will not be fully recouped.

**Asset-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in asset-backed securities. Asset-backed securities are securities whose principal and interest payments are collateralized by pools of assets such as auto loans, credit card receivables, leases, installment contracts and personal property. Asset-backed securities are often subject to more rapid repayment than their stated maturity date would indicate as a result of the pass-through of prepayments of principal on the underlying loans. During periods of declining interest rates, prepayment of loans underlying asset-backed securities can be expected to accelerate. Accordingly, the Fund’s ability to maintain positions in such securities will be affected by reductions in the principal amount of such securities resulting from prepayments, and its ability to reinvest the returns of principal at comparable yields is subject to generally prevailing interest rates at that time. Asset-backed securities present credit risks that are not presented by mortgage-backed securities. This is because asset-backed securities generally do not have the benefit of a security interest in collateral that is comparable to mortgage assets. If the issuer of an asset-backed security defaults on its payment obligations, there is the possibility that, in some cases, the Fund will be unable to possess and sell the

underlying collateral and that the Fund’s recoveries on repossessed collateral may not be available to support payments on the securities. In the event of a default, the Fund may suffer a loss if it cannot sell collateral quickly and receive the amount it is owed.

**Bank Obligations.** The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks. Bank obligations including, without limitation, time deposits, bankers’ acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by government regulations. Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

**Corporate Debt Obligations and Convertible Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations and convertible securities. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures, commercial paper and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal, and include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations issued by U.S. and certain non-U.S. issuers which issue securities denominated in the U.S. dollar (including Yankee and Euro obligations). In addition to obligations of corporations, corporate debt obligations include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions and supranational entities (*i.e.*, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.).

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are preferred stock or debt obligations that are convertible into common stock. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities in which the Fund invests are subject to the same rating criteria as its other investments in fixed-income securities. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security exceeds the conversion price



of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

**Rating Criteria.** The Fund may invest in debt securities rated at least investment grade at the time of investment. Investment grade debt securities are securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's, Baa or higher by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO. The Fund may invest up to 10% of its Total Assets in debt securities which are rated in the lowest rating categories by Standard & Poor's or Moody's (*i.e.*, BB or lower by Standard & Poor's, Ba or lower by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO), including securities rated D by Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) are commonly referred to as "junk bonds," are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments as described above.

**Structured Securities.** The Fund may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indices or other financial indicators (the "Reference") or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than many types of securities and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Fund may, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase or sell foreign currencies on a cash basis or through forward contracts. A forward contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates. In addition, the Fund may enter into foreign currency transactions to seek a closer correlation

between the Fund's overall currency exposures and the currency exposures of the Fund's performance benchmark. The Fund may also enter into such transactions to seek to increase total return, which is considered a speculative practice.

The Fund may also engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in a currency different from that in which the hedged security is denominated or quoted. The Fund may hold foreign currency received in connection with investments in foreign securities when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, it would be beneficial to convert such currency into U.S. dollars at a later date (*e.g.*, the Investment Adviser may anticipate that the foreign currency will appreciate against the U.S. dollar).

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time causing, along with other factors, the Fund's NAV to fluctuate (when the Fund's NAV fluctuates, the value of your shares may go up or down). Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by the intervention of U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. The market in forward foreign currency exchange contracts and other privately negotiated currency instruments offers less protection against defaults by the other party to such instruments than is available for currency instruments traded on an exchange. Such contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the contract will default on its obligations. Since these contracts are not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on a contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or could force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price.

**Options on Securities, Securities Indices and Foreign Currencies.** A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying instrument during the option period. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument during the option period. The Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options and purchase put and call options on any securities in which the Fund may invest or on any securities index consisting of securities in which it may invest. The Fund may also, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase and sell (write) put and call options on foreign currencies.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves special investment risks. Options may be used for either hedging or cross-hedging purposes, or to

seek to increase total return (which is considered a speculative activity). The successful use of options depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities (or currency) markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in market prices or determination of the correlation between the instruments or indices on which options are written and purchased and the instruments in the Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The use of options can also increase the Fund's transaction costs. Options written or purchased by the Fund may be traded on either U.S. or foreign exchanges or over-the-counter. Foreign and over-the-counter options will present greater possibility of loss because of their greater illiquidity and credit risks.

#### ***Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.***

Futures contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that provide for the sale or purchase of a specified financial instrument or currency at a future time at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (and the writer of the option the obligation) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price within a specified period of time. A futures contract may be based on particular securities, foreign currencies, securities indices and other financial instruments and indices. The Fund may engage in futures transactions on U.S. and foreign exchanges.

The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, and purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts, in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in interest rates, securities prices or to the extent the Fund invests in foreign securities, currency exchange rates or to otherwise manage its term structure, sector selection and duration in accordance with its investment objectives and policies. The Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts and related options present the following risks:

- While the Fund may benefit from the use of futures and options on futures, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance than if the Fund had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions.
- Because perfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position that is intended to be protected is impossible to achieve, the desired protection may not be obtained and the Fund may be exposed to additional risk of loss.
- The loss incurred by the Fund in entering into futures contracts and in writing call options on futures is potentially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the premium received.
- Futures markets are highly volatile and the use of futures may increase the volatility of a Fund's NAV.
- As a result of the low margin deposits normally required in futures trading, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- Futures contracts and options on futures may be illiquid, and exchanges may limit fluctuations in futures contract prices during a single day.
- Foreign exchanges may not provide the same protection as U.S. exchanges.

***Preferred Stock, Warrants and Rights.*** The Fund may invest in preferred stock, warrants and rights. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock.

Warrants and other rights are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price at any time during the life of the warrant or right. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

***Other Investment Companies.*** The Fund may invest in other investment companies (including exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup>, as defined below) subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the Investment Company Act. These limitations include a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by such other investment companies. Although the Fund does not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, the Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series

thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, other investment companies in which the Fund may invest include money market funds for which the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator or distributor.

Exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup> are shares of unaffiliated investment companies which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> National Market System.

■ **Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup>**. The Fund may, consistent with its investment policies, purchase Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup> ("SPDRs"). SPDRs are securities traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") that represent ownership in the SPDR Trust, a trust which has been established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>. The SPDR Trust is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading, or reducing transaction costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price action of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>.

■ **iShares<sup>SM</sup>**. iShares are shares of an investment company that invests substantially all of its assets in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares on the AMEX. However, iShares have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, the Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares as part of its investment strategy.

**Unseasoned Companies.** The Fund may invest in companies (together with their predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may

have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

**Equity Swaps.** The Fund may invest in equity swaps. Equity swaps allow the parties to a swap agreement to exchange the dividend income or other components of return on an equity investment (for example, a group of equity securities or an index) for a component of return on another non-equity or equity investment.

An equity swap may be used by the Fund to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in circumstances in which direct investment may be restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise deemed impractical or disadvantageous. Equity swaps are derivatives and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that the Investment Adviser does not accurately analyze and predict the potential relative fluctuation of the components swapped with another party, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The value of some components of an equity swap (such as the dividends on a common stock) may also be sensitive to changes in interest rates. Furthermore, the Fund may suffer a loss if the counterparty defaults. Because equity swaps are normally illiquid, the Fund may be unable to terminate its obligations when desired.

**When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.**

The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and make contracts to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. When-issued securities are securities that have been authorized, but not yet issued. When-issued securities are purchased in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. A forward commitment involves the entering into a contract to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond the customary settlement period.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines before the settlement date. Conversely, the sale of securities on a forward commitment basis involves the risk that the value of the securities sold may increase before the settlement date. Although the Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of when-issued securities or forward commitments prior to settlement if the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate.

**Repurchase Agreements.** Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of securities subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with securities dealers and banks which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of its repurchase obligation.

If the other party or "seller" defaults, the Fund might suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the underlying securities and other collateral held by the Fund are less than the repurchase price and the Fund's costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the seller, the Fund could suffer additional losses if a court determines that the Fund's interest in the collateral is not enforceable.

The Fund, together with other registered investment companies having advisory agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

**Lending of Portfolio Securities.** The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the lending of securities owned by the Fund to financial institutions such as certain broker-dealers, including, as permitted by the SEC, Goldman Sachs. The borrowers are required to secure their loans continuously with cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or letters of credit in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash collateral may be invested by the Fund in short-term investments, including unregistered investment pools managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates and from which the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may receive fees. To the extent that cash collateral is so invested, such collateral will be subject to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund will be responsible for any loss that might result from its investment of the borrowers' collateral. If the Investment Adviser determines to make securities loans, the value of the securities loaned may not exceed 33⅓% of the value of the total assets of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of that collateral) is not

subject to the percentage limitations described elsewhere in this Prospectus regarding investments in fixed-income instruments and cash equivalents.

The Fund may lend its securities to increase its income. The Fund may, however, experience delay in the recovery of its securities or incur a loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund or becomes insolvent.

**Short Sales Against-the-Box.** The Fund may make short sales against-the-box. A short sale against-the-box means that at all times when a short position is open the Fund will own an equal amount of securities sold short, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for, without payment of any further consideration, an equal amount of the securities of the same issuer as the securities sold short.

**Borrowings.** The Fund can borrow money from banks and other financial institutions in amounts not exceeding one-third of their total assets for temporary or emergency purposes. The Fund may not make additional investments if borrowings exceed 5% of its total assets.

**REITs.** The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in either real estate or real estate related loans. The value of a REIT is affected by changes in the value of the properties owned by the REIT or securing mortgage loans held by the REIT. REITs are dependent upon the ability of the REITs' managers, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and the qualification of the REITs under applicable regulatory requirements for favorable income tax treatment. REITs are also subject to risks generally associated with investments in real estate including possible declines in the value of real estate, general and local economic conditions, environmental problems and changes in interest rates. To the extent that assets underlying a REIT are concentrated geographically, by property type or in certain other respects, these risks may be heightened. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any expenses, including management fees, paid by a REIT in which it invests.

## Appendix B

### Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the periods ended December 31, 2000 and thereafter has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's annual report (available upon request without charge). The information for all periods prior to the year ended December 31, 2000 has been audited by the Fund's previous independent auditors, who have ceased operations.

	Net asset value, beginning of year	Income (loss) from investment operations			Distributions to shareholders		Net asset value, end of year	Total return <sup>(a)</sup> (in 000s)	Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	Ratios assuming no expense reductions		Portfolio turnover rate
		Net investment income	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	Total distributions					Ratio of expenses to average net assets	Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	
<b>Growth and Income Fund</b>													
For the year ended December 31, 2003	\$ 8.14	\$0.13 <sup>(b)</sup>	\$ 1.85	\$ 1.98	\$(0.12)	\$(0.12)	\$10.00	24.36%	1.02%	1.44%	1.20%	1.26%	51%
For the year ended December 31, 2002	9.33	0.13 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.19)	(1.06)	(0.13)	(0.13)	8.14	(11.34)	1.05	1.51	1.27	1.29	98
For the year ended December 31, 2001	10.34	0.05 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.02)	(0.97)	(0.04)	(0.04)	9.33	(9.34)	1.00	0.49	1.17	0.32	48
For the year ended December 31, 2000	10.89	0.04 <sup>(b)</sup>	(0.55)	(0.51)	(0.04)	(0.04)	10.34	(4.69)	0.99	0.40	1.22	0.17	68
For the year ended December 31, 1999	10.45	0.12	0.44	0.56	(0.12)	(0.12)	10.89	5.41	0.90	1.44	1.65	0.69	121

Footnotes:

(a) Assumes investment at the net asset value at the beginning of the year, reinvestment of all distributions and a complete redemption of the investment at the net asset value at the end of the year.

(b) Calculated based on the average shares outstanding methodology.

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# Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust

## Prospectus

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Annual/Semi-annual Report

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Your insurance company will provide you with annual and semi-annual reports if the Fund serves as the investment vehicle for your variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy.

#### Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Fund and its policies is also available in the Fund's Additional Statement. The Additional Statement is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (is legally considered part of this Prospectus).

The Additional Statement is available free upon request by calling Goldman Sachs at 1-800-621-2550.

To obtain other information and for shareholder inquiries:

By telephone – 1-800-621-2550

By mail – Goldman Sachs Funds

4900 Sears Tower, 51st Floor

Chicago, IL 60606-6372

By e-mail – [gs-funds@gs.com](mailto:gs-funds@gs.com)

On the Internet – Text-only versions of Trust documents are located online and may be downloaded from:  
SEC EDGAR database – <http://www.sec.gov>

You may review and obtain copies of Trust documents by visiting the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. You may also obtain copies of Trust documents, after paying a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 or by electronic request to: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov). Information on the operation of the public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.



**Asset  
Management**

The Trust's investment company registration number is 811-08361.  
GSAM® is a registered service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

# Prospectus

April 29, 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

■ Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value Fund

Shares of the Trust are offered to separate accounts of participating life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND IS NOT A BANK DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND INVOLVES INVESTMENT RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE MONEY IN THE FUND.



**Asset  
Management**

NOT FDIC-INSURED	May Lose Value	No Bank Guarantee
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# General Investment Management Approach

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM®”) serves as investment adviser to the Mid Cap Value Fund. GSAM is referred to in this Prospectus as the “Investment Adviser.”

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) offers shares of the Fund to separate accounts of participating insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the public. The participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. The Fund pools the monies of these separate accounts and invests these monies in a portfolio of securities pursuant to the Fund’s stated investment objective.

The investment objective and policies of the Fund are similar to the investment objectives and policies of other mutual funds that the Investment Adviser manages. Although the objectives and policies may be similar, the investment results of the Fund may be higher or lower than the results of such other mutual funds. The Investment Adviser cannot guarantee, and makes no representation, that the investment results of similar funds will be comparable even though the funds have the same Investment Adviser.

## VALUE STYLE FUNDS

### GSAM’s Value Investment Philosophy:

*Through intensive, firsthand fundamental research our portfolio team seeks to identify quality businesses selling at compelling valuations.*

**1. Businesses represent compelling value when:**

- Market uncertainty exists.
- Their economic value is not recognized by the market.

**2. By quality, we mean companies that have:**

- Sustainable operating or competitive advantage.
- Excellent stewardship of capital.
- Capability to earn above their cost of capital.
- Strong or improving balance sheet and cash flow.

Business quality, conservative valuation, and thoughtful portfolio construction are the key elements of our value approach.

References in this Prospectus to the Fund’s benchmark are for informational purposes only, and unless otherwise noted are not an indication of how the Fund is managed.

# Fund Investment Objective and Strategies

## Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value Fund

### FUND FACTS

Objective:	Long-term capital appreciation
Benchmark:	Russell Midcap® Value Index
Investment Focus:	Mid-cap U.S. equity investments that are believed to be undervalued or undiscovered by the marketplace
Investment Style:	Value

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Equity Investments.** The Fund invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes (measured at time of purchase) (“Net Assets”) in a diversified portfolio of equity investments in mid-cap issuers with public stock market capitalizations (based upon shares available for trading on an unrestricted basis) within the range of the market capitalization of companies constituting the Russell Midcap® Value Index at the time of investment. If the market capitalization of a company held by the Fund moves outside this range, the Fund may, but is not required to, sell the securities. The capitalization range of the Russell Midcap® Value Index is currently between \$869 million and \$12.5 billion. Although the Fund will invest primarily in publicly traded U.S. securities, it may invest up to 25% of its Net Assets in foreign securities, including securities of issuers in emerging countries and securities quoted in foreign currencies.

**Other.** The Fund may invest in the aggregate up to 20% of its Net Assets in companies with public stock market capitalizations outside the range of companies constituting the Russell Midcap® Value Index at the time of investment and in fixed-income securities, such as government, corporate and bank debt obligations.

## Other Investment Practices and Securities

The table below identifies some of the investment techniques that may (but are not required to) be used by the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objective. Numbers in this table show allowable usage only; for actual usage, consult the Fund's annual/semi-annual reports. For more information about these and other investment practices and securities, see Appendix A.

<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <p>• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</p>	Mid Cap Value Fund
<b>Investment Practices</b>	
Borrowings	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Cross Hedging of Currencies	•
Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates	•
Equity Swaps*	15
Foreign Currency Transactions**	•
Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts	•
Investment Company Securities (including iShares <sup>SM</sup> and Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts <sup>TM</sup> )	10
Options on Foreign Currencies <sup>1</sup>	•
Options on Securities and Securities Indices <sup>2</sup>	•
Repurchase Agreements	•
Securities Lending	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Short Sales Against the Box	25
Unseasoned Companies	•
Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights	•
When-Issued and Forward Commitments	•
<p>10 Percent of total assets (excluding securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (including borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <p>• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</p>	
<b>Investment Securities</b>	
American, European and Global Depositary Receipts	•
Asset-Backed and Mortgage-Backed Securities <sup>3</sup>	•
Bank Obligations <sup>4</sup>	•
Convertible Securities <sup>4</sup>	•
Corporate Debt Obligations <sup>3</sup>	•
Equity Investments	80+
Emerging Country Securities <sup>5</sup>	25
Fixed Income Securities <sup>6,7</sup>	20
Foreign Securities <sup>3</sup>	25
Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities <sup>3,8</sup>	10
Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	•
Structured Securities*	•
Temporary Investments	100
U.S. Government Securities <sup>3</sup>	•

\* Limited to 15% of net assets (together with other illiquid securities) for all structured securities which are not deemed to be liquid and all swap transactions.

\*\* Limited by the amount the Fund invests in foreign securities.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options.

<sup>2</sup> The Fund may sell covered call and put options and purchase call and put options.

<sup>3</sup> Limited by the amount the Fund invests in fixed-income securities.

<sup>4</sup> The Fund uses the same rating criteria for convertible and non-convertible debt securities.

<sup>5</sup> The Fund may invest in the aggregate up to 25% of its Net Assets in foreign securities, including emerging market securities.

<sup>6</sup> Except as noted under "Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities," fixed-income securities must be investment grade (i.e., BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's"), Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or have a comparable rating by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO")) at the time of investment.

<sup>7</sup> The Fund may invest in the aggregate up to 20% of its Net Assets in (1) securities of companies with public stock market capitalizations outside the range of companies constituting the Russell Midcap Value Index at the time of investment and (2) fixed-income securities.

<sup>8</sup> Must be B or higher by Standard and Poor's, B or higher by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO at the time of investment.



# Principal Risks of the Fund

Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. The following summarizes important risks that apply to the Fund and may result in a loss of your investment. The Fund should not be relied upon as a complete investment program. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

- Applicable

Fund	Interest Rate	Credit/Default	Foreign	Emerging Countries	Derivatives	Management	Liquidity	Market	Investment Style	Stock	Mid Cap and Small Cap	Initial Public Offering ("IPO")
Mid Cap Value	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## RISKS THAT APPLY TO THE FUND:

- **Interest Rate Risk**—The risk that when interest rates increase, fixed income securities held by the Fund will decline in value. Long-term fixed-income securities will normally have more price volatility because of this risk than short-term fixed-income securities.
- **Credit/Default Risk**—The risk that an issuer or guarantor of fixed-income securities held by the Fund may default on its obligation to pay interest and repay principal.
- **Foreign Risk**—The risk that when the Fund invests in foreign securities, it will be subject to risks of loss not typically associated with domestic issuers. Loss may result because of less foreign government regulation, less public information and less economic, political and social stability. Loss may also result from the imposition of exchange controls, confiscations and other government restrictions. The Fund will also be subject to the risk of negative foreign currency rate fluctuations. Foreign risks will normally be greatest when the Fund invests in issuers located in emerging countries.
- **Emerging Countries Risk**—The securities markets of Asian, Latin, Central and South American, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, African and other emerging countries are less liquid, are especially subject to greater price volatility, have smaller market capitalizations, have less government regulation and are not subject to as extensive and frequent accounting, financial and other reporting requirements as the securities markets of more developed countries. Further, investment in equity securities of issuers located in certain emerging countries involves risk of loss resulting from problems in share registration and custody and substantial economic and political disruptions. These risks are not normally associated with investments in more developed countries.
- **Derivatives Risk**—The risk that loss may result from the Fund's investments in options, futures, swaps, structured securities and other derivative instruments. These instruments may be leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses to the Fund.
- **Management Risk**—The risk that a strategy used by the Investment Adviser may fail to produce the intended results.
- **Liquidity Risk**—The risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the time period stated in this Prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. A fund that invests in non-investment grade fixed-income securities, small and mid-capitalization stocks, REITs or emerging country issuers will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate.
- **Market Risk**—The risk that the value of the securities in which a Fund invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies, particular industry sectors or governments and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or last for extended periods. The Fund's investments may be overweighted from time to time in one or more industry sectors, which will increase the Fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those sectors.
- **Investment Style Risk**—Different investment styles tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions as well as investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that employ a different investment style. Examples of different

investment styles include growth and value investing. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks because they are more sensitive to investor perceptions of the issuing company's growth of earnings potential. Also, since growth companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their business, growth stocks may lack the dividends of some value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. Growth oriented funds will typically underperform when value investing is in favor. Value stocks are those that are undervalued in comparison to their peers due to adverse business developments or other factors.

- **Stock Risk**—The risk that stock prices have historically risen and fallen in periodic cycles. Recently, U.S. and foreign stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.
- **Mid Cap and Small Cap Risk**—The securities of small capitalization and mid-capitalization companies involve greater risks than those associated with larger, more established companies and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements. Securities of such issuers may lack sufficient market liquidity to enable a Fund to effect

sales at an advantageous time or without a substantial drop in price.

- **IPO Risk**—The risk that the market value of IPO shares will fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, the small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The purchase of IPO shares may involve high transaction costs. IPO shares are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. When a Fund's asset base is small, a significant portion of the Fund's performance could be attributable to investments in IPOs, because such investments would have a magnified impact on the Fund. As the Fund's assets grow, the effect of the Fund's investments in IPOs on the Fund's performance probably will decline, which could reduce the Fund's performance.

More information about the Fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and their associated risks, is provided in Appendix A. You should consider the investment risks discussed in this section and in Appendix A. Both are important to your investment choice.

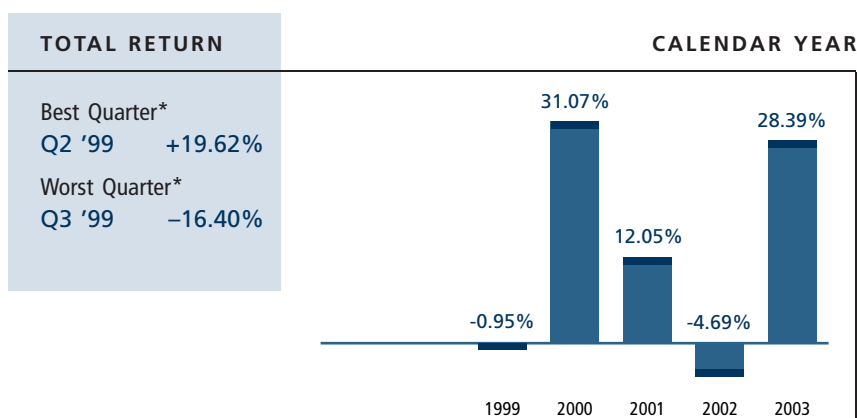
# Fund Performance

## HOW THE FUND HAS PERFORMED

The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing: (a) changes in the performance of the Fund's shares from year to year; and (b) how the average annual total returns of the Fund's shares compares to those of a broad-based securities market index.

The bar chart and table assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Performance reflects expense limitations in effect. If expense

limitations were not in place, the Fund's performance would have been reduced. In addition, performance reflects Fund level expenses but does not reflect the fees and expenses associated with any variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy that uses the Fund as an investment option for any contract or policy. Had performance reflected all of those fees and expenses, performance would have been reduced.



## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended December 31, 2003	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund</b> (Inception 5/1/98)	28.39%	12.22%	7.89%
Russell Midcap Value Index**	38.07%	8.73%	6.90%

\* Please note that "Best Quarter" and "Worst Quarter" figures are applicable only to the time period covered by the bar chart.

\*\* The Russell Midcap® Value Index is a unmanaged index of common stock prices that measures the performance of those Russell Midcap companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.

## Fund Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you buy and hold Shares of the Fund.

	Mid Cap Value Fund
<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment):	
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends	None
Redemption Fees	None
Exchange Fees	None
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that are deducted from Fund assets): <sup>1</sup>	
Management Fees	0.80%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.11%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.91%</b>

<sup>1</sup>The Fund's annual operating expenses are based on actual expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup>"Other Expenses" include transfer agency fees and expenses equal on an annualized basis to 0.04% of the average daily net assets of the Fund plus all other ordinary expenses not detailed above. The Investment Adviser has voluntarily agreed to reduce or limit "Other Expenses" (excluding management fees, transfer agency fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage fees, litigation, indemnification, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) equal on an annualized basis to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Fund. The Investment Adviser may cease or modify the expense limitation at its discretion at any time. If this occurs, "Other Expenses" and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" may increase without shareholder approval.

## Example

The following Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund (without the waivers and expense limitations) with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

**Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies and are not reflected in the Table above and Example below. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses. Such fees or charges, if any, may affect the return you may realize with respect to your investments.**

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in Shares of the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Fund	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Mid Cap Value	\$93	\$290	\$504	\$1,120

Certain participating insurance companies that invest in Shares may receive other compensation in connection with the sale and distribution of Shares or for services to their customers' accounts and/or the Fund. For additional information regarding such compensation, see "Service Providers" in the Prospectus and "Other Information" in the Statement of Additional Information ("Additional Statement").

# Service Providers

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. ("GSAM")  
32 Old Slip  
New York, New York 10005

GSAM has been registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") since 1990 and is an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"). As of December 31, 2003, GSAM, along with other units of the Investment Management Division of Goldman Sachs had assets under management of \$375.7 billion.

The Investment Adviser provides day-to-day advice regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. The Investment Adviser makes the investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund's portfolio transactions in U.S. and foreign markets. As permitted by applicable law, these orders may be directed to any brokers, including Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. While the Investment Adviser is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. In addition, the Investment Adviser has access to the research and certain proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs, and may apply quantitative and qualitative analysis in determining the appropriate allocations among categories of issuers and types of securities.

The Investment Adviser also performs the following additional services for the Fund:

- Supervises all non-advisory operations of the Fund
- Provides personnel to perform necessary executive, administrative and clerical services to the Fund
- Arranges for the preparation of all required tax returns, reports to shareholders, prospectuses and Additional Statements and other reports filed with the SEC and other regulatory authorities
- Maintains the records of the Fund
- Provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services

The Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to participating insurance companies for administrative services that such companies provide to their variable annuity and variable life insurance contract owners who are invested in the Fund. In addition, the Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to various securities dealers (including affiliates of participating insurance companies) that distribute variable annuity contracts and/or variable life insurance contracts of such companies in connection with the sale, distribution and/or servicing of such contracts and, subject to applicable National Association of Securities Dealers rules, contribute to various cash and non-cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of such contracts.

As compensation for its services and its assumption of certain expenses, the Investment Adviser is entitled to a fee, computed daily and payable monthly, at an annual rate of 0.80% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

## VALUE INVESTMENT TEAM

- Fourteen portfolio managers/analysts with over 180 years of combined financial experience comprise the Investment Adviser's value investment team
- The team is organized by industry in order to deliver depth and breadth of research expertise
- Portfolio decision makers are actively conducting the research, which brings intensity and focus to the Value team process

### Value Investment Team

Name and Title	Fund Responsibility	Years Primarily Responsible	Five Year Employment History
Dolores Bamford, CFA Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2002	Ms. Bamford joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager for the Value team in April 2002. Prior to that, she was a portfolio manager at Putnam Investments for various products since 1991.
David L. Berdon Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2002	Mr. Berdon joined the Investment Adviser as a research analyst in March 2001 and became a portfolio manager in October 2002. From September 1999 to March 2001, he was a Vice President for Business Development and Strategic Alliances at Soliloquy Inc. From September 1997 to September 1999, he was a principal consultant at Diamond Technology partners.
Andrew Braun Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2001	Mr. Braun joined the Investment Adviser as a mutual fund product development analyst in July 1993. From January 1997 to April 2001, he was a research analyst on the Value team and became a portfolio manager in May 2001.
Scott Carroll, CFA Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2002	Mr. Carroll joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager for the Value team in May 2002. From 1996 to 2002, he worked at Van Kampen Funds where he had portfolio management and analyst responsibilities for Growth and Income and Equity Income funds.
Sally Pope Davis Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2001	Ms. Davis joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in August 2001. From December 1999 to July 2001, she was a relationship manager in Private Wealth Management. From August 1989 to November 1999, she was a bank analyst in the Goldman Sachs Investment Research Department.
Stacey Ann DeMatteis Vice President	Client Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2002	Ms. DeMatteis joined the Investment Adviser as a product-marketing analyst in September 1993. From December 1997 to April 2000, she was a relationship manager in Broker-Dealer sales. In May 2000, she became a client portfolio manager on the Value Team.
Sean Gallagher Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2001	Mr. Gallagher joined the Investment Adviser as a research analyst in May 2000. He became a Portfolio Manager in December 2001. From October 1993 to May 2000, he was a research analyst at Merrill Lynch Asset Management.
Don Gervais Vice President	Client Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2003	Mr. Gervais joined the Investment Adviser in April 2003 as a portfolio manager. From September 1999 to March 2003 he was a U.S. Equity client portfolio manager at JPMorgan Fleming. Prior to that, from December 1997 to September 1999 he was an analyst with Capital Guardian Trust.
James Otness, CFA Managing Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2000	Mr. Otness joined the Investment Adviser as a senior portfolio manager in May 2000. From 1998 to 2000, he headed Dolphin Asset Management. From 1970 to 1998, he worked at J.P. Morgan, most recently as a managing director and senior portfolio manager responsible for small-cap institutional equity investments.
Lisa Parisi, CFA Managing Director	Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 2001	Ms. Parisi joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in August 2001. From December 2000 to August 2001, she was a portfolio manager at John A. Levin & Co. From March 1995 to December 2000, she was a portfolio manager and managing director at Valenzuela Capital.
Eileen Rominger Managing Director Chief Investment Officer	Senior Portfolio Manager— Mid Cap Value	Since 1999	Ms. Rominger joined the Investment Adviser as a senior portfolio manager and Chief Investment Officer of the Value team in 1999. From 1981 to 1999, she worked at Oppenheimer Capital, most recently as a senior portfolio manager.

## DISTRIBUTOR AND TRANSFER AGENT

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor (the “Distributor”) of the Fund’s shares. Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6372, also serves as the Fund’s transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and, as such, performs various shareholder servicing functions.

## ACTIVITIES OF GOLDMAN SACHS AND ITS AFFILIATES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY GOLDMAN SACHS

The involvement of the Investment Adviser, Goldman Sachs and their affiliates in the management of, or their interest in, other accounts and other activities of Goldman Sachs may present conflicts of interest with respect to the Fund or limit the Fund’s investment activities. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds which have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or which engage in and compete for transactions in the same type of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates will not have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund. The results of the Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and it is possible that the Fund could sustain losses during periods in which Goldman Sachs and its affiliates and other accounts achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which Goldman Sachs or its other clients have an adverse interest. The Fund’s activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a global financial services firm, Goldman Sachs also provides a wide range of investment banking and financial services to issuers of securities and investors in securities. Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and others associated with it may create markets or specialize in, have positions in and affect transactions in, securities of issuers held by the Funds, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking and financial services for those issuers.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees, the Fund has retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Fund engages in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund’s investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, the Fund may make brokerage and other payments to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates in connection with the Fund’s portfolio investment transactions.



## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On April 2, 2004, Lois Burke, a plaintiff identifying herself as a shareholder of the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund, filed a purported class and derivative action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (“GSG”), GSAM, the Trustees and Officers of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex, and John Doe Defendants. In addition, certain investment portfolios of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex (collectively, the “Goldman Sachs Funds”) were named as nominal defendants.

The action, which is brought on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased, redeemed or held shares in the Goldman Sachs Funds between April 2, 1999 and January 9, 2004, inclusive (the “Class Period”), alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and common law

breach of fiduciary duty. The complaint alleges, among other things, that during the Class Period, GSAM charged the Goldman Sachs Funds improper Rule 12b-1 fees; made improper brokerage commission and other payments to brokers that sold shares of the Goldman Sachs Funds and made untrue statements of material fact in registration statements and reports filed pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The complaint further alleges that the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex Officers and Trustees breached their fiduciary duties by, among other things, permitting the payments to occur. The plaintiffs in the case are seeking compensatory damages; punitive damages; rescission of GSAM’s investment advisory agreement and return of fees paid; an accounting of all Goldman Sachs Funds-related fees, commissions and soft dollar payments; restitution of all unlawfully or discriminatorily obtained fees and charges; and reasonable costs and expenses, including counsel fees and expert fees.

# Dividends

Dividends from investment company taxable income and distributions from net realized capital gains (if any) are declared and paid by the Fund at least annually. Over the course of the year, accrued and paid dividends and distributions will equal all or substantially all of the Fund's investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains. All dividends will be automatically reinvested in

additional shares of the Fund at the net asset value ("NAV") of such shares on the payment date, unless an insurance company's separate account is permitted to hold cash and elects to receive payment in cash. From time to time, a portion of the Fund's dividends may constitute a return of capital.

# Shareholder Guide

The following section will provide you with answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding buying and selling the Fund's shares.

## How Can I Purchase Or Sell Shares Of The Fund?

Shares of the Fund are not sold directly to the public. Instead, Fund shares are sold to unaffiliated separate accounts that fund variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts issued by participating insurance companies. You may purchase or sell (redeem) shares of the Fund through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered through the separate accounts. The variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies. You should refer to those prospectuses for information on how to purchase a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, how to select a specific Fund as an investment option for your contract or policy and how to redeem monies from the Fund.

The separate accounts of the participating insurance companies place orders to purchase and redeem shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of premium payments to be invested and the amount of surrender and transfer requests (as defined in the prospectus describing the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the participating insurance companies) to be effected on that day pursuant to variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.

The separate accounts of unaffiliated participating insurance companies may purchase shares of the Fund. The sale of Fund shares to these unaffiliated separate accounts may present certain conflicts of interests among variable annuity owners, variable life insurance policy owners and plan investors. The Trust's Board of Trustees will monitor the Trust for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflict of interest. The Trust currently does not foresee any disadvantages to the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies arising from the fact that interests of the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies may differ due to differences of tax treatment or other considerations or due to conflicts among the unaffiliated participating insurance companies. If, however, a material unreconcilable conflict arises between the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies of unaffiliated participating insurance companies, a participating insurance company may be required to withdraw the assets allocable to some or all of the separate accounts from the Fund. Any such withdrawal could disrupt orderly portfolio management to the potential detriment of such holders.

Shares of the Fund (and other existing and new funds that might be added to the Trust) may also be offered to:

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are sold in non-public offerings.

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are offered exclusively to qualified pension and profit-sharing plans and/or certain governmental plans.
- Qualified pension and profit-sharing plans. The Trust does not currently anticipate offering shares directly to such plans.

## How Are Shares Priced?

Shares of the Fund are purchased and sold at the Fund's next determined NAV. The Fund calculates NAV as follows:

$$\text{NAV} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(Value of Assets of the Fund)} \\ - \text{(Liabilities of the Fund)} \end{array}}{\text{Number of the Fund's Outstanding Shares}}$$

The Fund's investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Fund's NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Fund's investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Fund's daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Fund to price its investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

- NAV per share of the Fund is generally calculated by the accounting agent on each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. Fund shares will generally not be priced on any day the New York Stock Exchange is closed.
- Shares are purchased and redeemed at the NAV next calculated *after* an order is received in proper form by the Trust.
- The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were processed at an NAV other than the Fund's official closing NAV that is subsequently adjusted, and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders accordingly based on the official closing NAV.
- The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC.

**Note:** *The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be*

*changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York time. In the event the New York Stock Exchange does not open for business because of an emergency, the Trust may, but is not required to open the Fund for purchase, redemption and exchange transactions if the Federal Reserve wire payment system is open. To learn whether the Fund is open for business during an emergency situation, please call 1-800-621-2550.*

Foreign securities may trade in their local markets on days the Fund is closed. As a result, if the Fund holds foreign securities, its NAV may be impacted on days when its shares may not be purchased or redeemed.

In addition, if an event that affects the value of a security occurs after the publication of market quotations or independent service information used by the Fund to price its securities but before the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Trust in its discretion and consistent with applicable regulatory guidance may determine whether to make an adjustment in light of the nature and significance of the event.

#### **Do I Have To Pay Any Fees When Purchasing Or Selling Shares Of The Fund?**

The Fund does not charge any fees when it sells or redeems its shares. Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses.

#### **What Else Should I Know About Share Purchases And Redemptions?**

The Trust reserves the right to:

- Suspend the right of redemption under certain extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the rules of the SEC.
- Suspend the offering of shares for a period of time.
- Reject any purchase order.
- Close the Fund to new investors from time to time and reopen the Fund whenever it is deemed appropriate by the Fund's Investment Adviser.

Orders received by the Trust are effected on business days. The separate accounts purchase and redeem shares of each Fund at the Fund's NAV per share calculated as of the day an order is received by the Fund although such purchases and redemptions may be executed the next morning. Redemption proceeds paid by wire transfer will normally be wired in federal funds on the next business day after the Trust receives actual notice of the redemption order, but may be paid up to three business days after receipt of actual notice of the order.

#### **What Types Of Reports Will I Be Sent Regarding Investments In The Fund?**

As a holder of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, you will receive annual reports containing

audited financial statements and semiannual reports from your participating insurance company.

#### **What Are The Fund's Voting Procedures?**

Participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. To the extent required by law:

- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts in a manner consistent with timely voting instructions received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.
- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts for which no timely instructions are received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies, as well as shares they own, in the same proportion as those shares for which voting instructions are received.

It is anticipated that Fund shares held by unregistered separate accounts or qualified plans generally will be voted for or against any proposition in the same proportion as all other Fund shares are voted unless the unregistered separate account's participating insurance company or the plan makes other arrangements.

Additional information concerning voting rights of the participants in the separate accounts is more fully set forth in the prospectus relating to those accounts issued by the participating insurance companies.

#### **Restrictions on Excessive Trading Practices**

The Trust does not permit market-timing or other excessive trading practices. Purchases and exchanges should be made for long-term investment purposes only. The Trust and Goldman Sachs reserve the right to reject or restrict purchase or exchange requests from any investor. Excessive, short-term (market-timing) trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies, harm Fund performance and negatively impact long-term shareholders. The Trust and Goldman Sachs will not be held liable for any loss resulting from rejected purchase or exchange orders. To minimize harm to the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) and its shareholders, the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) will exercise these rights if, in the Trust's (or Goldman Sachs') judgment, an investor has a history of excessive trading or if an investor's trading, in the judgment of the Trust (or Goldman Sachs), has been or may be disruptive to a Fund. In making this judgment, trades executed in multiple accounts under common ownership or control may be considered together.

# Taxation

The Fund is treated as a separate corporate entity for federal tax purposes. The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company and to qualify for such treatment for each taxable year under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In addition, the Fund intends to qualify under the Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to variable contracts. Provided that the Fund and a separate account investing in the Fund satisfy applicable tax requirements, the Fund will not be subject to

federal tax and any distributions from the Fund to the separate account will be exempt from current federal income taxation to the extent that such distributions accumulate in a variable annuity contract or a variable life insurance contract.

Persons investing in variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts should refer to the prospectuses with respect to such contracts for further information regarding the tax treatment of the contracts and the separate accounts in which the contracts are invested.

# Appendix A

## Additional Information on Portfolio Risks, Securities and Techniques

### A. GENERAL PORTFOLIO RISKS

The Fund will be subject to the risks associated with equity investments. “Equity investments” may include common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants, stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities. In general, the values of equity investments fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and in response to general market and economic conditions. Accordingly, the values of the equity investments that the Fund holds may decline over short or extended periods. The stock markets tend to be cyclical, with periods when stock prices generally rise and periods when prices generally decline. This volatility means that the value of your investment in the Fund may increase or decrease. In recent years, stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

To the extent it invests in fixed-income securities, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with fixed-income securities. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and call/extension risk. In general, interest rate risk involves the risk that when interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to increase (although many mortgage-related securities will have less potential than other debt securities for capital appreciation during periods of declining rates). Conversely, when interest rates increase, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to decline. Credit risk involves the risk that an issuer or guarantor could default on its obligations, and the Fund will not recover its investment. Call risk and extension risk are normally present in mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities. For example, homeowners have the option to prepay their mortgages. Therefore, the duration of a security backed by home mortgages can either shorten (call risk) or lengthen (extension risk). In general, if interest rates on new mortgage loans fall sufficiently below the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to increase. Conversely, if mortgage loan interest rates rise above the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to decrease. In either case, a change in the prepayment rate can result in losses to investors. The same would be true of asset-backed securities, such as securities backed by car loans.

The Investment Adviser will not consider the portfolio turnover rate a limiting factor in making investment decisions for the Fund. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or

more) involves correspondingly greater expenses which must be borne by the Fund and its shareholders. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of the dollar amount of sales or purchases of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund’s portfolio securities, excluding securities having a maturity at the date of purchase of one year or less. See “Financial Highlights” in Appendix B for a statement of the Fund’s historical portfolio turnover rates.

The following sections provide further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. Additional information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request. Among other things, the Additional Statement describes certain fundamental investment restrictions that cannot be changed without shareholder approval. You should note, however, that all investment objectives and all investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. If there is a change in the Fund’s investment objective, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment in light of your then current financial position and needs.

### B. OTHER PORTFOLIO RISKS

***Risks of Investing in Small and Mid-Capitalization Companies.*** Investments in small and mid-capitalization companies involve greater risk and portfolio price volatility than investments in larger capitalization stocks. Among the reasons for the greater price volatility of these investments are the less certain growth prospects of smaller firms and the lower degree of liquidity in the markets for such securities. Small and mid-capitalization companies may be thinly traded and may have to be sold at a discount from current market prices or in small lots over an extended period of time. In addition, these securities are subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities in these particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic or market conditions, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate. Because of the lack of sufficient market liquidity, the Fund may incur losses because it will be required to effect sales at a disadvantageous time and only then at a substantial drop in price. Small and mid-capitalization companies include “unseasoned” issuers that do not have an established financial history; often have limited product lines, markets or financial resources; may depend on or use a few key personnel for management; and may be



susceptible to losses and risks of bankruptcy. Small and mid-capitalization companies may be operating at a loss or have significant variations in operating results; may be engaged in a rapidly changing business with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence; may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, to finance expansion or to maintain their competitive position; and may have substantial borrowings or may otherwise have a weak financial condition. In addition, these companies may face intense competition, including competition from companies with greater financial resources, more extensive development, manufacturing, marketing, and other capabilities, and a larger number of qualified managerial and technical personnel. Transaction costs for these investments are often higher than those of larger capitalization companies. Investments in small and mid-capitalization companies may be more difficult to price precisely than other types of securities because of their characteristics and lower trading volumes.

**Risks of Derivative Investments.** The Fund's transactions, if any, in options, futures, options on futures, swaps, structured securities and foreign currency transactions involve additional risk of loss. Loss can result from a lack of correlation between changes in the value of derivative instruments and the portfolio assets (if any) being hedged, the potential illiquidity of the markets for derivative instruments, or the risks arising from margin requirements and related leverage factors associated with such transactions. The use of these management techniques also involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or currency prices. The Fund may also invest in derivative investments for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return). Investing for non-hedging purposes is considered as a speculative practice and presents even greater risk of loss.

**Risks of Foreign Investments.** In general, the Fund may make foreign investments. Foreign investments involve special risks that are not typically associated with U.S. dollar denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign investments may be affected by changes in currency rates, changes in foreign or U.S. laws or restrictions applicable to such investments and changes in exchange control regulations (e.g., currency blockage). A decline in the exchange rate of the currency (*i.e.*, weakening of the currency against the U.S. dollar) in which a portfolio security is quoted or denominated relative to the U.S. dollar would reduce the value of the portfolio security. In addition, if the currency in which the Fund receives dividends, interest or other payments declines in value against the U.S. dollar before such income is distributed as dividends to shareholders or converted to U.S. dollars, the

Fund may have to sell portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to pay such dividends.

Brokerage commissions, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in international securities markets generally are more expensive than in the United States. In addition, clearance and settlement procedures may be different in foreign countries and, in certain markets, such procedures have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, thus making it difficult to conduct such transactions.

Foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. issuers. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than about a U.S. issuer. In addition, there is generally less government regulation of foreign markets, companies and securities dealers than in the United States, and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Furthermore, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is a possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividend or interest payments (or, in some cases, capital gains distributions), limitations on the removal of funds or other assets from such countries, and risks of political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Concentration of the Fund's assets in one or a few countries and currencies will subject a Fund to greater risks than if the Fund's assets were not geographically concentrated.

Investments in foreign securities may take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs"), Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs") or other similar instruments representing securities of foreign issues. ADRs, GDRs and EDRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs and certain GDRs are traded in the United States. GDRs may be traded in either the United States or in foreign markets. EDRs are traded primarily outside the United States. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. Similarly, EDRs and GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

**Risks of Euro.** On January 1, 1999, the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) introduced a new single currency



called the euro. The euro has replaced the national currencies of the following member countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. In addition, ten new countries, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, are preparing for entry into the EMU in 2004.

The new European Central Bank has control over each country's monetary policies. Therefore, the member countries no longer control their own monetary policies by directing independent interest rates for their currencies. The national governments of the participating countries, however, have retained the authority to set tax and spending policies and public debt levels.

The change to the euro as a single currency is relatively new and untested. The elimination of currency risk among EMU countries has affected the economic environment and behavior of investors, particularly in European markets, but the long-term impact of those changes on currency values or on the business or financial condition of European countries and issuers cannot be fully assessed at this time. In addition, the introduction of the euro presents other unique uncertainties, including the fluctuation of the euro relative to non-euro currencies; whether the interest rate, tax and labor regimes of European countries participating in the euro will converge over time; and whether the conversion of the currencies of other countries that now are or may in the future become members of the European Union ("EU") will have an impact on the euro. Also it is possible that the euro could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use. These or other events, including political and economic developments, could cause market disruptions, and could adversely affect the value of securities held by the Fund. Because of the number of countries using this single currency, a significant portion of the assets held by the Fund may be denominated in the euro.

**Risks of Emerging Countries.** The Fund may invest in securities of issuers located in emerging countries. The risks of foreign investment are heightened when the issuer is located in an emerging country. Emerging countries are generally located in the Asia and Pacific regions, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Latin, Central and South America and Africa. The Fund's purchase and sale of portfolio securities in certain emerging countries may be constrained by limitations relating to daily changes in the prices of listed securities, periodic trading or settlement volume and/or limitations on aggregate holdings of foreign investors. Such limitations may be computed based on the aggregate trading volume by or holdings of the Fund, the Investment Adviser, its affiliates and

their respective clients and other service providers. The Fund may not be able to sell securities in circumstances where price, trading or settlement volume limitations have been reached.

Foreign investment in the securities markets of certain emerging countries is restricted or controlled to varying degrees which may limit investment in such countries or increase the administrative costs of such investments. For example, certain Asian countries require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit investment by foreign persons to only a specified percentage of an issuer's outstanding securities or a specific class of securities which may have less advantageous terms (including price) than securities of the issuer available for purchase by nationals. In addition, certain countries may restrict or prohibit investment opportunities in issuers or industries deemed important to national interests. Such restrictions may affect the market price, liquidity and rights of securities that may be purchased by the Fund. The repatriation of both investment income and capital from certain emerging countries is subject to restrictions such as the need for governmental consents. In situations where a country restricts direct investment in securities (which may occur in certain Asian and other countries), the Fund may invest in such countries through other investment funds in such countries.

Many emerging countries have experienced currency devaluations and substantial (and, in some cases, extremely high) rates of inflation. Other emerging countries have experienced economic recessions. These circumstances have had a negative effect on the economies and securities markets of such emerging countries. Economies in emerging countries generally are dependent heavily upon commodity prices and international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by the economies of their trading partners, trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade.

Many emerging countries are subject to a substantial degree of economic, political and social instability. Governments of some emerging countries are authoritarian in nature or have been installed or removed as a result of military coups, while governments in other emerging countries have periodically used force to suppress civil dissent. Disparities of wealth, the pace and success of democratization, and ethnic, religious and racial disaffection, among other factors, have also led to social unrest, violence and/or labor unrest in some emerging countries. Unanticipated political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses. Investing in

emerging countries involves greater risk of loss due to expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested. As an example, in the past some Eastern European governments have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and many claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that similar expropriations will not recur in Eastern Europe or other countries.

The Fund's investment in emerging countries may also be subject to withholding or other taxes, which may be significant and may reduce the return from an investment in such countries to the Fund.

Settlement procedures in emerging countries are frequently less developed and reliable than those in the United States and may involve the Fund's delivery of securities before receipt of payment for their sale. In addition, significant delays may occur in certain markets in registering the transfer of securities. Settlement or registration problems may make it more difficult for the Fund to value its portfolio securities and could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities, to have a portion of its assets uninvested or to incur losses due to the failure of a counterparty to pay for securities the Fund has delivered or the Fund's inability to complete its contractual obligations because of theft or other reasons.

The creditworthiness of the local securities firms used by the Fund in emerging countries may not be as sound as the creditworthiness of firms used in more developed countries. As a result, the Fund may be subject to a greater risk of loss if a securities firm defaults in the performance of its responsibilities.

The small size and inexperience of the securities markets in certain emerging countries and the limited volume of trading in securities in those countries may make the Fund's investments in such countries less liquid and more volatile than investments in countries with more developed securities markets (such as the United States, Japan and most Western European countries). The Fund's investments in emerging countries are subject to the risk that the liquidity of a particular investment, or investments generally, in such countries will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political conditions, or adverse investor perceptions, whether or not accurate. Because of the lack of sufficient market liquidity, the Fund may incur losses because it will be required to effect sales at a disadvantageous time and then only at a substantial drop in price. Investments in emerging countries may be more difficult to price precisely because of the characteristics discussed above and lower trading volumes.

The Fund's use of foreign currency management techniques in emerging countries may be limited. Due to the limited market for these instruments in emerging countries, the Investment Adviser does not currently anticipate that a significant portion of the Fund's currency exposure in emerging countries, if any, will be covered by such instruments.

***Risks of Illiquid Securities.*** The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities which cannot be disposed of in seven days in the ordinary course of business at fair value. Illiquid securities include:

- Both domestic and foreign securities that are not readily marketable
- Repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days
- Certain over-the-counter options
- Certain structured securities and all swap transactions
- Certain restricted securities, unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so called "4(2) commercial paper" or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 ("144A Securities")

Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund's portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

***Credit/Default Risks.*** Debt securities purchased by the Fund may include securities (including zero coupon bonds) issued by the U.S. government (and its agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises), foreign governments, domestic and foreign corporations, banks and other issuers. Some of these fixed-income securities are described in the next section below. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement.

Debt securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's") or Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO are considered "investment grade." Securities rated BBB or Baa are considered medium-grade obligations with speculative characteristics, and adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances may weaken the issuers' capacity to pay interest and repay principal. A security will be deemed to have met a rating requirement if it receives the minimum required rating from at least one such rating organization even though it has been rated below the minimum rating by one or more other rating

organizations, or if unrated by such rating organizations, the security is determined by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. If a security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, the Investment Adviser will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

The Fund may invest in fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) which are commonly referred to as "junk bonds." Junk bonds are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments.

In some cases, junk bonds may be highly speculative, have poor prospects for reaching investment grade standing and be in default. As a result, investment in such bonds will present greater speculative risks than those associated with investment in investment grade bonds. Also, to the extent that the rating assigned to a security in the Fund's portfolio is downgraded by a rating organization, the market price and liquidity of such security may be adversely affected.

**Temporary Investment Risks.** The Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, invest a certain percentage of its total assets in:

- U.S. government securities
- Commercial paper rated at least A-2 by Standard & Poor's, P-2 by Moody's or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO
- Certificates of deposit
- Bankers' acceptances
- Repurchase agreements
- Non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible corporate bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year

When the Fund's assets are invested in such instruments, the Fund may not be achieving its investment objective.

**Risks of Initial Public Offerings.** The Fund may invest in IPOs. An IPO is a company's first offering of stock to the public. IPO risk is the risk that the market value of IPO shares will fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, the small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The purchase of IPO shares may involve high transaction costs. IPO shares are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. When the Fund's asset base is small, a significant portion of the Fund's performance could be attributable to investments in IPOs, because such investments would have a magnified impact on the Fund. As the Fund's

assets grow, the effect of the Fund's investments in IPOs on the Fund's performance probably will decline, which could reduce the Fund's performance. Because of the price volatility of IPO shares, the Fund may choose to hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase the turnover of the Fund's portfolio and may lead to increased expenses to the Fund, such as commissions and transaction costs. In addition, the market for IPO shares can be speculative and/or inactive for extended periods of time. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to obtain allocable portions of IPO shares. The limited number of shares available for trading in some IPOs may make it more difficult for the Fund to buy or sell significant amounts of shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing prices. Investors in IPO shares can be affected by substantial dilution in the value of their shares, by sales of additional shares and by concentration of control in existing management and principal shareholders.

## C. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND TECHNIQUES

This section provides further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks.

The Fund may purchase other types of securities or instruments similar to those described in this section if otherwise consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request.

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; (b) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; (c) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the issuer; or (d) only the credit of the issuer. U.S. Government Securities also include Treasury receipts, zero coupon bonds and other stripped U.S. Government Securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. Government Securities are traded independently.

**Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates.** The Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. government securities or other types of securities in which the Fund may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the

underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. If for tax purposes, the Fund is not considered to be the owner of the underlying securities held in the custodial or trust account, the Fund may suffer adverse tax consequences. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Fund may also invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

**Mortgage-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in mortgage-backed securities. Mortgage-backed securities represent direct or indirect participations in, or are collateralized by and payable from, mortgage loans secured by real property. Mortgage-backed securities can be backed by either fixed rate mortgage loans or adjustable rate mortgage loans, and may be issued by either a governmental or non-governmental entity. Privately issued mortgage-backed securities are normally structured with one or more types of “credit enhancement.” However, these mortgage-backed securities typically do not have the same credit standing as U.S. government guaranteed mortgage-backed securities.

Mortgage-backed securities may include multiple class securities, including collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) and Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit (“REMIC”) pass-through or participation certificates. A REMIC is a CMO that qualifies for special tax treatment and invests in certain mortgages principally secured by interests in real property and other permitted investments. CMOs provide an investor with a specified interest in the cash flow from a pool of underlying mortgages or of other mortgage-backed securities. CMOs are issued in multiple classes each with a specific fixed or floating interest rate and a final scheduled distribution rate. In many cases, payments of principal are applied to the CMO classes in the order of their respective stated maturities, so that no principal payments will be made on a CMO class until all other classes having an earlier stated maturity date are paid in full.

Sometimes, however, CMO classes are “parallel pay,” *i.e.*, payments of principal are made to two or more classes concurrently. In some cases, CMOs may have the characteristics of a stripped mortgage-backed security whose price can be highly volatile. CMOs may exhibit more or less price volatility and interest rate risk than other types of mortgage-related obligations, and under certain interest rate and payment

scenarios, a Fund may fail to recoup fully its investment in certain of these securities regardless of their credit quality.

Mortgage-backed securities also include stripped mortgage-backed securities (“SMBS”), which are derivative multiple class mortgage-backed securities. SMBS are usually structured with two different classes: one that receives substantially all of the interest payments and the other than receives substantially all of the principal payments from a pool of mortgage loans. The market value of SMBS consisting entirely of principal payments generally is unusually volatile in response to changes in interest rates. The yields on SMBS that receive all or most of the interest from mortgage loans are generally higher than prevailing market yields on other mortgage-backed securities because their cash flow patterns are more volatile and there is a greater risk that the initial investment will not be fully recouped.

**Asset-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in asset-backed securities. Asset-backed securities are securities whose principal and interest payments are collateralized by pools of assets such as auto loans, credit card receivables, leases, installment contracts and personal property. Asset-backed securities are often subject to more rapid repayment than their stated maturity date would indicate as a result of the pass-through of prepayments of principal on the underlying loans. During periods of declining interest rates, prepayment of loans underlying asset-backed securities can be expected to accelerate. Accordingly, the Fund’s ability to maintain positions in such securities will be affected by reductions in the principal amount of such securities resulting from prepayments, and its ability to reinvest the returns of principal at comparable yields is subject to generally prevailing interest rates at that time. Asset-backed securities present credit risks that are not presented by mortgage-backed securities. This is because asset-backed securities generally do not have the benefit of a security interest in collateral that is comparable to mortgage assets. If the issuer of an asset-backed security defaults on its payment obligations, there is the possibility that, in some cases, the Fund will be unable to possess and sell the underlying collateral and that the Fund’s recoveries on repossessed collateral may not be available to support payments on the securities. In the event of a default, the Fund may suffer a loss if it cannot sell collateral quickly and receive the amount it is owed.

**Bank Obligations.** The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks. Bank obligations, including without limitation, time deposits, bankers’ acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by

government regulations. Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

**Corporate Debt Obligations and Convertible Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations and convertible securities. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures, commercial paper and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal, and include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations issued by U.S. and certain non-U.S. issuers which issue securities denominated in the U.S. dollar (including Yankee and Euro obligations). In addition to obligations of corporations, corporate debt obligations include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions and supranational entities (*i.e.*, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.).

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are preferred stock or debt obligations that are convertible into common stock. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities in which the Fund invests are subject to the same rating criteria as its other investments in fixed income securities. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security exceeds the conversion price of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

**Rating Criteria.** The Fund may invest in debt securities rated at least investment grade at the time of investment. Investment grade debt securities are securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's, Baa or higher by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO. The Fund may invest

up to 10% of its Total Assets in debt securities which are rated B or higher by Standard & Poor's or Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO at the time of investment. Fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) are commonly referred to as "junk bonds," are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments as described above.

**Structured Securities.** The Fund may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indices or other financial indicators (the "Reference") or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than many types of securities and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Fund may, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase or sell foreign currencies on a cash basis or through forward contracts. A forward contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates. In addition, the Fund may enter into foreign currency transactions to seek a closer correlation between the Fund's overall currency exposures and the currency exposures of the Fund's performance benchmark. The Fund may also enter into such transactions to seek to increase total return, which is considered a speculative practice.

The Fund may also engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in a currency different from that in which the hedged security is denominated or quoted. The Fund may hold foreign currency received in connection with investments in foreign securities when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, it would be beneficial to convert such currency into U.S. dollars at a later date (*e.g.*, the Investment Adviser may



anticipate that the foreign currency will appreciate against the U.S. dollar).

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time causing, along with other factors, the Fund's NAV to fluctuate (when the Fund's NAV fluctuates, the value of your shares may go up or down). Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by the intervention of U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. The market in forward foreign currency exchange contracts and other privately negotiated currency instruments offers less protection against defaults by the other party to such instruments than is available for currency instruments traded on an exchange. Such contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the contract will default on its obligations. Since these contracts are not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on a contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or could force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price.

***Options on Securities, Securities Indices and Foreign Currencies.*** A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying instrument during the option period. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument during the option period. The Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options and purchase put and call options on any securities in which the Fund may invest or on any securities index consisting of securities in which it may invest. The Fund may also, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase and sell (write) put and call options on foreign currencies.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves special investment risks. Options may be used for either hedging or cross-hedging purposes, or to seek to increase total return (which is considered a speculative activity). The successful use of options depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities (or currency) markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in market prices or determination of the correlation between the instruments or indices on which options are written and purchased and the instruments in the Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The use of options can also increase the Fund's transaction costs. Options

written or purchased by the Fund may be traded on either U.S. or foreign exchanges or over-the-counter. Foreign and over-the-counter options will present greater possibility of loss because of their greater illiquidity and credit risks.

***Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.***

Futures contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that provide for the sale or purchase of a specified financial instrument or currency at a future time at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (and the writer of the option the obligation) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price within a specified period of time. A futures contract may be based on particular securities, foreign currencies, securities indices and other financial instruments and indices. The Fund may engage in futures transactions on U.S. and foreign exchanges.

The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, and purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts, in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in interest rates, securities prices or to the extent the Fund invests in foreign securities, currency exchange rates, or to otherwise manage its term structure, sector selection and duration in accordance with its investment objective and policies. The Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act, and therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts and related options present the following risks:

- While the Fund may benefit from the use of futures and options on futures, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance than if the Fund had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions.
- Because perfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position that is intended to be protected is impossible to achieve, the desired protection may not be obtained and the Fund may be exposed to additional risk of loss.
- The loss incurred by the Fund in entering into futures contracts and in writing call options on futures is potentially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the premium received.
- Futures markets are highly volatile and the use of futures may increase the volatility of a Fund's NAV.

- As a result of the low margin deposits normally required in futures trading, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- Futures contracts and options on futures may be illiquid, and exchanges may limit fluctuations in futures contract prices during a single day.
- Foreign exchanges may not provide the same protection as U.S. exchanges.

**Preferred Stock, Warrants and Rights.** The Fund may invest in preferred stock, warrants and rights. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock.

Warrants and other rights are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price at any time during the life of the warrant or right. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

**Other Investment Companies.** The Fund may invest in other investment companies (including exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup>, as defined below) subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the Investment Company Act. These limitations include a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by such other investment companies. Although the Fund does not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, the Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, other investment companies in which the Fund may invest include money market funds for which the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator or distributor.

Exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup> are shares of unaffiliated investment companies which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> National Market System.

■ **Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup>.** The Fund may, consistent with its investment policies, purchase Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup> ("SPDRs"). SPDRs are securities traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") that represent ownership in the SPDR Trust, a trust which has been established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>. The SPDR Trust is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading, or reducing transaction costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price action of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>.

■ **iShares<sup>SM</sup>.** iShares are shares of an investment company that invests substantially all of its assets in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares on the AMEX. However, iShares have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, the Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares as part of its investment strategy.

**Unseasoned Companies.** The Fund may invest in companies (together with their predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

**Equity Swaps.** The Fund may invest in equity swaps. Equity swaps allow the parties to a swap agreement to exchange the dividend income or other components of return on an equity investment (for example, a group of equity securities or an index) for a component of return on another non-equity or equity investment.



An equity swap may be used by the Fund to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in circumstances in which direct investment may be restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise deemed impractical or disadvantageous. Equity swaps are derivatives and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that the Investment Adviser does not accurately analyze and predict the potential relative fluctuation of the components swapped with another party, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The value of some components of an equity swap (such as the dividends on a common stock) may also be sensitive to changes in interest rates. Furthermore, the Fund may suffer a loss if the counterparty defaults. Because equity swaps are normally illiquid, the Fund may be unable to terminate its obligations when desired.

***When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.***

The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and make contracts to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. When-issued securities are securities that have been authorized, but not yet issued. When-issued securities are purchased in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. A forward commitment involves the entering into a contract to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond the customary settlement period.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines before the settlement date. Conversely, the sale of securities on a forward commitment basis involves the risk that the value of the securities sold may increase before the settlement date. Although the Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of when-issued securities or forward commitments prior to settlement if the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate.

***Repurchase Agreements.*** Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of securities subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with securities dealers and banks which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of its repurchase obligation.

If the other party or "seller" defaults, the Fund might suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the underlying securities and other collateral held by the Fund are less than the repurchase price and the Fund's costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. In

addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the seller, the Fund could suffer additional losses if a court determines that the Fund's interest in the collateral is not enforceable.

The Fund, together with other registered investment companies having advisory agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

***Lending of Portfolio Securities.*** The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the lending of securities owned by the Fund to financial institutions such as certain broker-dealers, including, as permitted by the SEC, Goldman Sachs. The borrowers are required to secure their loans continuously with cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or letters of credit in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash collateral may be invested by the Fund in short-term investments, including unregistered investment pools managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates and from which the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may receive fees. To the extent that cash collateral is so invested, such collateral will be subject to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund will be responsible for any loss that might result from its investment of the borrowers' collateral. If the Investment Adviser determines to make securities loans, the value of the securities loaned may not exceed 33⅓% of the value of the total assets of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of that collateral) is not subject to the percentage limitations described elsewhere in this Prospectus regarding investments in fixed-income instruments and cash equivalents.

The Fund may lend its securities to increase its income. The Fund may, however, experience delay in the recovery of its securities or incur a loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund or becomes insolvent.

***Short Sales Against-the-Box.*** The Fund may make short sales against-the-box. A short sale against-the-box means that at all times when a short position is open the Fund will own an equal amount of securities sold short, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for, without payment of any further consideration, an equal amount of the securities of the same issuer as the securities sold short.

***Borrowings.*** The Fund can borrow money from banks and other financial institutions in amounts not exceeding one-third of their total assets for temporary or emergency purposes. The Fund may not make additional investments if borrowings exceed 5% of its total assets.

**REITs.** The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in either real estate or real estate related loans. The value of a REIT is affected by changes in the value of the properties owned by the REIT or securing mortgage loans held by the REIT. REITs are dependent upon the ability of the REITs' managers, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and the qualification of the REITs under applicable regulatory requirements for favorable income tax treatment. REITs are

also subject to risks generally associated with investments in real estate including possible declines in the value of real estate, general and local economic conditions, environmental problems and changes in interest rates. To the extent that assets underlying a REIT are concentrated geographically, by property type or in certain other respects, these risks may be heightened. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any expenses, including management fees, paid by a REIT in which it invests.

## Appendix B

### Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the periods ended December 31, 2000 and thereafter has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's annual report, (available upon request without charge). The information for all periods prior to the year ended December 31, 2000 has been audited by the Fund's previous independent auditors, who have ceased operations.

	Net asset value, beginning of year	Income (loss) from investment operations			Distributions to shareholders			Net asset value, end of year	Total return <sup>(a)</sup> (in 000s)	Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	Ratios assuming no expense reductions		Portfolio turnover rate
		Net investment income	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	From net realized gain	Total distributions				Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	Ratio of expenses to average net assets	
<b>Mid Cap Value Fund</b>													
For the year ended December 31, 2003	\$10.61	\$0.12(b)	\$ 2.89	\$ 3.01	\$(0.11)	\$(0.14)	\$(0.25)	\$13.37	28.39%	0.91%	1.02%	0.91%	64%
For the year ended December 31, 2002	11.29	0.14(b)	(0.67)	(0.53)	(0.12)	(0.03)	(0.15)	10.61	(4.69)	0.91	1.20	0.91	95
For the year ended December 31, 2001	10.67	0.14(b)	1.14	1.28	(0.11)	(0.55)	(0.66)	11.29	12.05	0.93	1.27	0.94	82
For the year ended December 31, 2000	8.42	0.15(b)	2.45	2.60	(0.08)	(0.27)	(0.35)	10.67	31.07	1.04	1.60	1.22	101
For the year ended December 31, 1999	8.57	0.07	(0.15)	(0.08)	(0.07)	—	(0.07)	8.42	(0.95)	0.95	1.30	2.19	103

Footnotes:

(a) Assumes investment at the net asset value at the beginning of the year, reinvestment of all distributions and a complete redemption of the investment at the net asset value at the end of the year.  
(b) Calculated based on the average shares outstanding methodology.

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# Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust

## Prospectus

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Annual/Semi-annual Report

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Your insurance company will provide you with annual and semi-annual reports if the Fund serves as the investment vehicle for your variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy.

#### Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Fund and its policies is also available in the Fund's Additional Statement. The Additional Statement is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (is legally considered part of this Prospectus).

The Additional Statement is available free upon request by calling Goldman Sachs at 1-800-621-2550.

To obtain other information and for shareholder inquiries:

By telephone – 1-800-621-2550

By mail – Goldman Sachs Funds

4900 Sears Tower, 51st Floor

Chicago, IL 60606-6372

By e-mail – [gs-funds@gs.com](mailto:gs-funds@gs.com)

On the Internet – Text-only versions of Trust documents are located online and may be downloaded from:  
SEC EDGAR database – <http://www.sec.gov>

You may review and obtain copies of Trust documents by visiting the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. You may also obtain copies of Trust documents, after paying a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 or by electronic request to: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov). Information on the operation of the public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.



**Asset  
Management**

The Trust's investment company registration number is 811-08361.  
GSAM® is a registered service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

# Prospectus

April 29, 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

■ Goldman Sachs CORE<sup>SM</sup> Small Cap  
Equity Fund

Shares of the Trust are offered to separate accounts of participating life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND IS NOT A BANK DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND INVOLVES INVESTMENT RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE MONEY IN THE FUND.



**Asset  
Management**



NOT FDIC-INSURED	May Lose Value	No Bank Guarantee
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# General Investment Management Approach

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM®”) serves as investment adviser to the CORE Small Cap Equity Fund. GSAM is referred to in this Prospectus as the “Investment Adviser.”

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) offers shares of the Fund to separate accounts of participating insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the public. The participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. The Fund pools the monies of these separate accounts and invests these monies in a portfolio of securities pursuant to the Fund’s stated investment objective.

The investment objective and policies of the Fund are similar to the investment objectives and policies of other mutual funds that the Investment Adviser manages. Although the objectives and policies may be similar, the investment results of the Fund may be higher or lower than the results of such other mutual funds. The Investment Adviser cannot guarantee, and makes no representation, that the investment results of similar funds will be comparable even though the funds have the same Investment Adviser.

## QUANTITATIVE (“CORE”) STYLE FUND

### GSAM’s CORE Investment Philosophy:

GSAM’s quantitative style of funds—CORE (Computer Optimized Research Enhanced)—emphasizes the two building blocks of active management: **stock selection** and **portfolio construction**.

#### I. CORE Stock Selection

The CORE Small Cap Equity Fund (the “CORE Fund”) uses the GSAM’s proprietary multifactor model (“Multifactor Model”), a rigorous computerized rating system, to forecast the returns of securities held in the Fund’s portfolio. The Multifactor Model incorporates common variables covering measures of:

- **Analyst Sentiment** (What do fundamental analysts think about the company and its prospects?)

- **Valuation** (How is the company priced relative to fundamental accounting measures?)
- **Momentum** (What are medium-term price trends? How has the price responded to new information?)
- **Profitability** (What is the company’s margin on sales? How efficient are its operations?)
- **Earnings Quality** (Were earnings derived from sustainable (cash-based) sources?)
- **Management Impact** (Are companies using capital to enhance shareholder value?)

*All of the above factors are carefully evaluated within the Multifactor Model since each has demonstrated a significant impact on the performance of the securities and markets they were designed to forecast. Stock selection in this process combines both our quantitative and qualitative analysis.*

#### II. CORE Portfolio Construction

A proprietary risk model, which is intended to identify and measure risk as accurately as possible, includes all the above factors used in the return model to select stocks, as well as several other factors associated with risk but not return. In this process, the Investment Adviser manages risk by attempting to limit deviations from the benchmark, and by attempting to run a size and sector neutral portfolio. A **computer optimizer** evaluates many different security combinations (considering many possible weightings) in an effort to **construct the most efficient risk/return portfolio** given the CORE Fund’s benchmark.

The Fund is fully invested, broadly diversified and offers consistent overall portfolio characteristics. It may serve as a good foundation on which to build a portfolio.

References in this Prospectus to the Fund’s benchmark are for informational purposes only, and unless otherwise noted are not an indication of how the Fund is managed.

# Fund Investment Objective and Strategies

## Goldman Sachs CORE Small Cap Equity Fund

### FUND FACTS

<b>Objective:</b>	Long-term growth of capital
<b>Benchmark:</b>	Russell 2000® Index
<b>Investment Focus:</b>	Equity investments in small-cap U.S. companies
<b>Investment Style:</b>	Quantitative, applied to small-cap growth and value (blend) stocks

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term growth of capital. The Fund seeks this objective through a broadly diversified portfolio of equity investments in U.S. issuers.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Equity Investments.** The Fund invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes (measured at time of purchase) in a broadly diversified portfolio of equity investments in small-cap U.S. issuers, including foreign issuers that are traded in the United States. These issuers will have public stock market capitalizations (based upon shares available for trading on an unrestricted basis) within the range of the market capitalization of companies constituting the Russell 2000® Index at the time of investment. The Fund is not required to limit its investments to securities in the Russell 2000® Index. In addition, if the market capitalization of a company held by the Fund moves outside this range, the Fund may, but is not required to, sell the securities. The capitalization range of the Russell 2000® Index is currently between \$57 million and \$2.3 billion.

The Fund's investments are selected using both a variety of quantitative techniques and fundamental research in seeking to maximize the Fund's expected return, while maintaining risk, style, capitalization and industry characteristics similar to the Russell 2000® Index. The Fund seeks a portfolio consisting of companies with small market capitalizations, strong expected earnings growth and momentum, and better valuation than the Russell 2000® Index.

**Other.** The Fund's investments in fixed-income securities are limited to securities that are considered cash equivalents.

## Other Investment Practices and Securities

The table below identifies some of the investment techniques that may (but are not required to) be used by the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objective. Numbers in this table show allowable usage only; for actual usage, consult the Fund's annual/semi-annual reports. For more information about these and other investment practices and securities, see Appendix A.

<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <p>• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</p>	CORE Small Cap Equity Fund
<b>Investment Practices</b>	
Borrowings	33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
Cross Hedging of Currencies	•
Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates	•
Equity Swaps*	15
Foreign Currency Transactions**	•
Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts <sup>1</sup>	•
Investment Company Securities (including iShares <sup>SM</sup> and Standard & Poor's Depository Receipts <sup>TM</sup> )	10
Options on Foreign Currencies <sup>2</sup>	•
Options on Securities and Securities Indices <sup>3</sup>	•
Repurchase Agreements	•
Securities Lending	33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
Unseasoned Companies	•
Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights	•
When-Issued and Forward Commitments	•
<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <p>• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</p>	
<b>Investment Securities</b>	
American and Global Depositary Receipts	•
Bank Obligations <sup>4</sup>	•
Convertible Securities <sup>5</sup>	•
Corporate Debt Obligations <sup>4</sup>	•
Equity Investments	80+
Fixed Income Securities <sup>4,6</sup>	20
Foreign Securities <sup>7</sup>	•
Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	•
Structured Securities*	•
Temporary Investments	35
U.S. Government Securities <sup>4</sup>	•

\* Limited to 15% of net assets (together with other illiquid securities) for all structured securities which are not deemed to be liquid and all swap transactions.

\*\* Limited by the amount the Fund invests in foreign securities.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund may enter into futures transactions only with respect to a representative index.

<sup>2</sup> The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options.

<sup>3</sup> The Fund may sell covered call and put options and purchase call and put options.

<sup>4</sup> Limited by the amount the Fund invests in fixed-income securities. Fixed income securities are limited to cash equivalents only.

<sup>5</sup> The Fund has no minimum rating criteria for convertible debt securities.

<sup>6</sup> Except as noted under Convertible Securities, fixed-income securities must be investment grade (i.e., BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's"), Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or have a comparable rating by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO")) at the time of investment.

<sup>7</sup> Equity securities of foreign issuers must be traded in the United States.

# Principal Risks of the Fund

Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. The following summarizes important risks that apply to the Fund and may result in a loss of your investment. The Fund should not be relied upon as a complete investment program. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

- Applicable

Fund	Interest Rate	Credit/Default	Foreign	Derivatives	Management	Liquidity	Market	Investment Style	Stock	Mid Cap and Small Cap
CORE Small Cap Equity	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## RISKS THAT APPLY TO THE FUND:

- **Interest Rate Risk**—The risk that when interest rates increase, fixed income securities held by the Fund will decline in value. Long-term fixed-income securities will normally have more price volatility because of this risk than short-term fixed-income securities.
- **Credit/Default Risk**—The risk that an issuer or guarantor of fixed-income securities held by the Fund may default on its obligation to pay interest and repay principal.
- **Foreign Risk**—The risk that when the Fund invests in foreign securities, it will be subject to risks of loss not typically associated with domestic issuers. Loss may result because of less foreign government regulation, less public information and less economic, political and social stability. Loss may also result from the imposition of exchange controls, confiscations and other government restrictions. The Fund will also be subject to the risk of negative foreign currency rate fluctuations. Foreign risks will normally be greatest when the Fund invests in issuers located in emerging countries.
- **Derivatives Risk**—The risk that loss may result from the Fund's investments in options, futures, swaps, structured securities and other derivative instruments. These instruments may be leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses to the Fund.
- **Management Risk**—The risk that a strategy used by the Investment Adviser may fail to produce the intended results.
- **Liquidity Risk**—The risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the time period stated in this Prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. A fund that invests in small and mid-capitalization stocks, or REITs will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate.
- **Market Risk**—The risk that the value of the securities in which the Fund invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies, particular industry sectors or governments and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or last for extended periods. The Fund's investments may be overweighted from time to time in one or more industry sectors, which will increase the Fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those sectors.
- **Investment Style Risk**—Different investment styles tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions as well as investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that employ a different investment style. Examples of different investment styles include growth and value investing. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks because they are more sensitive to investor perceptions of the issuing company's growth of earnings potential. Also, since growth companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their business, growth stocks may lack the dividends of some value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. Growth oriented funds will typically underperform when value investing is in favor. Value stocks are those that are undervalued in comparison to their peers due to adverse business developments or other factors.
- **Stock Risk**—The risk that stock prices have historically risen and fallen in periodic cycles. Recently, U.S. and foreign stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

■ **Mid Cap and Small Cap Risk**—The securities of small capitalization and mid-capitalization companies involve greater risks than those associated with larger, more established companies and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements. Securities of such issuers may lack sufficient market liquidity to enable the Fund to effect sales at an advantageous time or without a substantial drop in price.

More information about the Fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and their associated risks, is provided in Appendix A. You should consider the investment risks discussed in this section and in Appendix A. Both are important to your investment choice.

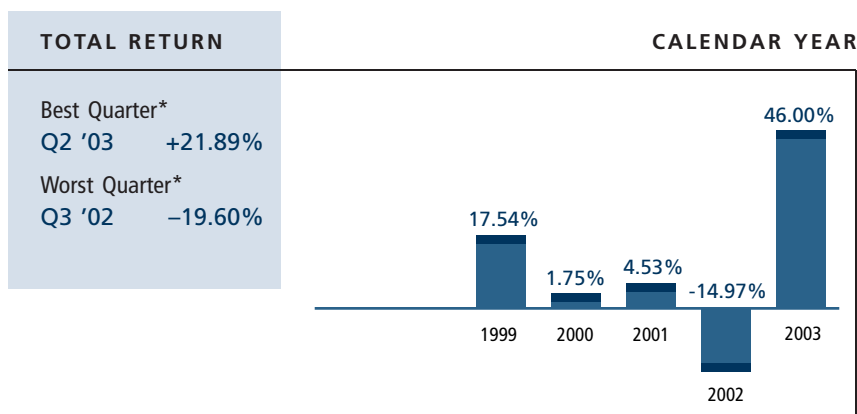
# Fund Performance

## HOW THE FUND HAS PERFORMED

The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing: (a) changes in the performance of the Fund's shares from year to year; and (b) how the average annual total returns of the Fund's shares compares to those of a broad-based securities market index.

The bar chart and table assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

Performance reflects expense limitations in effect. If expense limitations were not in place, the Fund's performance would have been reduced. In addition, performance reflects Fund level expenses but does not reflect the fees and expenses associated with any variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy that uses the Fund as an investment option for any contract or policy. Had performance reflected all of those fees and expenses, performance would have been reduced.



## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended December 31, 2003	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund (Inception 2/13/98)</b>	46.00%	9.19%	5.98%
<b>Russell 2000® Index**</b>	47.25%	7.13%	4.96%

\* Please note that "Best Quarter" and "Worst Quarter" figures are applicable only to the time period covered by the bar chart.

\*\* The Russell 2000® Index is an unmanaged index of common stock prices that measures the performance of the 2000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000® Index. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.



## Fund Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you buy and hold Shares of the Fund.

	CORE Small Cap Equity Fund
<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment):	
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends	None
Redemption Fees	None
Exchange Fees	None
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that are deducted from Fund assets): <sup>1</sup>	
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses*	0.50%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses*</b>	<b>1.25%</b>

\*The "Other Expenses" and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" (after current expense limitations) set forth below have been restated to reflect the current expense limitations that are expected for the current fiscal year.

	CORE Small Cap Equity Fund
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Current Expense Limitations</b>	
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.15%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses (after current expense limitations)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.90%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Fund's annual operating expenses are based on actual expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> "Other Expenses" include transfer agency fees and expenses equal on an annualized basis to 0.04% of the average daily net assets of the Fund plus all other ordinary expenses not detailed above. Effective December 22, 2003, the Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to limit "Other Expenses" (excluding management fees, transfer agent fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage, litigation and indemnification costs, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" to the extent that such expenses exceed, on an annual basis, 0.11% and 0.90%, respectively of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to maintain these expense limitations through June 30, 2005.

## Example

The following Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund (without the waivers and expense limitations) with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

**Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies and are not reflected in the Table above and Example below. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses. Such fees or charges, if any, may affect the return you may realize with respect to your investments.**

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in Shares of the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Fund	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
CORE Small Cap Equity	\$127	\$397	\$686	\$1,511

Certain participating insurance companies that invest in Shares may receive other compensation in connection with the sale and distribution of Shares or for services to their customers' accounts and/or the Fund. For additional information regarding such compensation, see "Service Providers" in the Prospectus and "Other Information" in the Statement of Additional Information ("Additional Statement").

# Service Providers

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. ("GSAM")  
32 Old Slip  
New York, New York 10005

GSAM has been registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") since 1990 and is an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"). As of December 31, 2003, GSAM, along with other units of the Investment Management Division of Goldman Sachs, had assets under management of \$375.7 billion.

The Investment Adviser provides day-to-day advice regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. The Investment Adviser makes the investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund's portfolio transactions in U.S. and foreign markets. As permitted by applicable law, these orders may be directed to any brokers, including Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. While the Investment Adviser is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. In addition, the Investment Adviser has access to the research and certain proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs, and may apply quantitative and qualitative analysis in determining the appropriate allocations among categories of issuers and types of securities.

The Investment Adviser also performs the following additional services for the Fund:

- Supervises all non-advisory operations of the Fund

- Provides personnel to perform necessary executive, administrative and clerical services to the Fund
- Arranges for the preparation of all required tax returns, reports to shareholders, prospectuses and Additional Statements and other reports filed with the SEC and other regulatory authorities
- Maintains the records of the Fund
- Provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services

The Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to participating insurance companies for administrative services that such companies provide to their variable annuity and variable life insurance contract owners who are invested in the Fund. In addition, the Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to various securities dealers (including affiliates of participating insurance companies) that distribute variable annuity contracts and/or variable life insurance contracts of such companies in connection with the sale, distribution and/or servicing of such contracts and, subject to applicable National Association of Securities Dealers rules, contribute to various cash and non-cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of such contracts.

As compensation for its services and its assumption of certain expenses, the Investment Adviser is entitled to a fee, computed daily and payable monthly, at an annual rate of 0.75% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

## QUANTITATIVE EQUITY TEAM

- A stable and growing team supported by an extensive internal staff
- Access to the research ideas of Goldman Sachs' renowned Global Investment Research Department
- Over \$44 billion in equities currently under management

### Quantitative Equity Team

Name and Title	Fund Responsibility	Years Primarily Responsible	Five Year Employment History
Melissa Brown, CFA Managing Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— CORE Small Cap Equity	Since 1998	Ms. Brown joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1998. From 1984 to 1998, she was the director of Quantitative Equity Research and served on the Investment Policy Committee at Prudential Securities.
Robert C. Jones, CFA Chief Investment Officer Managing Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— CORE Small Cap Equity	Since 1998	Mr. Jones joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1989.
Gary Chropuvka CFA, CFP Vice President	Portfolio Manager— CORE Small Cap Equity	Since 2003	Mr. Chropuvka joined the Investment Adviser in 1998 as a member of the Private Equity Partnerships team. He became a member of the Quantitative Equity team in 1999 and is responsible for the construction and trading of the portfolios.

## DISTRIBUTOR AND TRANSFER AGENT

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor (the “Distributor”) of the Fund’s shares. Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6372, also serves as the Fund’s transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and, as such, performs various shareholder servicing functions.

## ACTIVITIES OF GOLDMAN SACHS AND ITS AFFILIATES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY GOLDMAN SACHS

The involvement of the Investment Adviser, Goldman Sachs and their affiliates in the management of, or their interest in, other accounts and other activities of Goldman Sachs may present conflicts of interest with respect to the Fund or limit the Fund’s investment activities. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds which have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or which engage in and compete for transactions in the same type of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates will not have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund. The results of the Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and it is possible that the Fund could sustain losses during periods in which Goldman Sachs and its affiliates and other accounts achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which Goldman Sachs or its other clients have an adverse interest. The Fund’s activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a global financial services firm, Goldman Sachs also provides a wide range of investment banking and financial services to issuers of securities and investors in securities. Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and others associated with it may create markets or specialize in, have positions in and affect transactions in, securities of issuers held by the Funds, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking and financial services for those issuers.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees, the Fund has retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Fund engages in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund’s investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, the Fund may make brokerage and other payments to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates in connection with the Fund’s portfolio investment transactions.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On April 2, 2004, Lois Burke, a plaintiff identifying herself as a shareholder of the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund, filed a purported class and derivative action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (“GSG”), GSAM, the Trustees and Officers of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex, and John Doe Defendants. In addition, certain investment portfolios of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex (collectively, the “Goldman Sachs Funds”) were named as nominal defendants.

The action, which is brought on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased, redeemed or held shares in the Goldman Sachs Funds between April 2, 1999 and January 9, 2004, inclusive (the “Class Period”), alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and common law

breach of fiduciary duty. The complaint alleges, among other things, that during the Class Period, GSAM charged the Goldman Sachs Funds improper Rule 12b-1 fees; made improper brokerage commission and other payments to brokers that sold shares of the Goldman Sachs Funds and made untrue statements of material fact in registration statements and reports filed pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The complaint further alleges that the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex Officers and Trustees breached their fiduciary duties by, among other things, permitting the payments to occur. The plaintiffs in the case are seeking compensatory damages; punitive damages; rescission of GSAM’s investment advisory agreement and return of fees paid; an accounting of all Goldman Sachs Funds-related fees, commissions and soft dollar payments; restitution of all unlawfully or discriminatorily obtained fees and charges; and reasonable costs and expenses, including counsel fees and expert fees.

## Dividends

Dividends from investment company taxable income and distributions from net realized capital gains (if any) are declared and paid by the Fund at least annually. Over the course of the year, accrued and paid dividends and distributions will equal all or substantially all of the Fund's investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains. All dividends will be automatically reinvested in

additional shares of the Fund at the net asset value ("NAV") of such shares on the payment date, unless an insurance company's separate account is permitted to hold cash and elects to receive payment in cash. From time to time, a portion of the Fund's dividends may constitute a return of capital.

# Shareholder Guide

The following section will provide you with answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding buying and selling the Fund's shares.

## How Can I Purchase Or Sell Shares Of The Fund?

Shares of the Fund are not sold directly to the public. Instead, Fund shares are sold to unaffiliated separate accounts that fund variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts issued by participating insurance companies. You may purchase or sell (redeem) shares of the Fund through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered through the separate accounts. The variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies. You should refer to those prospectuses for information on how to purchase a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, how to select a specific Fund as an investment option for your contract or policy and how to redeem monies from the Fund.

The separate accounts of the participating insurance companies place orders to purchase and redeem shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of premium payments to be invested and the amount of surrender and transfer requests (as defined in the prospectus describing the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the participating insurance companies) to be effected on that day pursuant to variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.

The separate accounts of unaffiliated participating insurance companies may purchase shares of the Fund. The sale of Fund shares to these unaffiliated separate accounts may present certain conflicts of interests among variable annuity owners, variable life insurance policy owners and plan investors. The Trust's Board of Trustees will monitor the Trust for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflict of interest. The Trust currently does not foresee any disadvantages to the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies arising from the fact that interests of the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies may differ due to differences of tax treatment or other considerations or due to conflicts among the unaffiliated participating insurance companies. If, however, a material unreconcilable conflict arises between the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies of unaffiliated participating insurance companies, a participating insurance company may be required to withdraw the assets allocable to some or all of the separate accounts from the Fund. Any such withdrawal could disrupt orderly portfolio management to the potential detriment of such holders.

Shares of the Fund (and other existing and new funds that might be added to the Trust) may also be offered to:

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are sold in non-public offerings.
- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity

contracts and variable life insurance policies are offered exclusively to qualified pension and profit-sharing plans and/or certain governmental plans.

- Qualified pension and profit-sharing plans. The Trust does not currently anticipate offering shares directly to such plans.

## How Are Shares Priced?

Shares of the Fund are purchased and sold at the Fund's next determined NAV. The Fund calculates NAV as follows:

$$\text{NAV} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(Value of Assets of the Fund)} \\ - \text{(Liabilities of the Fund)} \end{array}}{\text{Number of the Fund's Outstanding Shares}}$$

The Fund's investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Fund's NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Fund's investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Fund's daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Fund to price its investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

- NAV per share of the Fund is generally calculated by the accounting agent on each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. Fund shares will generally not be priced on any day the New York Stock Exchange is closed.
- Shares are purchased and redeemed at the NAV next calculated *after* an order is received in proper form by the Trust.
- The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were processed at an NAV other than the Fund's official closing NAV that is subsequently adjusted, and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders accordingly based on the official closing NAV.
- The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC.

**Note: The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York time. In the event the New York Stock Exchange does not open for business because of an emergency, the Trust may, but**

*is not required to open the Fund for purchase, redemption and exchange transactions if the Federal Reserve wire payment system is open. To learn whether the Fund is open for business during an emergency situation, please call 1-800-621-2550.*

Foreign securities may trade in their local markets on days the Fund is closed. As a result, if the Fund holds foreign securities, its NAV may be impacted on days when its shares may not be purchased or redeemed.

In addition, if an event that affects the value of a security occurs after the publication of market quotations or independent service information used by the Fund to price its securities but before the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Trust in its discretion and consistent with applicable regulatory guidance may determine whether to make an adjustment in light of the nature and significance of the event.

#### **Do I Have To Pay Any Fees When Purchasing Or Selling Shares Of The Fund?**

The Fund does not charge any fees when it sells or redeems its shares. Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses.

#### **What Else Should I Know About Share Purchases And Redemptions?**

The Trust reserves the right to:

- Suspend the right of redemption under certain extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the rules of the SEC.
- Suspend the offering of shares for a period of time.
- Reject any purchase order.
- Close the Fund to new investors from time to time and reopen the Fund whenever it is deemed appropriate by the Fund's Investment Adviser.

Orders received by the Trust are effected on business days. The separate accounts purchase and redeem shares of each Fund at the Fund's NAV per share calculated as of the day an order is received by the Fund although such purchases and redemptions may be executed the next morning. Redemption proceeds paid by wire transfer will normally be wired in federal funds on the next business day after the Trust receives actual notice of the redemption order, but may be paid up to three business days after receipt of actual notice of the order.

#### **What Types Of Reports Will I Be Sent Regarding Investments In The Fund?**

As a holder of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, you will receive annual reports containing

audited financial statements and semiannual reports from your participating insurance company.

#### **What Are The Fund's Voting Procedures?**

Participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. To the extent required by law:

- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts in a manner consistent with timely voting instructions received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.
- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts for which no timely instructions are received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies, as well as shares they own, in the same proportion as those shares for which voting instructions are received.

It is anticipated that Fund shares held by unregistered separate accounts or qualified plans generally will be voted for or against any proposition in the same proportion as all other Fund shares are voted unless the unregistered separate account's participating insurance company or the plan makes other arrangements.

Additional information concerning voting rights of the participants in the separate accounts is more fully set forth in the prospectus relating to those accounts issued by the participating insurance companies.

#### **Restrictions On Excessive Trading Practices**

The Trust does not permit market-timing or other excessive trading practices. Purchases and exchanges should be made for long-term investment purposes only. The Trust and Goldman Sachs reserve the right to reject or restrict purchase or exchange requests from any investor. Excessive, short-term (market-timing) trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies, harm Fund performance and negatively impact long-term shareholders. The Trust and Goldman Sachs will not be held liable for any loss resulting from rejected purchase or exchange orders. To minimize harm to the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) and its shareholders, the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) will exercise these rights if, in the Trust's (or Goldman Sachs') judgment, an investor has a history of excessive trading or if an investor's trading, in the judgment of the Trust (or Goldman Sachs), has been or may be disruptive to a Fund. In making this judgment, trades executed in multiple accounts under common ownership or control may be considered together.



# Taxation

The Fund is treated as a separate corporate entity for federal tax purposes. The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company and to qualify for such treatment for each taxable year under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In addition, the Fund intends to qualify under the Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to variable contracts. Provided that the Fund and a separate account investing in the Fund satisfy applicable tax requirements, the Fund will not be subject to

federal tax and any distributions from the Fund to the separate account will be exempt from current federal income taxation to the extent that such distributions accumulate in a variable annuity contract or a variable life insurance contract.

Persons investing in variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts should refer to the prospectuses with respect to such contracts for further information regarding the tax treatment of the contracts and the separate accounts in which the contracts are invested.

# Appendix A

## Additional Information on Portfolio Risks, Securities and Techniques

### A. GENERAL PORTFOLIO RISKS

The Fund will be subject to the risks associated with equity investments. “Equity investments” may include common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants, stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities. In general, the values of equity investments fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and in response to general market and economic conditions. Accordingly, the values of the equity investments that the Fund holds may decline over short or extended periods. The stock markets tend to be cyclical, with periods when stock prices generally rise and periods when prices generally decline. This volatility means that the value of your investment in the Fund may increase or decrease. In recent years, stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

To the extent it invests in fixed-income securities, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with fixed-income securities. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and call/extension risk. In general, interest rate risk involves the risk that when interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to increase. Conversely, when interest rates increase, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to decline. Credit risk involves the risk that an issuer or guarantor could default on its obligations, and the Fund will not recover its investment. Call risk and extension risk are normally present when the borrower has the option to prepay its obligations.

The Investment Adviser will not consider the portfolio turnover rate a limiting factor in making investment decisions for the Fund. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) involves correspondingly greater expenses which must be borne by the Fund and its shareholders. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of the dollar amount of sales or purchases of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund’s portfolio securities, excluding securities having a maturity at the date of purchase of one year or less. See “Financial Highlights” in Appendix B for a statement of the Fund’s historical portfolio turnover rates.

The following sections provide further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. Additional information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request. Among other things, the Additional

Statement describes certain fundamental investment restrictions that cannot be changed without shareholder approval. You should note, however, that all investment objectives, and all investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. If there is a change in the Fund’s investment objective, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment in light of your then current financial position and needs.

### B. OTHER PORTFOLIO RISKS

***Risks of Investing in Small and Mid-Capitalization Companies.*** Investments in small and mid-capitalization companies involve greater risk and portfolio price volatility than investments in larger capitalization stocks. Among the reasons for the greater price volatility of these investments are the less certain growth prospects of smaller firms and the lower degree of liquidity in the markets for such securities. Small and mid-capitalization companies may be thinly traded and may have to be sold at a discount from current market prices or in small lots over an extended period of time. In addition, these securities are subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities in these particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic or market conditions, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate. Because of the lack of sufficient market liquidity, the Fund may incur losses because it will be required to effect sales at a disadvantageous time and only then at a substantial drop in price. Small and mid-capitalization companies include “unseasoned” issuers that do not have an established financial history; often have limited product lines, markets or financial resources; may depend on or use a few key personnel for management; and may be susceptible to losses and risks of bankruptcy. Small and mid-capitalization companies may be operating at a loss or have significant variations in operating results; may be engaged in a rapidly changing business with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence; may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, to finance expansion or to maintain their competitive position; and may have substantial borrowings or may otherwise have a weak financial condition. In addition, these companies may face intense competition, including competition from companies with greater financial resources, more extensive development, manufacturing, marketing, and other capabilities, and a larger number of qualified managerial and technical personnel. Transaction costs for these investments are often higher than those of larger capitalization companies. Investments in small and mid-

capitalization companies may be more difficult to price precisely than other types of securities because of their characteristics and lower trading volumes.

**Risks of Derivative Investments.** The Fund's transactions, if any, in options, futures, options on futures, swaps, structured securities and foreign currency transactions involve additional risk of loss. Loss can result from a lack of correlation between changes in the value of derivative instruments and the portfolio assets (if any) being hedged, the potential illiquidity of the markets for derivative instruments, or the risks arising from margin requirements and related leverage factors associated with such transactions. The use of these management techniques also involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or currency prices. The Fund may also invest in derivative investments for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return). Investing for non-hedging purposes is considered as a speculative practice and presents even greater risk of loss.

**Risks of Foreign Investments.** In general, the Fund may make foreign investments. Foreign investments involve special risks that are not typically associated with U.S. dollar denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign investments may be affected by changes in currency rates, changes in foreign or U.S. laws or restrictions applicable to such investments and changes in exchange control regulations (e.g., currency blockage). A decline in the exchange rate of the currency (i.e., weakening of the currency against the U.S. dollar) in which a portfolio security is quoted or denominated relative to the U.S. dollar would reduce the value of the portfolio security. In addition, if the currency in which the Fund receives dividends, interest or other payments declines in value against the U.S. dollar before such income is distributed as dividends to shareholders or converted to U.S. dollars, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to pay such dividends.

Foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. issuers. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than about a U.S. issuer. In addition, there is generally less government regulation of foreign markets, companies and securities dealers than in the United States, and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Furthermore, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is

a possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividend or interest payments (or, in some cases, capital gains distributions), limitations on the removal of funds or other assets from such countries, and risks of political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Investments in foreign securities may take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") and Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs"). ADRs and GDRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs and certain GDRs are traded in the United States. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

**Risks of Euro.** On January 1, 1999, the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) introduced a new single currency called the euro. The euro has replaced the national currencies of the following member countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. In addition, ten new countries, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, are preparing for entry into the EMU in 2004.

The new European Central Bank has control over each country's monetary policies. Therefore, the member countries no longer control their own monetary policies by directing independent interest rates for their currencies. The national governments of the participating countries, however, have retained the authority to set tax and spending policies and public debt levels.

The change to the euro as a single currency is relatively new and untested. The elimination of currency risk among EMU countries has affected the economic environment and behavior of investors, particularly in European markets, but the long-term impact of those changes on currency values or on the business or financial condition of European countries, and issuers cannot be fully assessed at this time. In addition, the introduction of the euro presents other unique uncertainties, including the fluctuation of the euro relative to non-euro currencies; whether the interest rate, tax and labor regimes of European countries participating in the euro will converge over time; and whether the conversion of the currencies of other countries that now are or may in the future become members of the European Union ("EU") will have an impact on the euro. Also it is possible that the euro could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use. These or other events, including political and economic

developments, could cause market disruptions, and could adversely affect the value of securities held by the Fund.

**Risks of Illiquid Securities.** The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities which cannot be disposed of in seven days in the ordinary course of business at fair value. Illiquid securities include:

- Both domestic and foreign securities that are not readily marketable
- Repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days
- Certain over-the-counter options
- Certain structured securities and all swap transactions
- Certain restricted securities, unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so called “4(2) commercial paper” or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 (“144A Securities”).

Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund’s portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

**Credit/Default Risks.** Debt securities purchased by the Fund may include securities (including zero coupon bonds) issued by the U.S. government (and its agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises), foreign governments, domestic and foreign corporations, banks and other issuers. Some of these fixed-income securities are described in the next section below. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement.

Debt securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor’s Rating Group (“Standard & Poor’s”) or Baa or higher by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO are considered “investment grade.” Securities rated BBB or Baa are considered medium-grade obligations with speculative characteristics, and adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances may weaken the issuers’ capacity to pay interest and repay principal. A security will be deemed to have met a rating requirement if it receives the minimum required rating from at least one such rating organization even though it has been rated below the minimum rating by one or more other rating organizations, or if unrated by such rating organizations, the security is determined by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. A security satisfies the Fund’s minimum rating requirement regardless of its relative ranking

(for example, plus or minus) within a designated major rating category (for example, BBB or Baa). If a security satisfies the Fund’s minimum rating requirement at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, the Investment Adviser will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

**Temporary Investment Risks.** The Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, invest a certain percentage of its total assets in:

- U.S. government securities
- Commercial paper rated at least A-2 by Standard & Poor’s, P-2 by Moody’s or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO
- Certificates of deposit
- Bankers’ acceptances
- Repurchase agreements
- Non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible corporate bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year

When the Fund’s assets are invested in such instruments, the Fund may not be achieving its investment objective.

## C. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND TECHNIQUES

This section provides further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks.

The Fund may purchase other types of securities or instruments similar to those described in this section if otherwise consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and policies. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request.

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; (b) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; (c) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the issuer; or (d) only the credit of the issuer. U.S. Government Securities also include Treasury receipts, zero coupon bonds and other stripped U.S. Government Securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. Government Securities are traded independently.

***Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates.*** The Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. government securities or other types of securities in which the Fund may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. If for tax purposes, the Fund is not considered to be the owner of the underlying securities held in the custodial or trust account, the Fund may suffer adverse tax consequences. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Fund may also invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

***Bank Obligations.*** The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks. Bank obligations, including without limitation, time deposits, bankers' acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by government regulations. Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

***Corporate Debt Obligations and Convertible Securities.*** The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations and convertible securities. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures, commercial paper and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal, and include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations issued by U.S. and certain non-U.S. issuers which issue securities denominated in the U.S. dollar (including Yankee and Euro obligations). In addition to obligations of corporations, corporate debt obligations include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions and supranational entities (*i.e.*, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.).

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are preferred stock or debt obligations that are convertible into common stock. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities in which the Fund invests have no minimum rating criteria. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security exceeds the conversion price of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

***Structured Securities.*** The Fund may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indices or other financial indicators (the "Reference") or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than many types of securities and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

***Foreign Currency Transactions.*** The Fund may, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase or sell foreign currencies on a cash basis or through forward contracts. A forward contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates.

The Fund may also engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in a currency different from that in which the hedged security is denominated or quoted. The Fund may hold foreign



currency received in connection with investments in foreign securities when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, it would be beneficial to convert such currency into U.S. dollars at a later date (e.g., the Investment Adviser may anticipate that the foreign currency will appreciate against the U.S. dollar).

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time causing, along with other factors, the Fund's NAV to fluctuate (when the Fund's NAV fluctuates, the value of your shares may go up or down). Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by the intervention of U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. The market in forward foreign currency exchange contracts and other privately negotiated currency instruments offers less protection against defaults by the other party to such instruments than is available for currency instruments traded on an exchange. Such contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the contract will default on its obligations. Since these contracts are not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on a contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or could force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price.

**Options on Securities, Securities Indices and Foreign Currencies.** A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying instrument during the option period. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument during the option period. The Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options and purchase put and call options on any securities in which the Fund may invest or on any securities index consisting of securities in which it may invest. The Fund may also, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase and sell (write) put and call options on foreign currencies.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves special investment risks. Options may be used for either hedging or cross-hedging purposes, or to seek to increase total return (which is considered a speculative activity). The successful use of options depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities (or currency) markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in market prices or determination of the correlation between the instruments or indices on which options are written and purchased and the instruments in the Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The use of

options can also increase the Fund's transaction costs. Options written or purchased by the Fund may be traded on either U.S. exchanges or over-the-counter. Foreign and over-the-counter options will present greater possibility of loss because of their greater illiquidity and credit risks.

#### **Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.**

Futures contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that provide for the sale or purchase of a specified financial instrument or currency at a future time at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (and the writer of the option the obligation) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price within a specified period of time. A futures contract may be based on particular indices. The Fund may engage in futures transactions on U.S. exchanges.

The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, and purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts, in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in securities prices. The Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts and related options present the following risks:

- While the Fund may benefit from the use of futures and options on futures, unanticipated changes in securities prices may result in a poorer overall performance than if the Fund had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions.
- Because perfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position that is intended to be protected is impossible to achieve, the desired protection may not be obtained and the Fund may be exposed to additional risk of loss.
- The loss incurred by the Fund in entering into futures contracts and in writing call options on futures is potentially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the premium received.
- Futures markets are highly volatile and the use of futures may increase the volatility of a Fund's NAV.
- As a result of the low margin deposits normally required in futures trading, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- Futures contracts and options on futures may be illiquid, and exchanges may limit fluctuations in futures contract prices during a single day.

**Preferred Stock, Warrants and Rights.** The Fund may invest in preferred stock, warrants and rights. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock.

Warrants and other rights are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price at any time during the life of the warrant or right. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

**Other Investment Companies.** The Fund may invest in other investment companies (including exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup>, as defined below) subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the Investment Company Act. These limitations include a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by such other investment companies. Although the Fund does not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, the Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, other investment companies in which the Fund may invest include money market funds for which the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator or distributor.

Exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup> are shares of unaffiliated investment companies which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> National Market System.

■ **Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup>.** The Fund may, consistent with its investment policies, purchase Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup> ("SPDRs"). SPDRs are securities traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") that represent ownership in the SPDR Trust, a trust which has been established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>. The SPDR Trust is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several

reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading, or reducing transaction costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price action of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>.

■ **iShares<sup>SM</sup>.** iShares are shares of an investment company that invests substantially all of its assets in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares on the AMEX. However, iShares have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, the Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares as part of its investment strategy.

**Unseasoned Companies.** The Fund may invest in companies (together with their predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

**Equity Swaps.** The Fund may invest in equity swaps. Equity swaps allow the parties to a swap agreement to exchange the dividend income or other components of return on an equity investment (for example, a group of equity securities or an index) for a component of return on another non-equity or equity investment.

An equity swap may be used by the Fund to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in circumstances in which direct investment may be restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise deemed impractical or disadvantageous. Equity swaps are derivatives and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that the Investment Adviser does not accurately analyze and predict the potential relative fluctuation of the components swapped with another party, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The value of some components of an equity swap (such as the dividends on a common stock) may also be sensitive to changes in interest rates. Furthermore, the Fund may suffer a loss if the



counterparty defaults. Because equity swaps are normally illiquid, the Fund may be unable to terminate its obligations when desired.

***When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.***

The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and make contracts to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. When-issued securities are securities that have been authorized, but not yet issued. When-issued securities are purchased in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. A forward commitment involves the entering into a contract to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond the customary settlement period.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines before the settlement date. Conversely, the sale of securities on a forward commitment basis involves the risk that the value of the securities sold may increase before the settlement date. Although the Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of when-issued securities or forward commitments prior to settlement if the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate.

***Repurchase Agreements.*** Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of securities subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with securities dealers and banks which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of its repurchase obligation.

If the other party or "seller" defaults, the Fund might suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the underlying securities and other collateral held by the Fund are less than the repurchase price and the Fund's costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the seller, the Fund could suffer additional losses if a court determines that the Fund's interest in the collateral is not enforceable.

The Fund, together with other registered investment companies having advisory agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

***Lending of Portfolio Securities.*** The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the lending of securities owned by the Fund to financial institutions such as

certain broker-dealers, including, as permitted by the SEC, Goldman Sachs. The borrowers are required to secure their loans continuously with cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or letters of credit in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash collateral may be invested by the Fund in short-term investments, including unregistered investment pools managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates and from which the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may receive fees. To the extent that cash collateral is so invested, such collateral will be subject to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund will be responsible for any loss that might result from its investment of the borrowers' collateral. If the Investment Adviser determines to make securities loans, the value of the securities loaned may not exceed 33⅓% of the value of the total assets of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of that collateral) is not subject to the percentage limitations described elsewhere in this Prospectus regarding investments in fixed-income instruments and cash equivalents.

The Fund may lend its securities to increase its income. The Fund may, however, experience delay in the recovery of its securities or incur a loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund or becomes insolvent.

***Borrowings.*** The Fund can borrow money from banks and other financial institutions in amounts not exceeding one-third of their total assets for temporary or emergency purposes. The Fund may not make additional investments if borrowings exceed 5% of its total assets.

***REITs.*** The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in either real estate or real estate related loans. The value of a REIT is affected by changes in the value of the properties owned by the REIT or securing mortgage loans held by the REIT. REITs are dependent upon the ability of the REITs' managers, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and the qualification of the REITs under applicable regulatory requirements for favorable income tax treatment. REITs are also subject to risks generally associated with investments in real estate including possible declines in the value of real estate, general and local economic conditions, environmental problems and changes in interest rates. To the extent that assets underlying a REIT are concentrated geographically, by property type or in certain other respects, these risks may be heightened. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any expenses, including management fees, paid by a REIT in which it invests.

## Appendix B

### Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the periods ended December 31, 2000 and thereafter has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's annual report (available upon request without charge). The information for all periods prior to the year ended December 31, 2000 has been audited by the Fund's previous independent auditors, who have ceased operations.

	Income (loss) from investment operations			Distributions to shareholders				Net asset value, end of year	Total return <sup>(a)</sup> (in 000s)	Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	Ratios assuming no expense reductions		Portfolio turnover rate	
	Net asset value, beginning of year	Net investment income	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	From tax return of capital	From net realized gain					Total distributions	Ratio of expenses to average net assets		Ratio of net investment income to average net assets
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund															
For the year ended December 31, 2003	\$ 9.19	\$0.04 <sup>(b)</sup>	\$ 4.18	\$ 4.22	\$(0.03)	\$ —	\$(0.39)	\$(0.42)	46.00%	\$181,765	1.03%	0.40%	1.25%	0.18%	141%
For the year ended December 31, 2002	10.84	0.03 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.65)	(1.62)	(0.03)	—	—	(0.03)	(14.97)	47,005	1.04	0.25	1.29	0.00	128
For the year ended December 31, 2001	10.40	0.03 <sup>(b)</sup>	0.44	0.47	(0.02)	(0.01)	—	(0.03)	4.53	54,365	1.00	0.32	1.22	0.10	105
For the year ended December 31, 2000	10.60	0.06 <sup>(b)</sup>	0.09	0.15	(0.04)	—	(0.31)	(0.35)	1.75	40,561	0.99	0.59	1.55	0.03	91
For the year ended December 31, 1999	9.04	0.02	1.56	1.58	(0.02)	—	—	(0.02)	17.54	13,488	0.90	0.35	4.22	(2.97)	101

Footnotes:

(a) Assumes investment at the net asset value at the beginning of the year, reinvestment of all distributions and a complete redemption of the investment at the net asset value at the end of the year.

(b) Calculated based on the average shares outstanding methodology.

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# Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust

## Prospectus

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Annual/Semi-annual Report

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Your insurance company will provide you with annual and semi-annual reports if the Fund serves as the investment vehicle for your variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy.

#### Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Fund and its policies is also available in the Fund's Additional Statement. The Additional Statement is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (is legally considered part of this Prospectus).

The Additional Statement is available free upon request by calling Goldman Sachs at 1-800-621-2550.

To obtain other information and for shareholder inquiries:

By telephone – 1-800-621-2550

By mail – Goldman Sachs Funds

4900 Sears Tower, 51st Floor

Chicago, IL 60606-6372

By e-mail – [gs-funds@gs.com](mailto:gs-funds@gs.com)

On the Internet – Text-only versions of Trust documents are located online and may be downloaded from:  
SEC EDGAR database – <http://www.sec.gov>

You may review and obtain copies of Trust documents by visiting the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. You may also obtain copies of Trust documents, after paying a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 or by electronic request to: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov). Information on the operation of the public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.



**Asset  
Management**

The Trust's investment company registration number is 811-08361.

CORE<sup>SM</sup> is a service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

GSAM<sup>®</sup> is a registered service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

# Prospectus

April 29, 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

■ Goldman Sachs Capital Growth Fund

Shares of the Trust are offered to separate accounts of participating life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND IS NOT A BANK DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND INVOLVES INVESTMENT RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE MONEY IN THE FUND.



**Asset  
Management**



NOT FDIC-INSURED	May Lose Value	No Bank Guarantee
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# General Investment Management Approach

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM®”), serves as investment adviser to the Capital Growth Fund. GSAM is referred to in this Prospectus as the “Investment Adviser.”

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) offers shares of the Fund to separate accounts of participating insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the public. The participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. The Fund pools the monies of these separate accounts and invests these monies in a portfolio of securities pursuant to the Fund’s stated investment objective.

The investment objective and policies of the Fund are similar to the investment objectives and policies of other mutual funds that the Investment Adviser manages. Although the objectives and policies may be similar, the investment results of the Fund may be higher or lower than the results of such other mutual funds. The Investment Adviser cannot guarantee, and makes no representation, that the investment results of similar funds will be comparable even though the funds have the same Investment Adviser.

## GROWTH STYLE FUNDS

### GSAM’s Growth Investment Philosophy:

***1. Invest as if buying the company/business, not simply trading its stock:***

- Understand the business, management, products and competition.
- Perform intensive, hands-on fundamental research.
- Seek businesses with strategic competitive advantages.
- Over the long-term, expect each company’s stock price ultimately to track the growth in the value of the business.

***2. Buy high-quality growth businesses that possess strong business franchises, favorable long-term prospects and excellent management.***

***3. Purchase superior long-term growth companies at a favorable price—seek to purchase at a fair valuation, giving the investor the potential to fully capture returns from above-average growth rates.***

Growth companies have earnings expectations that exceed those of the stock market as a whole.

References in this Prospectus to the Fund’s benchmark are for informational purposes only, and unless otherwise noted are not an indication of how the Fund is managed.

# Fund Investment Objective and Strategies

## Goldman Sachs Capital Growth Fund

FUND FACTS	
Objective:	Long-term growth of capital
Benchmark:	Russell 1000 Growth Index
Investment Focus:	Large-cap U.S. equity investments that offer long-term capital appreciation potential
Investment Style:	Growth

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term growth of capital.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Equity Investments.** The Fund invests, under normal circumstances, at least 90% of its total assets (not including securities lending collateral and any investment of that collateral) measured at time of purchase (“Total Assets”) in equity investments. The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a diversified portfolio of equity investments that are considered by the Investment Adviser to have long-term capital appreciation potential. Although the Fund invests primarily in publicly traded U.S. securities, it may invest up to 10% of its Total Assets in foreign securities, including securities of issuers in emerging countries and securities quoted in foreign currencies.

## Other Investment Practices and Securities

The table below identifies some of the investment techniques that may (but are not required to) be used by the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objective. Numbers in this table show allowable usage only; for actual usage, consult the Fund's annual/semi-annual reports. For more information about these and other investment practices and securities, see Appendix A.

10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (*italic type*)

10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)

• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund

	Capital Growth Fund
<b>Investment Practices</b>	
Borrowings	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Cross Hedging of Currencies	•
Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates	•
Equity Swaps*	15
Foreign Currency Transactions**	•
Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts	•
Investment Company Securities (including iShares <sup>SM</sup> and Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts <sup>TM</sup> )	10
Options on Foreign Currencies <sup>1</sup>	•
Options on Securities and Securities Indices <sup>2</sup>	•
Repurchase Agreements	•
Securities Lending	33 <sup>1/3</sup>
Short Sales Against the Box	25
Unseasoned Companies	•
Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights	•
When-Issued and Forward Commitments	•
10 Percent of total assets (excluding securities lending collateral) ( <i>italic type</i> )	
10 Percent of net assets (including borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)	
• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund	
<b>Investment Securities</b>	
American, European and Global Depositary Receipts	•
Asset-Backed and Mortgage-Backed Securities <sup>3</sup>	•
Bank Obligations <sup>3</sup>	•
Convertible Securities <sup>4</sup>	•
Corporate Debt Obligations <sup>3</sup>	•
Equity Investments	90+
Emerging Country Securities <sup>5</sup>	10
Fixed Income Securities <sup>6</sup>	•
Foreign Securities <sup>7</sup>	10
Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities <sup>3,7</sup>	10
Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	•
Structured Securities*	•
Temporary Investments	100
U.S. Government Securities <sup>3</sup>	•

\* Limited to 15% of net assets (together with other illiquid securities) for all structured securities which are not deemed to be liquid and all swap transactions.

\*\* Limited by the amount the Fund invests in foreign securities.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options.

<sup>2</sup> The Fund may sell covered call and put options and purchase call and put options.

<sup>3</sup> Limited by the amount the Fund invests in fixed-income securities.

<sup>4</sup> The Fund uses the same rating criteria for convertible and non-convertible debt securities.

<sup>5</sup> The Fund may invest in the aggregate up to 10% of its Total Assets in foreign securities, including emerging country securities.

<sup>6</sup> Except as noted under "Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities," fixed-income securities must be investment grade (i.e., BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's") or Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or have a comparable rating by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO")) at the time of investment.

<sup>7</sup> May be BB or lower by Standard & Poor's, Ba or lower by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO at the time of investment.

# Principal Risks of the Fund

Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. The following summarizes important risks that apply to the Fund and may result in a loss of your investment. The Fund should not be relied upon as a complete investment program. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

- Applicable

Fund	Interest Rate	Credit/Default	Foreign	Emerging Countries	Derivatives	Management	Liquidity	Market	Investment Style	Stock
Capital Growth	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## RISKS THAT APPLY TO THE FUND:

- **Interest Rate Risk**—The risk that when interest rates increase, fixed income securities held by the Fund will decline in value. Long-term fixed-income securities will normally have more price volatility because of this risk than short-term fixed-income securities.
- **Credit/Default Risk**—The risk that an issuer or guarantor of fixed-income securities held by the Fund may default on its obligation to pay interest and repay principal.
- **Foreign Risk**—The risk that when the Fund invests in foreign securities, it will be subject to risks of loss not typically associated with domestic issuers. Loss may result because of less foreign government regulation, less public information and less economic, political and social stability. Loss may also result from the imposition of exchange controls, confiscations and other government restrictions. The Fund will also be subject to the risk of negative foreign currency rate fluctuations. Foreign risks will normally be greatest when the Fund invests in issuers located in emerging countries.
- **Emerging Countries Risk**—The securities markets of Asian, Latin, Central and South American, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, African and other emerging countries are less liquid, are especially subject to greater price volatility, have smaller market capitalizations, have less government regulation and are not subject to as extensive and frequent accounting, financial and other reporting requirements as the securities markets of more developed countries. Further, investment in equity securities of issuers located in certain emerging countries involves risk of loss resulting from problems in share registration and custody and substantial economic and political disruptions. These risks are not normally associated with investments in more developed countries.
- **Derivatives Risk**—The risk that loss may result from the Fund's investments in options, futures, swaps, structured securities and other derivative instruments. These instruments may be leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses to the Fund.
- **Management Risk**—The risk that a strategy used by the Investment Adviser may fail to produce the intended results.
- **Liquidity Risk**—The risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the time period stated in this Prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. A fund that invests in non-investment grade fixed-income securities, small and mid-capitalization stocks, REITs or emerging country issuers will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate.
- **Market Risk**—The risk that the value of the securities in which the Fund invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies, particular industry sectors or governments and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or last for extended periods. The Fund's investments may be overweighted from time to time in one or more industry sectors, which will increase the Fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those sectors.
- **Investment Style Risk**—Different investment styles tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions as well as investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that employ a different investment style. Examples of different investment styles include growth and value investing. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks because they are more sensitive to investor perceptions of the issuing company's growth of earnings potential. Also,

since growth companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their business, growth stocks may lack the dividends of some value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. Growth oriented funds will typically underperform when value investing is in favor. Value stocks are those that are undervalued in comparison to their peers due to adverse business developments or other factors.

- **Stock Risk**—The risk that stock prices have historically risen and fallen in periodic cycles. Recently, U.S. and

foreign stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

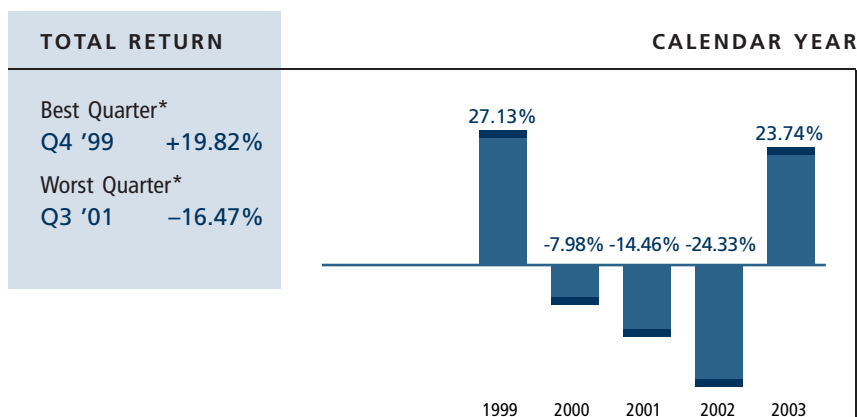
More information about the Fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and their associated risks, is provided in Appendix A. You should consider the investment risks discussed in this section and in Appendix A. Both are important to your investment choice.

# Fund Performance

## HOW THE FUND HAS PERFORMED

The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing: (a) changes in the performance of the Fund's shares from year to year; and (b) how the average annual total returns of the Fund's shares compares to those of a broad-based securities market index. The bar chart and table assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

Performance reflects expense limitations in effect. If expense limitations were not in place, the Fund's performance would have been reduced. In addition, performance reflects Fund level expenses but does not reflect the fees and expenses associated with any variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy that uses the Fund as an investment option for any contract or policy. Had performance reflected all of those fees and expenses, performance would have been reduced.



## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended December 31, 2003	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund</b> (Inception 4/30/98)	23.74%	-1.29%	1.08%
Russell 1000 Growth Index**	29.75%	-5.11%	-1.27%
S&P 500® Index***	28.69%	-0.57%	1.74%

\* Please note that "Best Quarter" and "Worst Quarter" figures are applicable only to the time period covered by the bar chart.

\*\* Effective 12/01/03, the Russell 1000 Growth Index replaced the S&P 500 Index as the Fund's benchmark. The Russell 1000 Growth Index is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of companies with higher price to earnings ratios and higher forecasted growth values compared to the S&P 500. In the Investment Adviser's opinion, the Russell 1000 Growth Index is a more appropriate benchmark against which to measure the performance of the Fund. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.

\*\*\* The S&P 500® Index is the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Price Index of 500 stocks, an unmanaged index of common stock prices. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.



## Fund Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you buy and hold Shares of the Fund.

	Capital Growth Fund
<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment):	
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends	None
Redemption Fees	None
Exchange Fees	None
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that are deducted from Fund assets): <sup>1</sup>	
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses*	0.68%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses*</b>	<b>1.43%</b>

<sup>\*</sup>The “Other Expenses” and “Total Fund Operating Expenses” (after current expense limitations) set forth below have been restated to reflect current expense limitations that are expected for the current fiscal year.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Current Expense Limitations	Capital Growth Fund
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.15%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses (after current expense limitations)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.90%</b>

<sup>1</sup>The Fund’s annual operating expenses are based on actual expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup>“Other Expenses” include transfer agency fees and expenses equal on an annualized basis to 0.04% of the average daily net assets of the Fund plus all other ordinary expenses not detailed above. Effective December 22, 2003, the Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to limit “Other Expenses” (excluding management fees, transfer agent fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage, litigation and indemnification costs, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) and “Total Fund Operating Expenses” to the extent that such expenses exceed, on an annual basis, 0.11% and 0.90%, respectively of the Fund’s average daily net assets. The Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to maintain these expense limitations through June 30, 2005.

## Example

The following Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund (without the waivers and expense limitations) with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

**Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies and are not reflected in the Table above and Example below. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies’ prospectuses. Such fees or charges, if any, may affect the return you may realize with respect to your investments.**

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in Shares of the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Fund	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Capital Growth	\$146	\$452	\$782	\$1,713

Certain participating insurance companies that invest in Shares may receive other compensation in connection with the sale and distribution of Shares or for services to their customers’ accounts and/or the Fund. For additional information regarding such compensation, see “Service Providers” in the Prospectus and “Other Information” in the Statement of Additional Information (“Additional Statement”).

# Service Providers

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. ("GSAM")  
32 Old Slip  
New York, New York 10005

GSAM has been registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("the SEC") since 1990 and is an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"). As of December 31, 2003, GSAM, along with other units of the Investment Management Division of Goldman, Sachs, had assets under management of \$375.7 billion.

The Investment Adviser provides day-to-day advice regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. The Investment Adviser makes the investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund's portfolio transactions in U.S. and foreign markets. As permitted by applicable law, these orders may be directed to any brokers, including Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. While the Investment Adviser is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. In addition, the Investment Adviser has access to the research and certain proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs, and may apply quantitative and qualitative analysis in determining the appropriate allocations among categories of issuers and types of securities.

The Investment Adviser also performs the following additional services for the Fund:

- Supervises all non-advisory operations of the Fund
- Provides personnel to perform necessary executive, administrative and clerical services to the Fund
- Arranges for the preparation of all required tax returns, reports to shareholders, prospectuses and Additional Statements and other reports filed with the SEC and other regulatory authorities
- Maintains the records of the Fund
- Provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services

The Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to participating insurance companies for administrative services that such companies provide to their variable annuity and variable life insurance contract owners who are invested in the Fund. In addition, the Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to various securities dealers (including affiliates of participating insurance companies) that distribute variable annuity contracts and/or variable life insurance contracts of such companies in connection with the sale, distribution and/or servicing of such contracts and, subject to applicable National Association of Securities Dealers rules, contribute to various cash and non-cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of such contracts.

As compensation for its services and its assumption of certain expenses, the Investment Adviser is entitled to a fee, computed daily and payable monthly, at an annual rate of 0.75% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

## GROWTH INVESTMENT TEAM

- 23-year consistent investment style applied through diverse and complete market cycles
- More than \$25 billion in equities currently under management
- More than 300 client account relationships
- A portfolio management team with more than 250 years combined experience

## Growth Investment Team

Name and Title	Fund Responsibility	Years Primarily Responsible	Five Year Employment History
Steven M. Barry Managing Director Co-Chief Investment Officer	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 1999	Mr. Barry joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1999. From 1988 to 1999, he was a portfolio manager at Alliance Capital Management.
Kenneth T. Berents Managing Director Co-Chairman of Investment Committee	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 2000	Mr. Berents joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 2000. From 1992 to 1999, he was Director of Research and head of the Investment Committee at Wheat First Union.
Herbert E. Ehlers Managing Director Chief Investment Officer	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 1997	Mr. Ehlers joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager and Chief Investment Officer of the Growth Equity Team in 1981.
Gregory H. Ekizian, CFA Managing Director Co-Chief Investment Officer	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 1997	Mr. Ekizian joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1990.
Prashant Khemka, CFA Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 2003	Mr. Khemka joined the Investment Adviser in 2000 as an equity analyst. He became a portfolio manager in 2003. From 1998 to 2000, he was assistant portfolio manager in the Fundamental Strategies group at State Street Global Advisors. Mr. Khemka received an M.B.A. from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University (attended 1996-1998).
Scott Kolar, CFA Vice President Co-Chairman of Investment Committee	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 1999	Mr. Kolar joined the Investment Adviser as an equity analyst in 1994 and became a portfolio manager in 1999.
Andrew F. Pyne Managing Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 2001	Mr. Pyne joined the Investment Adviser as a product manager in 1997. He became a portfolio manager in August 2001.
Jeffrey Rabinowitz, CFA Vice President	Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 2003	Mr. Rabinowitz joined the Investment Adviser in 1999 as an equity analyst. He became a portfolio manager in 2003. From 1997 to 1999 Mr. Rabinowitz attended Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania where he received his M.B.A. in Finance.
Ernest C. Segundo, Jr., CFA Vice President	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 1997	Mr. Segundo joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1992.
Mark D. Shattan, CFA Senior Portfolio Manager Co-Chairman of Investment Committee	Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 2002	Mr. Shattan joined the Investment Adviser as an equity analyst in 1999 and became a portfolio manager in 2002. From 1997 to 1999 he was an equity research analyst at Salomon Smith Barney.
David G. Shell, CFA Managing Director Co-Chief Investment Officer	Senior Portfolio Manager— Capital Growth	Since 1997	Mr. Shell joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1987.

## DISTRIBUTOR AND TRANSFER AGENT

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor (the “Distributor”) of the Fund’s shares. Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6372, also serves as the Fund’s transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and, as such, performs various shareholder servicing functions.

## ACTIVITIES OF GOLDMAN SACHS AND ITS AFFILIATES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY GOLDMAN SACHS

The involvement of the Investment Adviser, Goldman Sachs and their affiliates in the management of, or their interest in, other accounts and other activities of Goldman Sachs may present conflicts of interest with respect to the Fund or limit the Fund’s investment activities. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds which have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or which engage in and compete for transactions in the same type of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates will not have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund. The results of the Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and it is possible that the Fund could sustain losses during periods in which Goldman

Sachs and its affiliates and other accounts achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which Goldman Sachs or its other clients have an adverse interest. The Fund’s activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a global financial services firm, Goldman Sachs also provides a wide range of investment banking and financial services to issuers of securities and investors in securities. Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and others associated with it may create markets or specialize in, have positions in and affect transactions in, securities of issuers held by the Funds, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking and financial services for those issuers.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees, the Fund has retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Fund engages in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund’s investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, the Fund may make brokerage and other payments to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates in connection with the Fund’s portfolio investment transactions.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On April 2, 2004, Lois Burke, a plaintiff identifying herself as a shareholder of the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund, filed a purported class and derivative action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (“GSG”), GSAM, the Trustees and Officers of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex, and John Doe Defendants. In addition, certain investment portfolios of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex (collectively, the “Goldman Sachs Funds”) were named as nominal defendants.

The action, which is brought on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased, redeemed or held shares in the Goldman Sachs Funds between April 2, 1999 and January 9, 2004, inclusive (the “Class Period”), alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and common law breach of fiduciary duty. The complaint alleges, among other

things, that during the Class Period, GSAM charged the Goldman Sachs Funds improper Rule 12b-1 fees; made improper brokerage commission and other payments to brokers that sold shares of the Goldman Sachs Funds and made untrue statements of material fact in registration statements and reports filed pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The complaint further alleges that the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex Officers and Trustees breached their fiduciary duties by, among other things, permitting the payments to occur. The plaintiffs in the case are seeking compensatory damages; punitive damages; rescission of GSAM’s investment advisory agreement and return of fees paid; an accounting of all Goldman Sachs Funds-related fees, commissions and soft dollar payments; restitution of all unlawfully or discriminatorily obtained fees and charges; and reasonable costs and expenses, including counsel fees and expert fees.

## Dividends

Dividends from investment company taxable income and distributions from net realized capital gains (if any) are declared and paid by the Fund at least annually. Over the course of the year, accrued and paid dividends and distributions will equal all or substantially all of the Fund's investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains. All dividends will be automatically reinvested in

additional shares of the Fund at the net asset value ("NAV") of such shares on the payment date, unless an insurance company's separate account is permitted to hold cash and elects to receive payment in cash. From time to time, a portion of the Fund's dividends may constitute a return of capital.

# Shareholder Guide

The following section will provide you with answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding buying and selling the Fund's shares.

## How Can I Purchase Or Sell Shares Of The Fund?

Shares of the Fund are not sold directly to the public. Instead, Fund shares are sold to unaffiliated separate accounts that fund variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts issued by participating insurance companies. You may purchase or sell (redeem) shares of the Fund through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered through the separate accounts. The variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies. You should refer to those prospectuses for information on how to purchase a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, how to select a specific Fund as an investment option for your contract or policy and how to redeem monies from the Fund.

The separate accounts of the participating insurance companies place orders to purchase and redeem shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of premium payments to be invested and the amount of surrender and transfer requests (as defined in the prospectus describing the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the participating insurance companies) to be effected on that day pursuant to variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.

The separate accounts of unaffiliated participating insurance companies may purchase shares of the Fund. The sale of Fund shares to these unaffiliated separate accounts may present certain conflicts of interests among variable annuity owners, variable life insurance policy owners and plan investors. The Trust's Board of Trustees will monitor the Trust for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflict of interest. The Trust currently does not foresee any disadvantages to the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies arising from the fact that interests of the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies may differ due to differences of tax treatment or other considerations or due to conflicts among the unaffiliated participating insurance companies. If, however, a material unreconcilable conflict arises between the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies of unaffiliated participating insurance companies, a participating insurance company may be required to withdraw the assets allocable to some or all of the separate accounts from the Fund. Any such withdrawal could disrupt orderly portfolio management to the potential detriment of such holders.

Shares of the Fund (and other existing and new funds that might be added to the Trust) may also be offered to:

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are sold in non-public offerings.

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are offered exclusively to qualified pension and profit-sharing plans and/or certain governmental plans.
- Qualified pension and profit-sharing plans. The Trust does not currently anticipate offering shares directly to such plans.

## How Are Shares Priced?

Shares of the Fund are purchased and sold at the Fund's next determined NAV. The Fund calculates NAV as follows:

$$\text{NAV} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(Value of Assets of the Fund)} \\ - \text{(Liabilities of the Fund)} \end{array}}{\text{Number of the Fund's Outstanding Shares}}$$

The Fund's investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Fund's NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Fund's investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Fund's daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Fund to price its investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

- NAV per share of the Fund is generally calculated by the accounting agent on each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. Fund shares will generally not be priced on any day the New York Stock Exchange is closed.
- Shares are purchased and redeemed at the NAV next calculated *after* an order is received in proper form by the Trust.
- The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were processed at an NAV other than the Fund's official closing NAV that is subsequently adjusted, and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders accordingly based on the official closing NAV.
- The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC.

**Note:** *The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be*



*changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York time. In the event the New York Stock Exchange does not open for business because of an emergency, the Trust may, but is not required to open the Fund for purchase, redemption and exchange transactions if the Federal Reserve wire payment system is open. To learn whether the Fund is open for business during an emergency situation, please call 1-800-621-2550.*

Foreign securities may trade in their local markets on days the Fund is closed. As a result, if the Fund holds foreign securities, its NAV may be impacted on days when its shares may not be purchased or redeemed.

In addition, if an event that affects the value of a security occurs after the publication of market quotations or independent service information used by the Fund to price its securities but before the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Trust in its discretion and consistent with applicable regulatory guidance may determine whether to make an adjustment in light of the nature and significance of the event.

#### **Do I Have To Pay Any Fees When Purchasing Or Selling Shares Of The Fund?**

The Fund does not charge any fees when it sells or redeems its shares. Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses.

#### **What Else Should I Know About Share Purchases And Redemptions?**

The Trust reserves the right to:

- Suspend the right of redemption under certain extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the rules of the SEC.
- Suspend the offering of shares for a period of time.
- Reject any purchase order.
- Close the Fund to new investors from time to time and reopen the Fund whenever it is deemed appropriate by the Fund's Investment Adviser.

Orders received by the Trust are effected on business days. The separate accounts purchase and redeem shares of each Fund at the Fund's NAV per share calculated as of the day an order is received by the Fund although such purchases and redemptions may be executed the next morning. Redemption proceeds paid by wire transfer will normally be wired in federal funds on the next business day after the Trust receives actual notice of the redemption order, but may be paid up to three business days after receipt of actual notice of the order.

#### **What Types Of Reports Will I Be Sent Regarding Investments In The Fund?**

As a holder of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, you will receive annual reports containing

audited financial statements and semiannual reports from your participating insurance company.

#### **What Are The Fund's Voting Procedures?**

Participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. To the extent required by law:

- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts in a manner consistent with timely voting instructions received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.
- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts for which no timely instructions are received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies, as well as shares they own, in the same proportion as those shares for which voting instructions are received.

It is anticipated that Fund shares held by unregistered separate accounts or qualified plans generally will be voted for or against any proposition in the same proportion as all other Fund shares are voted unless the unregistered separate account's participating insurance company or the plan makes other arrangements.

Additional information concerning voting rights of the participants in the separate accounts is more fully set forth in the prospectus relating to those accounts issued by the participating insurance companies.

#### **Restrictions on Excessive Trading Practices**

The Trust does not permit market-timing or other excessive trading practices. Purchases and exchanges should be made for long-term investment purposes only. The Trust and Goldman Sachs reserve the right to reject or restrict purchase or exchange requests from any investor. Excessive, short-term (market-timing) trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies, harm Fund performance and negatively impact long-term shareholders. The Trust and Goldman Sachs will not be held liable for any loss resulting from rejected purchase or exchange orders. To minimize harm to the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) and its shareholders, the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) will exercise these rights if, in the Trust's (or Goldman Sachs') judgment, an investor has a history of excessive trading or if an investor's trading, in the judgment of the Trust (or Goldman Sachs), has been or may be disruptive to a Fund. In making this judgment, trades executed in multiple accounts under common ownership or control may be considered together.

# Taxation

The Fund is treated as a separate corporate entity for federal tax purposes. The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company and to qualify for such treatment for each taxable year under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In addition, the Fund intends to qualify under the Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to variable contracts. Provided that the Fund and a separate account investing in the Fund satisfy applicable tax requirements, the Fund will not be subject to

federal tax and any distributions from the Fund to the separate account will be exempt from current federal income taxation to the extent that such distributions accumulate in a variable annuity contract or a variable life insurance contract.

Persons investing in variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts should refer to the prospectuses with respect to such contracts for further information regarding the tax treatment of the contracts and the separate accounts in which the contracts are invested.

# Appendix A

## Additional Information on Portfolio Risks, Securities and Techniques

### A. GENERAL PORTFOLIO RISKS

The Fund will be subject to the risks associated with equity investments. “Equity investments” may include common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants, stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities. In general, the values of equity investments fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and in response to general market and economic conditions. Accordingly, the values of the equity investments that the Fund holds may decline over short or extended periods. The stock markets tend to be cyclical, with periods when stock prices generally rise and periods when prices generally decline. This volatility means that the value of your investment in the Fund may increase or decrease. In recent years, stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

To the extent it invests in fixed-income securities, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with fixed-income securities. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and call/extension risk. In general, interest rate risk involves the risk that when interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to increase (although many mortgage-related securities will have less potential than other debt securities for capital appreciation during periods of declining rates). Conversely, when interest rates increase, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to decline. Credit risk involves the risk that an issuer or guarantor could default on its obligations, and the Fund will not recover its investment. Call risk and extension risk are normally present in mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities. For example, homeowners have the option to prepay their mortgages. Therefore, the duration of a security backed by home mortgages can either shorten (call risk) or lengthen (extension risk). In general, if interest rates on new mortgage loans fall sufficiently below the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to increase. Conversely, if mortgage loan interest rates rise above the interest rates on existing outstanding mortgage loans, the rate of prepayment would be expected to decrease. In either case, a change in the prepayment rate can result in losses to investors. The same would be true of asset-backed securities, such as securities backed by car loans.

The Investment Adviser will not consider the portfolio turnover rate a limiting factor in making investment decisions for the Fund. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or

more) involves correspondingly greater expenses which must be borne by the Fund and its shareholders. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of the dollar amount of sales or purchases of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund’s portfolio securities, excluding securities having a maturity at the date of purchase of one year or less. See “Financial Highlights” in Appendix B for a statement of the Fund’s historical portfolio turnover rates.

The following sections provide further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. Additional information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request. Among other things, the Additional Statement describes certain fundamental investment restrictions that cannot be changed without shareholder approval. You should note, however, that all investment objectives and all investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. If there is a change in the Fund’s investment objective, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment in light of your then current financial position and needs.

### B. OTHER PORTFOLIO RISKS

**Risks of Derivative Investments.** The Fund’s transactions, if any, in options, futures, options on futures, swaps, structured securities and foreign currency transactions involve additional risk of loss. Loss can result from a lack of correlation between changes in the value of derivative instruments and the portfolio assets (if any) being hedged, the potential illiquidity of the markets for derivative instruments, or the risks arising from margin requirements and related leverage factors associated with such transactions. The use of these management techniques also involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or currency prices. The Fund may also invest in derivative investments for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return). Investing for non-hedging purposes is considered as a speculative practice and presents even greater risk of loss.

**Risks of Foreign Investments.** In general, the Fund may make foreign investments. Foreign investments involve special risks that are not typically associated with U.S. dollar denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign investments may be affected by changes in currency rates, changes in foreign or U.S. laws or restrictions applicable to such investments and changes in exchange control regulations

(e.g., currency blockage). A decline in the exchange rate of the currency (*i.e.*, weakening of the currency against the U.S. dollar) in which a portfolio security is quoted or denominated relative to the U.S. dollar would reduce the value of the portfolio security. In addition, if the currency in which the Fund receives dividends, interest or other payments declines in value against the U.S. dollar before such income is distributed as dividends to shareholders or converted to U.S. dollars, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to pay such dividends.

Brokerage commissions, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in international securities markets generally are more expensive than in the United States. In addition, clearance and settlement procedures may be different in foreign countries and, in certain markets, such procedures have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, thus making it difficult to conduct such transactions.

Foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. issuers. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than about a U.S. issuer. In addition, there is generally less government regulation of foreign markets, companies and securities dealers than in the United States, and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Furthermore, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is a possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividend or interest payments (or, in some cases, capital gains distributions), limitations on the removal of funds or other assets from such countries, and risks of political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Concentration of the Fund's assets in one or a few countries and currencies will subject the Fund to greater risks than if the Fund's assets were not geographically concentrated.

Investments in foreign securities may take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs"), European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs") or other similar instruments representing securities of foreign issuers. ADRs, GDRs and EDRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs and certain GDRs are traded in the United States. GDRs may be

traded either in the United States or foreign markets. EDRs are traded primarily outside the United States. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. Similarly, EDRs and GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

**Risks of Euro.** On January 1, 1999, the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) introduced a new single currency called the euro. The euro has replaced the national currencies of the following member countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. In addition, ten new countries, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, are preparing for entry into the EMU in 2004.

The new European Central Bank has control over each country's monetary policies. Therefore, the member countries no longer control their own monetary policies by directing independent interest rates for their currencies. The national governments of the participating countries, however, have retained the authority to set tax and spending policies and public debt levels.

The change to the euro as a single currency is relatively new and untested. The elimination of currency risk among EMU countries has affected the economic environment and behavior of investors, particularly in European markets, but the long-term impact of those changes on currency values or on the business or financial condition of European countries and issuers cannot be fully assessed at this time. In addition, the introduction of the euro presents other unique uncertainties, including the fluctuation of the euro relative to non-euro currencies; whether the interest rate, tax and labor regimes of European countries participating in the euro will converge over time; and whether the conversion of the currencies of other countries that now are or may in the future become members of the European Union ("EU") will have an impact on the euro. Also it is possible that the euro could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use. These or other events, including political and economic developments, could cause market disruptions, and could adversely affect the value of securities held by the Fund. Because of the number of countries using this single currency, a significant portion of the assets held by the Fund may be denominated in the euro.

**Risks of Emerging Countries.** The Fund may invest in securities of issuers located in emerging countries. The risks of foreign investment are heightened when the issuer is located in an emerging country. Emerging countries are generally located in the Asia and Pacific regions, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Latin, Central and South America and

Africa. The Fund's purchase and sale of portfolio securities in certain emerging countries may be constrained by limitations relating to daily changes in the prices of listed securities, periodic trading or settlement volume and/or limitations on aggregate holdings of foreign investors. Such limitations may be computed based on the aggregate trading volume by or holdings of the Fund, the Investment Adviser, its affiliates and their respective clients and other service providers. The Fund may not be able to sell securities in circumstances where price, trading or settlement volume limitations have been reached.

Foreign investment in the securities markets of certain emerging countries is restricted or controlled to varying degrees which may limit investment in such countries or increase the administrative costs of such investments. For example, certain Asian countries require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit investment by foreign persons to only a specified percentage of an issuer's outstanding securities or a specific class of securities which may have less advantageous terms (including price) than securities of the issuer available for purchase by nationals. In addition, certain countries may restrict or prohibit investment opportunities in issuers or industries deemed important to national interests. Such restrictions may affect the market price, liquidity and rights of securities that may be purchased by the Fund. The repatriation of both investment income and capital from certain emerging countries is subject to restrictions such as the need for governmental consents. In situations where a country restricts direct investment in securities (which may occur in certain Asian and other countries) the Fund may invest in such countries through other investment funds in such countries.

Many emerging countries have experienced currency devaluations and substantial (and, in some cases, extremely high) rates of inflation. Other emerging countries have experienced economic recessions. These circumstances have had a negative effect on the economies and securities markets of such emerging countries. Economies in emerging countries generally are dependent heavily upon commodity prices and international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by the economies of their trading partners, trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade.

Many emerging countries are subject to a substantial degree of economic, political and social instability. Governments of some emerging countries are authoritarian in nature or have been installed or removed as a result of military coups, while

governments in other emerging countries have periodically used force to suppress civil dissent. Disparities of wealth, the pace and success of democratization, and ethnic, religious and racial disaffection, among other factors, have also led to social unrest, violence and/or labor unrest in some emerging countries. Unanticipated political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses. Investing in emerging countries involves greater risk of loss due to expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested. As an example, in the past some Eastern European governments have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and many claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that similar expropriations will not recur in Eastern Europe or other countries.

The Fund's investment in emerging countries may also be subject to withholding or other taxes, which may be significant and may reduce the return from an investment in such countries to the Fund.

Settlement procedures in emerging countries are frequently less developed and reliable than those in the United States and may involve the Fund's delivery of securities before receipt of payment for their sale. In addition, significant delays may occur in certain markets in registering the transfer of securities. Settlement or registration problems may make it more difficult for the Fund to value its portfolio securities and could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities, to have a portion of its assets uninvested or to incur losses due to the failure of a counterparty to pay for securities the Fund has delivered or the Fund's inability to complete its contractual obligations because of theft or other reasons.

The creditworthiness of the local securities firms used by the Fund in emerging countries may not be as sound as the creditworthiness of firms used in more developed countries. As a result, the Fund may be subject to a greater risk of loss if a securities firm defaults in the performance of its responsibilities.

The small size and inexperience of the securities markets in certain emerging countries and the limited volume of trading in securities in those countries may make the Fund's investments in such countries less liquid and more volatile than investments in countries with more developed securities markets (such as the United States, Japan and most Western European countries). The Fund's investments in emerging countries are subject to the risk that the liquidity of a particular investment, or investments generally, in such countries will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political conditions, or



adverse investor perceptions, whether or not accurate. Because of the lack of sufficient market liquidity, the Fund may incur losses because it will be required to effect sales at a disadvantageous time and then only at a substantial drop in price. Investments in emerging countries may be more difficult to price precisely because of the characteristics discussed above and lower trading volumes.

The Fund's use of foreign currency management techniques in emerging countries may be limited. Due to the limited market for these instruments in emerging countries, the Investment Adviser does not currently anticipate that a significant portion of the Fund's currency exposure in emerging countries, if any, will be covered by such instruments.

**Risks of Illiquid Securities.** The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities which cannot be disposed of in seven days in the ordinary course of business at fair value. Illiquid securities include:

- Both domestic and foreign securities that are not readily marketable
- Repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days
- Certain over-the-counter options
- Certain structured securities and all swap transactions
- Certain restricted securities, unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so called "4(2) commercial paper" or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 ("144A Securities").

Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund's portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

**Credit/Default Risks.** Debt securities purchased by the Fund may include securities (including zero coupon bonds) issued by the U.S. government (and its agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises), foreign governments, domestic and foreign corporations, banks and other issuers. Some of these fixed-income securities are described in the next section below. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement.

Debt securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's") or Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO are considered "invest-

ment grade." Securities rated BBB or Baa are considered medium-grade obligations with speculative characteristics, and adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances may weaken the issuers' capacity to pay interest and repay principal. A security will be deemed to have met a rating requirement if it receives the minimum required rating from at least one such rating organization even though it has been rated below the minimum rating by one or more other rating organizations, or if unrated by such rating organizations, the security is determined by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. A security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement regardless of its relative ranking (for example, plus or minus) within a designated major rating category (for example, BBB or Baa). If a security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, the Investment Adviser will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

The Fund may invest in fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) which are commonly referred to as "junk bonds." Junk bonds are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments.

In some cases, junk bonds may be highly speculative, have poor prospects for reaching investment grade standing and be in default. As a result, investment in such bonds will present greater speculative risks than those associated with investment in investment grade bonds. Also, to the extent that the rating assigned to a security in the Fund's portfolio is downgraded by a rating organization, the market price and liquidity of such security may be adversely affected.

**Temporary Investment Risks.** The Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, invest a certain percentage of its total assets in:

- U.S. government securities
- Commercial paper rated at least A-2 by Standard & Poor's, P-2 by Moody's or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO
- Certificates of deposit
- Bankers' acceptances
- Repurchase agreements
- Non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible corporate bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year

When the Fund's assets are invested in such instruments, the Fund may not be achieving its investment objective.

**Risks of Initial Public Offerings (“IPOs”).** The Fund may invest in IPOs. An IPO is a company’s first offering of stock to the public. IPO risk is the risk that the market value of IPO shares will fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, the small number of shares available for trading and limited information about the issuer. The purchase of IPO shares may involve high transaction costs. IPO shares are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. When the Fund’s asset base is small, a significant portion of the Fund’s performance could be attributable to investments in IPOs, because such investments would have a magnified impact on the Fund. As the Fund’s assets grow, the effect of the Fund’s investments in IPOs on the Fund’s performance probably will decline, which could reduce the Fund’s performance. Because of the price volatility of IPO shares, the Fund may choose to hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase the turnover of the Fund’s portfolio and may lead to increased expenses to the Fund, such as commissions and transaction costs. In addition, the market for IPO shares can be speculative and/or inactive for extended periods of time. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to obtain allocable portions of IPO shares. The limited number of shares available for trading in some IPOs may make it more difficult for the Fund to buy or sell significant amounts of shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing prices. Investors in IPO shares can be affected by substantial dilution in the value of their shares, by sales of additional shares and by concentration of control in existing management and principal shareholders.

### C. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND TECHNIQUES

This section provides further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks.

The Fund may purchase other types of securities or instruments similar to those described in this section if otherwise consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and policies. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request.

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; (b) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; (c) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the issuer; or (d) only the credit of the issuer. U.S. Government Securities also include Treasury

receipts, zero coupon bonds and other stripped U.S. Government Securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. Government Securities are traded independently.

**Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates.** The Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. government securities or other types of securities in which the Fund may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. If for tax purposes, the Fund is not considered to be the owner of the underlying securities held in the custodial or trust account, the Fund may suffer adverse tax consequences. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Fund may also invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

**Mortgage-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in mortgage-backed securities. Mortgage-backed securities represent direct or indirect participations in, or are collateralized by and payable from, mortgage loans secured by real property. Mortgage-backed securities can be backed by either fixed rate mortgage loans or adjustable rate mortgage loans, and may be issued by either a governmental or non-governmental entity. Privately issued mortgage-backed securities are normally structured with one or more types of “credit enhancement.” However, these mortgage-backed securities typically do not have the same credit standing as U.S. government guaranteed mortgage-backed securities.

Mortgage-backed securities may include multiple class securities, including collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) and Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit (“REMIC”) pass-through or participation certificates. A REMIC is a CMO that qualifies for special tax treatment and invests in certain mortgages principally secured by interests in real property and other permitted investments. CMOs provide an investor with a specified interest in the cash flow from a pool of underlying mortgages or of other mortgage-backed securities. CMOs are issued in multiple classes each with a specified fixed or floating interest rate and a final scheduled distribution rate. In many cases, payments of principal are applied to the CMO



classes in the order of their respective stated maturities, so that no principal payments will be made on a CMO class until all other classes having an earlier stated maturity date are paid in full.

Sometimes, however, CMO classes are “parallel pay,” *i.e.*, payments of principal are made to two or more classes concurrently. In some cases, CMOs may have the characteristics of a stripped mortgage-backed security whose price can be highly volatile. CMOs may exhibit more or less price volatility and interest rate risk than other types of mortgage-related obligations, and under certain interest rate and payment scenarios, a Fund may fail to recoup fully its investment in certain of these securities regardless of their credit quality.

Mortgage-backed securities also include stripped mortgage-backed securities (“SMBS”), which are derivative multiple class mortgage-backed securities. SMBS are usually structured with two different classes: one that receives substantially all of the interest payments and the other that receives substantially all of the principal payments from a pool of mortgage loans. The market value of SMBS consisting entirely of principal payments generally is unusually volatile in response to changes in interest rates. The yields on SMBS that receive all or most of the interest from mortgage loans are generally higher than prevailing market yields on other mortgage-backed securities because their cash flow patterns are more volatile and there is a greater risk that the initial investment will not be fully recouped.

**Asset-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in asset-backed securities. Asset-backed securities are securities whose principal and interest payments are collateralized by pools of assets such as auto loans, credit card receivables, leases, installment contracts and personal property. Asset-backed securities are often subject to more rapid repayment than their stated maturity date would indicate as a result of the pass-through of prepayments of principal on the underlying loans. During periods of declining interest rates, prepayment of loans underlying asset-backed securities can be expected to accelerate. Accordingly, the Fund’s ability to maintain positions in such securities will be affected by reductions in the principal amount of such securities resulting from prepayments, and its ability to reinvest the returns of principal at comparable yields is subject to generally prevailing interest rates at that time. Asset-backed securities present credit risks that are not presented by mortgage-backed securities. This is because asset-backed securities generally do not have the benefit of a security interest in collateral that is comparable to mortgage assets. If the issuer of an asset-backed security defaults on its payment obligations, there is the possibility that, in some cases, the Fund will be unable to possess and sell the

underlying collateral and that the Fund’s recoveries on repossessed collateral may not be available to support payments on the securities. In the event of a default, the Fund may suffer a loss if it cannot sell collateral quickly and receive the amount it is owed.

**Bank Obligations.** The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks. Bank obligations, including without limitation, time deposits, bankers’ acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by government regulations. Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

**Corporate Debt Obligations and Convertible Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations and convertible securities. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures, commercial paper and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal, and include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations issued by U.S. and certain non-U.S. issuers which issue securities denominated in the U.S. dollar (including Yankee and Euro obligations). In addition to obligations of corporations, corporate debt obligations include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions and supranational entities (*i.e.*, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.).

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are preferred stock or debt obligations that are convertible into common stock. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities in which the Fund invests are subject to the same rating criteria as its other investments in fixed income securities. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security exceeds the conversion price

of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

**Rating Criteria.** The Fund may invest in debt securities rated at least investment grade at the time of investment. Investment grade debt securities are securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's, Baa or higher by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO. The Fund may invest up to 10% of its Total Assets in debt securities which are rated in the lowest rating categories by Standard & Poor's, Moody's (*i.e.*, BB or lower by Standard & Poor's or Ba or lower by Moody's or have a comparable rating by another NRSRO), including securities rated D by Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Fixed-income securities rated BB or Ba or below (or comparable unrated securities) are commonly referred to as "junk bonds," are considered predominately speculative and may be questionable as to principal and interest payments as described above.

**Structured Securities.** The Fund may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indices or other financial indicators (the "Reference") or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than many types of securities and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Fund may, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase or sell foreign currencies on a cash basis or through forward contracts. A forward contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates. In addition, the Fund may enter into foreign currency transactions to seek a closer correlation

between the Fund's overall currency exposures and the currency exposures of the Fund's performance benchmark. The Fund may also enter into such transactions to seek to increase total return, which is considered a speculative practice.

The Fund may also engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in a currency different from that in which the hedged security is denominated or quoted. The Fund may hold foreign currency received in connection with investments in foreign securities when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, it would be beneficial to convert such currency into U.S. dollars at a later date (*e.g.*, the Investment Adviser may anticipate that the foreign currency will appreciate against the U.S. dollar).

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time causing, along with other factors, the Fund's NAV to fluctuate (when the Fund's NAV fluctuates, the value of your shares may go up or down). Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by the intervention of U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. The market in forward foreign currency exchange contracts and other privately negotiated currency instruments offers less protection against defaults by the other party to such instruments than is available for currency instruments traded on an exchange. Such contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the contract will default on its obligations. Since these contracts are not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on a contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or could force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price.

**Options on Securities, Securities Indices and Foreign Currencies.** A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying instrument during the option period. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument during the option period. The Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options and purchase put and call options on any securities in which the Fund may invest or on any securities index consisting of securities in which it may invest. The Fund may also, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase and sell (write) put and call options on foreign currencies.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves special investment risks. Options may be used for either hedging or cross-hedging purposes, or to

seek to increase total return (which is considered a speculative activity). The successful use of options depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities (or currency) markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in market prices or determination of the correlation between the instruments or indices on which options are written and purchased and the instruments in the Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The use of options can also increase the Fund's transaction costs. Options written or purchased by the Fund may be traded on either U.S. or foreign exchanges or over-the-counter. Foreign and over-the-counter options will present greater possibility of loss because of their greater illiquidity and credit risks.

#### ***Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.***

Futures contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that provide for the sale or purchase of a specified financial instrument or currency at a future time at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (and the writer of the option the obligation) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price within a specified period of time. A futures contract may be based on particular securities, foreign currencies, securities indices and other financial instruments and indices. The Fund may engage in futures transactions on U.S. and foreign exchanges.

The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, and purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts, in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in interest rates, securities prices or to the extent the Fund invests in foreign securities, currency exchange rates or to otherwise manage its term structure, sector selection and duration in accordance with its investment objectives and policies. The Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts and related options present the following risks:

- While the Fund may benefit from the use of futures and options on futures, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance than if the Fund had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions.
- Because perfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position that is intended to be protected is impossible to achieve, the desired protection may not be obtained and the Fund may be exposed to additional risk of loss.
- The loss incurred by the Fund in entering into futures contracts and in writing call options on futures is potentially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the premium received.
- Futures markets are highly volatile and the use of futures may increase the volatility of a Fund's NAV.
- As a result of the low margin deposits normally required in futures trading, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- Futures contracts and options on futures may be illiquid, and exchanges may limit fluctuations in futures contract prices during a single day.
- Foreign exchanges may not provide the same protection as U.S. exchanges.

***Preferred Stock, Warrants and Rights.*** The Fund may invest in preferred stock, warrants and rights. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock.

Warrants and other rights are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price at any time during the life of the warrant or right. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

***Other Investment Companies.*** The Fund may invest in other investment companies (including exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup>, as defined below) subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the Investment Company Act. These limitations include a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by such other investment companies. Although the Fund does not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, the Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series

thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, other investment companies in which the Fund may invest include money market funds for which the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator or distributor.

Exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup> are shares of unaffiliated investment companies which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> National Market System.

■ **Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup>**. The Fund may, consistent with its investment policies, purchase Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts<sup>TM</sup> ("SPDRs"). SPDRs are securities traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") that represent ownership in the SPDR Trust, a trust which has been established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>. The SPDR Trust is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading, or reducing transaction costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price action of the S&P 500<sup>®</sup>.

■ **iShares<sup>SM</sup>**. iShares are shares of an investment company that invests substantially all of its assets in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares on the AMEX. However, iShares have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, the Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares as part of its investment strategy.

**Unseasoned Companies.** The Fund may invest in companies (together with their predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may

have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

**Equity Swaps.** The Fund may invest in equity swaps. Equity swaps allow the parties to a swap agreement to exchange the dividend income or other components of return on an equity investment (for example, a group of equity securities or an index) for a component of return on another non-equity or equity investment.

An equity swap may be used by the Fund to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in circumstances in which direct investment may be restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise deemed impractical or disadvantageous. Equity swaps are derivatives and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that the Investment Adviser does not accurately analyze and predict the potential relative fluctuation of the components swapped with another party, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The value of some components of an equity swap (such as the dividends on a common stock) may also be sensitive to changes in interest rates. Furthermore, the Fund may suffer a loss if the counterparty defaults. Because equity swaps are normally illiquid, the Fund may be unable to terminate its obligations when desired.

**When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.**

The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and make contracts to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. When-issued securities are securities that have been authorized, but not yet issued. When-issued securities are purchased in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. A forward commitment involves the entering into a contract to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond the customary settlement period.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines before the settlement date. Conversely, the sale of securities on a forward commitment basis involves the risk that the value of the securities sold may increase before the settlement date. Although a Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of when-issued securities or forward commitments prior to settlement if the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate.

**Repurchase Agreements.** Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of securities subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with securities dealers and banks which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of its repurchase obligation.

If the other party or "seller" defaults, the Fund might suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the underlying securities and other collateral held by the Fund are less than the repurchase price and the Fund's costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the seller, the Fund could suffer additional losses if a court determines that the Fund's interest in the collateral is not enforceable.

The Fund, together with other registered investment companies having advisory agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

**Lending of Portfolio Securities.** The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the lending of securities owned by the Fund to financial institutions such as certain broker-dealers, including, as permitted by the SEC, Goldman Sachs. The borrowers are required to secure their loans continuously with cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or letters of credit in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash collateral may be invested by the Fund in short-term investments, including unregistered investment pools managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates and from which the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may receive fees. To the extent that cash collateral is so invested, such collateral will be subject to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund will be responsible for any loss that might result from its investment of the borrowers' collateral. If the Investment Adviser determines to make securities loans, the value of the securities loaned may not exceed 33⅓% of the value of the total assets of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of that collateral) is not

subject to the percentage limitations described elsewhere in this Prospectus regarding investments in fixed-income instruments and cash equivalents.

The Fund may lend its securities to increase its income. The Fund may, however, experience delay in the recovery of its securities or incur a loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund or becomes insolvent.

**Short Sales Against-the-Box.** The Fund may make short sales against-the-box. A short sale against-the-box means that at all times when a short position is open the Fund will own an equal amount of securities sold short, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for, without payment of any further consideration, an equal amount of the securities of the same issuer as the securities sold short.

**Borrowings.** The Fund can borrow money from banks and other financial institutions in amounts not exceeding one-third of their total assets for temporary or emergency purposes. The Fund may not make additional investments if borrowings exceed 5% of its total assets.

**REITs.** The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in either real estate or real estate related loans. The value of a REIT is affected by changes in the value of the properties owned by the REIT or securing mortgage loans held by the REIT. REITs are dependent upon the ability of the REITs' managers, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and the qualification of the REITs under applicable regulatory requirements for favorable income tax treatment. REITs are also subject to risks generally associated with investments in real estate including possible declines in the value of real estate, general and local economic conditions, environmental problems and changes in interest rates. To the extent that assets underlying a REIT are concentrated geographically, by property type or in certain other respects, these risks may be heightened. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any expenses, including management fees, paid by a REIT in which it invests.



## Appendix B

### Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the periods ended December 31, 2000 and thereafter has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's annual report (available upon request without charge). The information for all periods prior to the year ended December 31, 2000 has been audited by the Fund's previous independent auditors, who have ceased operations.

	Net asset value, beginning of year	Income (loss) from investment operations			Distributions to shareholders			Net asset value, end of year	Total return <sup>(a)</sup> (in 000s)	Net assets at end of year (in 000s)	Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	Ratios assuming no expense reductions		Portfolio turnover rate
		Net investment income	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	From net realized gain	Total distributions						Ratio of expenses to average net assets	Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	
<b>Capital Growth Fund</b>															
For the year ended December 31, 2003	\$ 7.77	\$0.03 (b)	\$ 1.81	\$ 1.84	\$(0.02)	\$ —	\$(0.02)	\$ 9.59	23.74%	\$179,694	1.02%	0.38%	1.43%	(0.03)%	16%
For the year ended December 31, 2002	10.28	0.01 (b)	(2.50)	(2.49)	(0.02)	—	(0.02)	7.77	(24.33)	18,052	1.10	0.16	1.77	(0.51)	24
For the year ended December 31, 2001	12.09	0.02 (b)	(1.78)	(1.76)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.05)	10.28	(14.46)	16,266	1.00	0.15	1.69	(0.54)	39
For the year ended December 31, 2000	14.01	0.01 (b)	(1.16)	(1.15)	(0.01)	(0.76)	(0.77)	12.09	(7.98)	16,775	0.99	0.13	1.84	(0.72)	37
For the year ended December 31, 1999	11.31	0.01	3.04	3.05	(0.01)	(0.34)	(0.35)	14.01	27.13	10,450	0.90	0.04	3.13	(2.19)	34

Footnotes:

(a) Assumes investment at the net asset value at the beginning of the year; reinvestment of all distributions and a complete redemption of the investment at the net asset value at the end of the year.

(b) Calculated based on the average shares outstanding methodology.

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# Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust

## Prospectus

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Annual/Semi-annual Report

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Your insurance company will provide you with annual and semi-annual reports if the Fund serves as the investment vehicle for your variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy.

#### Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Fund and its policies is also available in the Fund's Additional Statement. The Additional Statement is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (is legally considered part of this Prospectus).

The Additional Statement is available free upon request by calling Goldman Sachs at 1-800-621-2550.

To obtain other information and for shareholder inquiries:

By telephone – 1-800-621-2550

By mail – Goldman Sachs Funds  
4900 Sears Tower, 51<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60606-6372

By e-mail – [gs-funds@gs.com](mailto:gs-funds@gs.com)

On the Internet – Text-only versions of Trust documents are located online and may be downloaded from:  
SEC EDGAR database – <http://www.sec.gov>

You may review and obtain copies of Trust documents by visiting the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. You may also obtain copies of Trust documents, after paying a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 or by electronic request to: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov). Information on the operation of the public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.



**Asset  
Management**

The Trust's investment company registration number is 811-08361.  
GSAM® is a registered service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

# Prospectus

April 29, 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

■ Goldman Sachs CORE<sup>SM</sup>  
U.S. Equity Fund

Shares of the Trust are offered to separate accounts of participating life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND IS NOT A BANK DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUND INVOLVES INVESTMENT RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE MONEY IN THE FUND.



**Asset  
Management**

NOT FDIC-INSURED	May Lose Value	No Bank Guarantee
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# General Investment Management Approach

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM®”), serves as investment adviser to the CORE U.S. Equity Fund. GSAM is referred to in this Prospectus as the “Investment Adviser.”

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) offers shares of the Fund to separate accounts of participating insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the public. The participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. The Fund pools the monies of these separate accounts and invests these monies in a portfolio of securities pursuant to the Fund’s stated investment objective.

The investment objective and policies of the Fund are similar to the investment objectives and policies of other mutual funds that the Investment Adviser manages. Although the objectives and policies may be similar, the investment results of the Fund may be higher or lower than the results of such other mutual funds. The Investment Adviser cannot guarantee, and makes no representation, that the investment results of similar funds will be comparable even though the funds have the same Investment Adviser.

## QUANTITATIVE (“CORE”) STYLE FUND

### GSAM’s CORE Investment Philosophy:

GSAM’s quantitative style of funds—CORE (Computer Optimized Research Enhanced)—emphasizes the two building blocks of active management: **stock selection** and **portfolio construction**.

#### I. CORE Stock Selection

The CORE U.S. Equity Fund (the “CORE Fund”) uses the GSAM’s proprietary multifactor model (“Multifactor Model”), a rigorous computerized rating system, to forecast the returns of securities held in the Fund’s portfolio. The Multifactor Model incorporates common variables covering measures of:

- **Analyst Sentiment** (What do fundamental analysts think about the company and its prospects?)

- **Valuation** (How is the company priced relative to fundamental accounting measures?)
- **Momentum** (What are medium-term price trends? How has the price responded to new information?)
- **Profitability** (What is the company’s margin on sales? How efficient are its operations?)
- **Earnings Quality** (Were earnings derived from sustainable (cash-based) sources?)
- **Management Impact** (Are companies using capital to enhance shareholder value?)

*All of the above factors are carefully evaluated within the Multifactor Model since each has demonstrated a significant impact on the performance of the securities and markets they were designed to forecast. Stock selection in this process combines both our quantitative and qualitative analysis.*

#### II. CORE Portfolio Construction

A proprietary risk model, which is intended to identify and measure risk as accurately as possible, includes all the above factors used in the return model to select stocks, as well as several other factors associated with risk but not return. In this process, the Investment Adviser manages risk by attempting to limit deviations from the benchmark, and by attempting to run a size and sector neutral portfolio. A **computer optimizer** evaluates many different security combinations (considering many possible weightings) in an effort to **construct the most efficient risk/return portfolio** given the CORE Fund’s benchmark.

The Fund is fully invested, broadly diversified and offers consistent overall portfolio characteristics. It may serve as a good foundation on which to build a portfolio.

References in this Prospectus to the Fund’s benchmark are for informational purposes only, and unless otherwise noted are not an indication of how the Fund is managed.

# Fund Investment Objective and Strategies

## Goldman Sachs CORE U.S. Equity Fund

### FUND FACTS

<b>Objective:</b>	Long-term growth of capital and dividend income
<b>Benchmark:</b>	S&P 500® Index
<b>Investment Focus:</b>	Large-cap U.S. equity investments
<b>Investment Style:</b>	Quantitative, applied to large-cap growth and value (blend) stocks

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term growth of capital and dividend income. The Fund seeks this objective through a broadly diversified portfolio of large-cap and blue chip equity investments representing all major sectors of the U.S. economy.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Equity Investments.** The Fund invests, under normal circumstances, at least 90% of its total assets (not including securities lending collateral and any investment of that collateral) measured at time of purchase in a diversified portfolio of equity investments in U.S. issuers, including foreign companies that are traded in the United States.

The Fund's investments are selected using both a variety of quantitative techniques and fundamental research in seeking to maximize the Fund's expected return, while maintaining risk, style, capitalization and industry characteristics similar to the S&P 500® Index. The Fund seeks a broad representation in most major sectors of the U.S. economy. The Fund is not required to limit its investments to securities in the S&P 500 Index.

**Other.** The Fund's investments in fixed-income securities are limited to securities that are considered cash equivalents.



## Other Investment Practices and Securities

The table below identifies some of the investment techniques that may (but are not required to) be used by the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objective. Numbers in this table show allowable usage only; for actual usage, consult the Fund's annual/semi-annual reports. For more information about these and other investment practices and securities, see Appendix A.

<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <p>• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</p>	CORE U.S. Equity Fund
<b>Investment Practices</b>	
Borrowings	33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
Cross Hedging of Currencies	•
Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates	•
Equity Swaps*	15
Foreign Currency Transactions**	•
Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts <sup>1</sup>	•
Investment Company Securities (including iShares <sup>SM</sup> and Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts <sup>TM</sup> )	10
Options on Foreign Currencies <sup>2</sup>	•
Options on Securities and Securities Indices <sup>3</sup>	•
Repurchase Agreements	•
Securities Lending	33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
Unseasoned Companies	•
Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights	•
When-Issued and Forward Commitments	•
<p>10 Percent of total assets (including securities lending collateral) (<i>italic type</i>)</p> <p>10 Percent of net assets (excluding borrowings for investment purposes) (roman type)</p> <p>• No specific percentage limitation on usage; limited only by the objective and strategies of the Fund</p>	
<b>Investment Securities</b>	
American and Global Depositary Receipts	•
Bank Obligations <sup>4</sup>	•
Convertible Securities <sup>5</sup>	•
Corporate Debt Obligations <sup>4</sup>	•
Equity Investments	90+
Fixed Income Securities <sup>4,6</sup>	10
Foreign Securities <sup>7</sup>	•
Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	•
Structured Securities*	•
Temporary Investments	35
U.S. Government Securities <sup>4</sup>	•

\* Limited to 15% of net assets (together with other illiquid securities) for all structured securities which are not deemed to be liquid and all swap transactions.

\*\* Limited by the amount the Fund invests in foreign securities.

<sup>1</sup> The Fund may enter into futures transactions only with respect to the S&P 500® Index.

<sup>2</sup> The Fund may purchase and sell call and put options.

<sup>3</sup> The Fund may sell covered call and put options and purchase call and put options.

<sup>4</sup> Limited by the amount the Fund invests in fixed-income securities. Fixed income securities are limited to cash equivalents only.

<sup>5</sup> The Fund has no minimum rating criteria for convertible debt securities.

<sup>6</sup> Except as noted under "Convertible Securities," fixed-income securities must be investment grade (i.e., BBB or higher by Standard & Poor's Rating Group ("Standard & Poor's"), Baa or higher by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's")) or have a comparable rating by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO") at the time of investment.

<sup>7</sup> Equity securities of foreign issuers must be traded in the United States.

# Principal Risks of the Fund

Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. The following summarizes important risks that apply to the Fund and may result in a loss of your investment. The Fund should not be relied upon as a complete investment program. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

- Applicable

Fund	Interest Rate	Credit/Default	Foreign	Derivatives	Management	Liquidity	Market	Investment Style	Stock
CORE U.S. Equity	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

## RISKS THAT APPLY TO THE FUND:

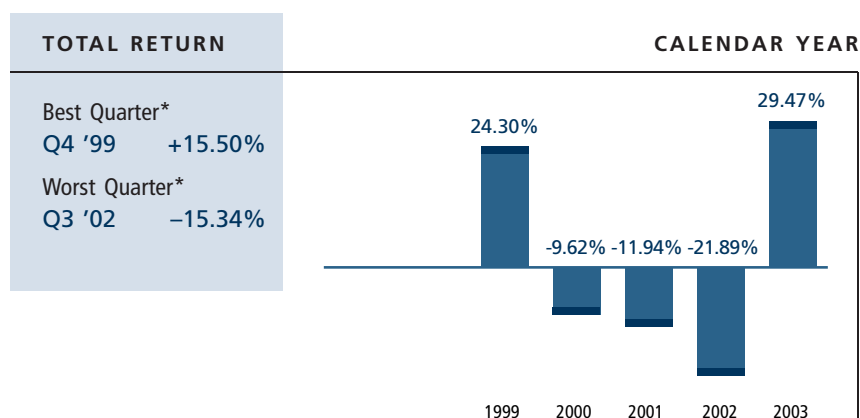
- **Interest Rate Risk**—The risk that when interest rates increase, fixed income securities held by the Fund will decline in value. Long-term fixed-income securities will normally have more price volatility because of this risk than short-term fixed-income securities.
  - **Credit/Default Risk**—The risk that an issuer or guarantor of fixed-income securities held by the Fund may default on its obligation to pay interest and repay principal.
  - **Foreign Risk**—The risk that when the Fund invests in foreign securities, it will be subject to risks of loss not typically associated with domestic issuers. Loss may result because of less foreign government regulation, less public information and less economic, political and social stability. Loss may also result from the imposition of exchange controls, confiscations and other government restrictions. The Fund will also be subject to the risk of negative foreign currency rate fluctuations. Foreign risks will normally be greatest when the Fund invests in issuers located in emerging countries.
  - **Derivatives Risk**—The risk that loss may result from the Fund's investments in options, futures, swaps, structured securities and other derivative instruments. These instruments may be leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses to the Fund.
  - **Management Risk**—The risk that a strategy used by the Investment Adviser may fail to produce the intended results.
  - **Liquidity Risk**—The risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the time period stated in this Prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. A Fund that invests in REITs will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods the liquidity of particular issuers or industries or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions whether or not accurate.
  - **Market Risk**—The risk that the value of the securities in which the Fund invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies, particular industry sectors or governments and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or last for extended periods. The Fund's investments may be overweighted from time to time in one or more industry sectors, which will increase the Fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those sectors.
  - **Investment Style Risk**—Different investment styles tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions as well as investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that employ a different investment style. Examples of different investment styles include growth and value investing. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks because they are more sensitive to investor perceptions of the issuing company's growth of earnings potential. Also, since growth companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their business, growth stocks may lack the dividends of some value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. Growth oriented funds will typically underperform when value investing is in favor. Value stocks are those that are undervalued in comparison to their peers due to adverse business developments or other factors.
  - **Stock Risk**—The risk that stock prices have historically risen and fallen in periodic cycles. Recently, U.S. and foreign stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.
- More information about the Fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and their associated risks, is provided in Appendix A. You should consider the investment risks discussed in this section and in Appendix A. Both are important to your investment choice.

# Fund Performance

## HOW THE FUND HAS PERFORMED

The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing: (a) changes in the performance of the Fund's shares from year to year; and (b) how the average annual total returns of the Fund's shares compares to those of a broad-based securities market index.

The bar chart and table assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Performance reflects expense limitations in effect. If expense limitations were not in place, the Fund's performance would have been reduced. In addition, performance reflects Fund level expenses but does not reflect the fees and expenses associated with any variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy that uses the Fund as an investment option for any contract or policy. Had performance reflected all of those fees and expenses, performance would have been reduced.



## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN

For the period ended December 31, 2003	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund (Inception 2/13/98)</b>	29.47%	0.01%	2.37%
<b>S&amp;P 500® Index**</b>	28.69%	-0.57%	2.88%

\* Please note that "Best Quarter" and "Worst Quarter" figures are applicable only to the time period covered by the bar chart.

\*\* The S&P 500® Index is the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Price Index of 500 stocks, an unmanaged index of common stock prices. The Index figures do not reflect any deduction for fees or expenses.

## Fund Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you buy and hold Shares of the Fund.

	CORE U.S. Equity Fund
<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment):	
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends	None
Redemption Fees	None
Exchange Fees	None
<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that are deducted from Fund assets): <sup>1</sup>	
Management Fees	0.70%
Distribution and Service Fees	None
Other Expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.15%
<b>Total Fund Operating Expenses<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.85%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Fund's annual operating expenses are based on actual expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> "Other Expenses" include transfer agency fees and expenses equal on an annualized basis to 0.04% of the average daily net assets of the Fund plus all other ordinary expenses not detailed above. Effective December 22, 2003, the Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to limit "Other Expenses" (excluding management fees, transfer agent fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage, litigation and indemnification costs, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) and "Total Fund Operating Expenses" to the extent that such expenses exceed, on an annual basis, 0.16% and 0.90%, respectively of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to maintain these expense limitations through June 30, 2005.

## Example

The following Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund (without the waivers and expense limitations) with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

**Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies and are not reflected in the Table above and Example below. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses. Such fees or charges, if any, may affect the return you may realize with respect to your investments.**

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in Shares of the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Fund	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
CORE U.S. Equity	\$87	\$271	\$471	\$1,049

Certain participating insurance companies that invest in Shares may receive other compensation in connection with the sale and distribution of Shares or for services to their customers' accounts and/or the Fund. For additional information regarding such compensation, see "Service Providers" in the Prospectus and "Other Information" in the Statement of Additional Information ("Additional Statement").

# Service Providers

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. ("GSAM")  
32 Old Slip  
New York, New York 10005

GSAM has been registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") since 1990 and is an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"). As of December 31, 2003, GSAM, along with other units of the Investment Management Division of Goldman Sachs, had assets under management of \$375.7 billion.

The Investment Adviser provides day-to-day advice regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. The Investment Adviser makes the investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund's portfolio transactions in U.S. and foreign markets. As permitted by applicable law, these orders may be directed to any brokers, including Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. While the Investment Adviser is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. In addition, the Investment Adviser has access to the research and certain proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs, and may apply quantitative and qualitative analysis in determining the appropriate allocations among categories of issuers and types of securities.

The Investment Adviser also performs the following additional services for the Fund:

- Supervises all non-advisory operations of the Fund

- Provides personnel to perform necessary executive, administrative and clerical services to the Fund
- Arranges for the preparation of all required tax returns, reports to shareholders, prospectuses and Additional Statements and other reports filed with the SEC and other regulatory authorities
- Maintains the records of the Fund
- Provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services

The Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to participating insurance companies for administrative services that such companies provide to their variable annuity and variable life insurance contract owners who are invested in the Fund. In addition, the Investment Adviser, distributor, and/or their affiliates may, from time to time, pay compensation from their own assets (and not as an additional charge to the Fund) to various securities dealers (including affiliates of participating insurance companies) that distribute variable annuity contracts and/or variable life insurance contracts of such companies in connection with the sale, distribution and/or servicing of such contracts and, subject to applicable National Association of Securities Dealers rules, contribute to various cash and non-cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of such contracts.

As compensation for its services and its assumption of certain expenses, the Investment Adviser is entitled to a fee, computed daily and payable monthly, at an annual rate of 0.70% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

## QUANTITATIVE EQUITY TEAM

- A stable and growing team supported by an extensive internal staff
- Access to the research ideas of Goldman Sachs' renowned Global Investment Research Department
- Over \$44 billion in equities currently under management

### Quantitative Equity Team

Name and Title	Fund Responsibility	Years Primarily Responsible	Five Year Employment History
Melissa Brown, CFA Managing Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— CORE U.S. Equity	Since 1998	Ms. Brown joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1998. From 1984 to 1998, she was the director of Quantitative Equity Research and served on the Investment Policy Committee at Prudential Securities.
Robert C. Jones, CFA Chief Investment Officer Managing Director	Senior Portfolio Manager— CORE U.S. Equity	Since 1998	Mr. Jones joined the Investment Adviser as a portfolio manager in 1989.
Gary Chropuvka CFA, CFP Vice President	Portfolio Manager— CORE U.S. Equity	Since 2003	Mr. Chropuvka joined the Investment Adviser in 1998 as a member of the Private Equity Partnerships team. He became a member of the Quantitative Equity team in 1999 and is responsible for the construction and trading of the portfolio.

## DISTRIBUTOR AND TRANSFER AGENT

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor (the “Distributor”) of the Fund’s shares. Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6372, also serves as the Fund’s transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and, as such, performs various shareholder servicing functions.

## ACTIVITIES OF GOLDMAN SACHS AND ITS AFFILIATES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS MANAGED BY GOLDMAN SACHS

The involvement of the Investment Adviser, Goldman Sachs and their affiliates in the management of, or their interest in, other accounts and other activities of Goldman Sachs may present conflicts of interest with respect to the Fund or limit the Fund’s investment activities. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds which have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or which engage in and compete for transactions in the same type of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. Goldman Sachs and its affiliates will not have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund. The results of the Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and it is possible that the Fund could sustain losses during periods in which Goldman Sachs and its affiliates and other accounts achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which Goldman Sachs or its other clients have an adverse interest. The Fund’s activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a global financial services firm, Goldman Sachs also provides a wide range of investment banking and financial services to issuers of securities and investors in securities. Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and others associated with it may create markets or specialize in, have positions in and affect transactions in, securities of issuers held by the Funds, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking and financial services for those issuers.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees, the Fund has retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Fund engages in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund’s investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, the Fund may make brokerage and other payments to Goldman Sachs and its affiliates in connection with the Fund’s portfolio investment transactions.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On April 2, 2004, Lois Burke, a plaintiff identifying herself as a shareholder of the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund, filed a purported class and derivative action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (“GSG”), GSAM, the Trustees and Officers of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex, and John Doe Defendants. In addition, certain investment portfolios of the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex (collectively the “Goldman Sachs Funds”) were named as nominal defendants.

The action, which is brought on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased, redeemed or held shares in the Goldman Sachs Funds between April 2, 1999 and January 9, 2004, inclusive (the “Class Period”), alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and common law breach of fiduciary duty. The complaint alleges, among other

things, that during the Class Period, GSAM charged the Goldman Sachs Funds improper Rule 12b-1 fees; made improper brokerage commission and other payments to brokers that sold shares of the Goldman Sachs Funds and made untrue statements of material fact in registration statements and reports filed pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The complaint further alleges that the Goldman Sachs mutual fund complex Officers and Trustees breached their fiduciary duties by, among other things, permitting the payments to occur. The plaintiffs in the case are seeking compensatory damages; punitive damages; rescission of GSAM’s investment advisory agreement and return of fees paid; an accounting of all Goldman Sachs Funds-related fees, commissions and soft dollar payments; restitution of all unlawfully or discriminatorily obtained fees and charges; and reasonable costs and expenses, including counsel fees and expert fees.



# Dividends

Dividends from investment company taxable income and distributions from net realized capital gains (if any) are declared and paid by the Fund at least annually. Over the course of the year, accrued and paid dividends and distributions will equal all or substantially all of the Fund's investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains. All dividends will be automatically reinvested in

additional shares of the Fund at the net asset value ("NAV") of such shares on the payment date, unless an insurance company's separate account is permitted to hold cash and elects to receive payment in cash. From time to time, a portion of the Fund's dividends may constitute a return of capital.

# Shareholder Guide

The following section will provide you with answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding buying and selling the Fund's shares.

## How Can I Purchase Or Sell Shares Of The Fund?

Shares of the Fund are not sold directly to the public. Instead, Fund shares are sold to unaffiliated separate accounts that fund variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts issued by participating insurance companies. You may purchase or sell (redeem) shares of the Fund through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered through the separate accounts. The variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies. You should refer to those prospectuses for information on how to purchase a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, how to select a specific Fund as an investment option for your contract or policy and how to redeem monies from the Fund.

The separate accounts of the participating insurance companies place orders to purchase and redeem shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of premium payments to be invested and the amount of surrender and transfer requests (as defined in the prospectus describing the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the participating insurance companies) to be effected on that day pursuant to variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.

The separate accounts of unaffiliated participating insurance companies may purchase shares of the Fund. The sale of Fund shares to these unaffiliated separate accounts may present certain conflicts of interests among variable annuity owners, variable life insurance policy owners and plan investors. The Trust's Board of Trustees will monitor the Trust for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflict of interest. The Trust currently does not foresee any disadvantages to the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies arising from the fact that interests of the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies may differ due to differences of tax treatment or other considerations or due to conflicts among the unaffiliated participating insurance companies. If, however, a material unreconcilable conflict arises between the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies of unaffiliated participating insurance companies, a participating insurance company may be required to withdraw the assets allocable to some or all of the separate accounts from the Fund. Any such withdrawal could disrupt orderly portfolio management to the potential detriment of such holders.

Shares of the Fund (and other existing and new funds that might be added to the Trust) may also be offered to:

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are sold in non-public offerings.

- Unregistered separate accounts of various participating insurance companies through which variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies are offered exclusively to qualified pension and profit-sharing plans and/or certain governmental plans.
- Qualified pension and profit-sharing plans. The Trust does not currently anticipate offering shares directly to such plans.

## How Are Shares Priced?

Shares of the Fund are purchased and sold at the Fund's next determined NAV. The Fund calculates NAV as follows:

$$\text{NAV} = \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(Value of Assets of the Fund)} \\ - \text{(Liabilities of the Fund)} \end{array}}{\text{Number of the Fund's Outstanding Shares}}$$

The Fund's investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Fund's NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Fund's investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Fund's daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Fund to price its investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

- NAV per share of the Fund is generally calculated by the accounting agent on each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. Fund shares will generally not be priced on any day the New York Stock Exchange is closed.
- Shares are purchased and redeemed at the NAV next calculated *after* an order is received in proper form by the Trust.
- The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were processed at an NAV other than the Fund's official closing NAV, that is subsequently adjusted, and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders accordingly based on the official closing NAV.
- The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC.

**Note:** *The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be*

*changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York time. In the event the New York Stock Exchange does not open for business because of an emergency, the Trust may, but is not required to open the Fund for purchase, redemption and exchange transactions if the Federal Reserve wire payment system is open. To learn whether the Fund is open for business during an emergency situation, please call 1-800-621-2550.*

Foreign securities may trade in their local markets on days the Fund is closed. As a result, if the Fund holds foreign securities, its NAV may be impacted on days when its shares may not be purchased or redeemed.

In addition, if an event that affects the value of a security occurs after the publication of market quotations or independent service information used by the Fund to price its securities but before the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Trust in its discretion and consistent with applicable regulatory guidance may determine whether to make an adjustment in light of the nature and significance of the event.

#### **Do I Have To Pay Any Fees When Purchasing Or Selling Shares Of The Fund?**

The Fund does not charge any fees when it sells or redeems its shares. Surrender charges, mortality and expense risk fees and other charges may be assessed by participating insurance companies under the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies. These fees should be described in the participating insurance companies' prospectuses.

#### **What Else Should I Know About Share Purchases And Redemptions?**

The Trust reserves the right to:

- Suspend the right of redemption under certain extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the rules of the SEC.
- Suspend the offering of shares for a period of time.
- Reject any purchase order.
- Close the Fund to new investors from time to time and reopen the Fund whenever it is deemed appropriate by the Fund's Investment Adviser.

Orders received by the Trust are effected on business days. The separate accounts purchase and redeem shares of each Fund at the Fund's NAV per share calculated as of the day an order is received by the Fund although such purchases and redemptions may be executed the next morning. Redemption proceeds paid by wire transfer will normally be wired in federal funds on the next business day after the Trust receives actual notice of the redemption order, but may be paid up to three business days after receipt of actual notice of the order.

#### **What Types Of Reports Will I Be Sent Regarding Investments In The Fund?**

As a holder of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy, you will receive annual reports containing

audited financial statements and semiannual reports from your participating insurance company.

#### **What Are The Fund's Voting Procedures?**

Participating insurance companies, not the owners of the variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance policies or participants therein, are shareholders of the Fund. To the extent required by law:

- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts in a manner consistent with timely voting instructions received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies.
- The participating insurance companies will vote Fund shares held in the separate accounts for which no timely instructions are received from the holders of variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies, as well as shares they own, in the same proportion as those shares for which voting instructions are received.

It is anticipated that Fund shares held by unregistered separate accounts or qualified plans generally will be voted for or against any proposition in the same proportion as all other Fund shares are voted unless the unregistered separate account's participating insurance company or the plan makes other arrangements.

Additional information concerning voting rights of the participants in the separate accounts is more fully set forth in the prospectus relating to those accounts issued by the participating insurance companies.

#### **Restrictions On Excessive Trading Practices**

The Trust does not permit market-timing or other excessive trading practices. Purchases and exchanges should be made for long-term investment purposes only. The Trust and Goldman Sachs reserve the right to reject or restrict purchase or exchange requests from any investor. Excessive, short-term (market-timing) trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies, harm Fund performance and negatively impact long-term shareholders. The Trust and Goldman Sachs will not be held liable for any loss resulting from rejected purchase or exchange orders. To minimize harm to the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) and its shareholders, the Trust (or Goldman Sachs) will exercise these rights if, in the Trust's (or Goldman Sachs') judgment, an investor has a history of excessive trading or if an investor's trading, in the judgment of the Trust (or Goldman Sachs), has been or may be disruptive to a Fund. In making this judgment, trades executed in multiple accounts under common ownership or control may be considered together.

# Taxation

The Fund is treated as a separate corporate entity for federal tax purposes. The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a regulated investment company and to qualify for such treatment for each taxable year under Subchapter M of Subtitle A, Chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In addition, the Fund intends to qualify under the Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to variable contracts. Provided that the Fund and a separate account investing in the Fund satisfy applicable tax requirements, the Fund will not be subject to

federal tax and any distributions from the Fund to the separate account will be exempt from current federal income taxation to the extent that such distributions accumulate in a variable annuity contract or a variable life insurance contract.

Persons investing in variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts should refer to the prospectuses with respect to such contracts for further information regarding the tax treatment of the contracts and the separate accounts in which the contracts are invested.

# Appendix A

## Additional Information on Portfolio Risks, Securities and Techniques

### A. GENERAL PORTFOLIO RISKS

The Fund will be subject to the risks associated with equity investments. “Equity investments” may include common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants, stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities. In general, the values of equity investments fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and in response to general market and economic conditions. Accordingly, the values of the equity investments that the Fund holds may decline over short or extended periods. The stock markets tend to be cyclical, with periods when stock prices generally rise and periods when prices generally decline. This volatility means that the value of your investment in the Fund may increase or decrease. In recent years, stock markets have experienced substantial price volatility.

To the extent it invests in fixed-income securities, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with fixed-income securities. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and call/extension risk. In general, interest rate risk involves the risk that when interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to increase. Conversely, when interest rates increase, the market value of fixed-income securities tends to decline. Credit risk involves the risk that an issuer or guarantor could default on its obligations, and the Fund will not recover its investment. Call risk and extension risk are normally present when the borrower has the option to prepay its obligations.

The Investment Adviser will not consider the portfolio turnover rate a limiting factor in making investment decisions for the Fund. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) involves correspondingly greater expenses which must be borne by the Fund and its shareholders. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of the dollar amount of sales or purchases of portfolio securities by the average monthly value of the Fund’s portfolio securities, excluding securities having a maturity at the date of purchase of one year or less. See “Financial Highlights” in Appendix B for a statement of the Fund’s historical portfolio turnover rates.

The following sections provide further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks. Additional information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request. Among other things, the Additional

Statement describes certain fundamental investment restrictions that cannot be changed without shareholder approval. You should note, however, that all investment objectives, and all investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. If there is a change in the Fund’s investment objective, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment in light of your then current financial position and needs.

### B. OTHER PORTFOLIO RISKS

***Risks of Derivative Investments.*** The Fund’s transactions, if any, in options, futures, options on futures, swaps, structured securities and foreign currency transactions involve additional risk of loss. Loss can result from a lack of correlation between changes in the value of derivative instruments and the portfolio assets (if any) being hedged, the potential illiquidity of the markets for derivative instruments, or the risks arising from margin requirements and related leverage factors associated with such transactions. The use of these management techniques also involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or currency prices. The Fund may also invest in derivative investments for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return). Investing for non-hedging purposes is considered as a speculative practice and presents even greater risk of loss.

***Risks of Foreign Investments.*** In general, the Fund may make foreign investments. Foreign investments involve special risks that are not typically associated with U.S. dollar denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Foreign investments may be affected by changes in currency rates, changes in foreign or U.S. laws or restrictions applicable to such investments and changes in exchange control regulations (e.g., currency blockage). A decline in the exchange rate of the currency (i.e., weakening of the currency against the U.S. dollar) in which a portfolio security is quoted or denominated relative to the U.S. dollar would reduce the value of the portfolio security. In addition, if the currency in which the Fund receives dividends, interest or other payments declines in value against the U.S. dollar before such income is distributed as dividends to shareholders or converted to U.S. dollars, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to pay such dividends.

Foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. issuers. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than

about a U.S. issuer. In addition, there is generally less government regulation of foreign markets, companies and securities dealers than in the United States, and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Furthermore, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is a possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividend or interest payments (or, in some cases, capital gains distributions), limitations on the removal of funds or other assets from such countries, and risks of political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Investments in foreign securities may take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”) and Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”). ADRs and GDRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a bank or other depository. ADRs and certain GDRs are traded in the United States. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars. Similarly, GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

**Risks of Euro.** On January 1, 1999, the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) introduced a new single currency called the euro. The euro has replaced the national currencies of the following member countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. In addition, ten new countries, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, are preparing for entry into the EMU in 2004.

The new European Central Bank has control over each country’s monetary policies. Therefore, the member countries no longer control their own monetary policies by directing independent interest rates for their currencies. The national governments of the participating countries, however, have retained the authority to set tax and spending policies and public debt levels.

The change to the euro as a single currency is relatively new and untested. The elimination of currency risk among EMU countries has affected the economic environment and behavior of investors, particularly in European markets, but the long-term impact of those changes on currency values or on the business or financial condition of European countries and issuers cannot be fully assessed at this time. In addition, the introduction of the euro presents other unique uncertainties, including the fluctuation of the euro relative to non-euro

currencies; whether the interest rate, tax and labor regimes of European countries participating in the euro will converge over time; and whether the conversion of the currencies of other countries that now are or may in the future become members of the European Union (“EU”) will have an impact on the euro. Also it is possible that the euro could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use. These or other events, including political and economic developments, could cause market disruptions, and could adversely affect the value of securities held by the Fund.

**Risks of Illiquid Securities.** The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities which cannot be disposed of in seven days in the ordinary course of business at fair value. Illiquid securities include:

- Both domestic and foreign securities that are not readily marketable
- Repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days
- Certain over-the-counter options
- Certain structured securities and all swap transactions
- Certain restricted securities, unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so called “4(2) commercial paper” or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 (“144A Securities”).

Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund’s portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

**Credit/Default Risks.** Debt securities purchased by the Fund may include securities (including zero coupon bonds) issued by the U.S. government (and its agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises), foreign governments, domestic and foreign corporations, banks and other issuers. Some of these fixed-income securities are described in the next section below. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement.

Debt securities rated BBB or higher by Standard & Poor’s Rating Group (“Standard & Poor’s”) or Baa or higher by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO are considered “investment grade.” Securities rated BBB or Baa are considered medium-grade obligations with speculative characteristics, and adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances may weaken the issuers’ capacity to pay interest and repay



principal. A security will be deemed to have met a rating requirement if it receives the minimum required rating from at least one such rating organization even though it has been rated below the minimum rating by one or more other rating organizations, or if unrated by such rating organizations, the security is determined by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. A security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement regardless of its relative ranking (for example, plus or minus) within a designated major rating category (for example, BBB or Baa). If a security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating requirement at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, the Investment Adviser will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders.

**Temporary Investment Risks.** The Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, invest a certain percentage of its total assets in:

- U.S. government securities
- Commercial paper rated at least A-2 by Standard & Poor's, P-2 by Moody's or having a comparable rating by another NRSRO
- Certificates of deposit
- Bankers' acceptances
- Repurchase agreements
- Non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible corporate bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year

When the Fund's assets are invested in such instruments, the Fund may not be achieving its investment objective.

## C. PORTFOLIO SECURITIES AND TECHNIQUES

This section provides further information on certain types of securities and investment techniques that may be used by the Fund, including their associated risks.

The Fund may purchase other types of securities or instruments similar to those described in this section if otherwise consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies. Further information is provided in the Additional Statement, which is available upon request.

**U.S. Government Securities.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; (b) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; (c) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase

certain obligations of the issuer; or (d) only the credit of the issuer. U.S. Government Securities also include Treasury receipts, zero coupon bonds and other stripped U.S. Government Securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. Government Securities are traded independently.

**Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates.** The Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. government securities or other types of securities in which the Fund may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. If for tax purposes, the Fund is not considered to be the owner of the underlying securities held in the custodial or trust account, the Fund may suffer adverse tax consequences. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Fund may also invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

**Bank Obligations.** The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. or foreign banks. Bank obligations, including without limitation, time deposits, bankers' acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by government regulations. Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

**Corporate Debt Obligations and Convertible Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations and convertible securities. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures, commercial paper and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal, and include securities issued by banks and other financial institu-



tions. The Fund may invest in corporate debt obligations issued by U.S. and certain non-U.S. issuers which issue securities denominated in the U.S. dollar (including Yankee and Euro obligations). In addition to obligations of corporations, corporate debt obligations include securities issued by banks and other financial institutions and supranational entities (*i.e.*, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.).

The Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are preferred stock or debt obligations that are convertible into common stock. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities in which the Fund invests have no minimum rating criteria. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security exceeds the conversion price of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock.

**Structured Securities.** The Fund may invest in structured securities. Structured securities are securities whose value is determined by reference to changes in the value of specific currencies, interest rates, commodities, indices or other financial indicators (the “Reference”) or the relative change in two or more References. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased depending upon changes in the applicable Reference. Structured securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the Reference may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rates or the value of the security at maturity may be a multiple of changes in the value of the Reference. Consequently, structured securities may present a greater degree of market risk than many types of securities and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities.

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Fund may, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase or sell foreign currencies on a cash basis or through forward contracts. A forward contract involves an obligation to

purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates.

The Fund may also engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in a currency different from that in which the hedged security is denominated or quoted. The Fund may hold foreign currency received in connection with investments in foreign securities when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, it would be beneficial to convert such currency into U.S. dollars at a later date (*e.g.*, the Investment Adviser may anticipate that the foreign currency will appreciate against the U.S. dollar).

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time causing, along with other factors, the Fund’s NAV to fluctuate (when the Fund’s NAV fluctuates, the value of your shares may go up or down). Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by the intervention of U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. The market in forward foreign currency exchange contracts and other privately negotiated currency instruments offers less protection against defaults by the other party to such instruments than is available for currency instruments traded on an exchange. Such contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the contract will default on its obligations. Since these contracts are not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on a contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or could force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price.

**Options on Securities, Securities Indices and Foreign Currencies.** A put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying instrument during the option period. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) of the option the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument during the option period. The Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options and purchase put and call options on any securities in which the Fund may invest or on any securities index consisting of securities in which it may invest. The Fund may also, to the extent consistent with its investment policies, purchase and sell (write) put and call options on foreign currencies.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves special investment risks. Options may be used for either hedging or cross-hedging purposes, or to

seek to increase total return (which is considered a speculative activity). The successful use of options depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities (or currency) markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in market prices or determination of the correlation between the instruments or indices on which options are written and purchased and the instruments in the Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The use of options can also increase the Fund's transaction costs. Options written or purchased by the Fund may be traded on either U.S. exchanges or over-the-counter. Foreign and over-the-counter options will present greater possibility of loss because of their greater illiquidity and credit risks.

***Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.***

Futures contracts are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that provide for the sale or purchase of a specified financial instrument or currency at a future time at a specified price. An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right (and the writer of the option the obligation) to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price within a specified period of time. A futures contract may be based on particular indices. The Fund may engage in futures transactions on U.S. exchanges.

The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, and purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts, in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in securities prices. The Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts and related options present the following risks:

- While the Fund may benefit from the use of futures and options on futures, unanticipated changes in securities prices may result in a poorer overall performance than if the Fund had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions.
- Because perfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position that is intended to be protected is impossible to achieve, the desired protection may not be obtained and the Fund may be exposed to additional risk of loss.
- The loss incurred by the Fund in entering into futures contracts and in writing call options on futures is poten-

tially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the premium received.

- Futures markets are highly volatile and the use of futures may increase the volatility of a Fund's NAV.
- As a result of the low margin deposits normally required in futures trading, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- Futures contracts and options on futures may be illiquid, and exchanges may limit fluctuations in futures contract prices during a single day.

***Preferred Stock, Warrants and Rights.*** The Fund may invest in preferred stock, warrants and rights. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock.

Warrants and other rights are options to buy a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price at any time during the life of the warrant or right. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

***Other Investment Companies.*** The Fund may invest in other investment companies (including exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup>, as defined below) subject to statutory limitations prescribed by the Investment Company Act. These limitations include a prohibition on the Fund acquiring more than 3% of the voting shares of any other investment company, and a prohibition on investing more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in securities of any one investment company or more than 10% of its total assets in securities of all investment companies. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by such other investment companies. Although the Fund does not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, the Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, other investment companies in which the Fund may invest include money market funds for which the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator or distributor.

Exchange-traded funds such as SPDRs and iShares<sup>SM</sup> are shares of unaffiliated investment companies which are traded

like traditional equity securities on a national securities exchange or the NASDAQ® National Market System.

- **Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts™.** The Fund may, consistent with its investment policies, purchase Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts™ ("SPDRs"). SPDRs are securities traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") that represent ownership in the SPDR Trust, a trust which has been established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the S&P 500®. The SPDR Trust is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading, or reducing transaction costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price action of the S&P 500®.
- **iShares<sup>SM</sup>.** iShares are shares of an investment company that invests substantially all of its assets in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares on the AMEX. However, iShares have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, the Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares as part of its investment strategy.

**Unseasoned Companies.** The Fund may invest in companies (together with their predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

**Equity Swaps.** The Fund may invest in equity swaps. Equity swaps allow the parties to a swap agreement to exchange the dividend income or other components of return on an equity investment (for example, a group of equity securities or an

index) for a component of return on another non-equity or equity investment.

An equity swap may be used by the Fund to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in circumstances in which direct investment may be restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise deemed impractical or disadvantageous. Equity swaps are derivatives and their value can be very volatile. To the extent that the Investment Adviser does not accurately analyze and predict the potential relative fluctuation of the components swapped with another party, the Fund may suffer a loss, which may be substantial. The value of some components of an equity swap (such as the dividends on a common stock) may also be sensitive to changes in interest rates. Furthermore, the Fund may suffer a loss if the counterparty defaults. Because equity swaps are normally illiquid, the Fund may be unable to terminate its obligations when desired.

#### ***When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.***

The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and make contracts to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. When-issued securities are securities that have been authorized, but not yet issued. When-issued securities are purchased in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price or yield to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. A forward commitment involves the entering into a contract to purchase or sell securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond the customary settlement period.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines before the settlement date. Conversely, the sale of securities on a forward commitment basis involves the risk that the value of the securities sold may increase before the settlement date. Although the Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of when-issued securities or forward commitments prior to settlement if the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate.

**Repurchase Agreements.** Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of securities subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with securities dealers and banks which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of its repurchase obligation.

If the other party or "seller" defaults, the Fund might suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the

underlying securities and other collateral held by the Fund are less than the repurchase price and the Fund's costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the seller, the Fund could suffer additional losses if a court determines that the Fund's interest in the collateral is not enforceable.

The Fund, together with other registered investment companies having advisory agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

***Lending of Portfolio Securities.*** The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the lending of securities owned by the Fund to financial institutions such as certain broker-dealers, including, as permitted by the SEC, Goldman Sachs. The borrowers are required to secure their loans continuously with cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities or letters of credit in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash collateral may be invested by the Fund in short-term investments, including unregistered investment pools managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates and from which the Investment Adviser or its affiliates may receive fees. To the extent that cash collateral is so invested, such collateral will be subject to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund will be responsible for any loss that might result from its investment of the borrowers' collateral. If the Investment Adviser determines to make securities loans, the value of the securities loaned may not exceed 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the value of the total assets of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of that collateral) is not subject to the percentage limitations described elsewhere in

this Prospectus regarding investments in fixed-income instruments and cash equivalents.

The Fund may lend its securities to increase its income. The Fund may, however, experience delay in the recovery of its securities or incur a loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund or becomes insolvent.

***Borrowings.*** The Fund can borrow money from banks and other financial institutions in amounts not exceeding one-third of their total assets for temporary or emergency purposes. The Fund may not make additional investments if borrowings exceed 5% of its total assets.

***REITs.*** The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in either real estate or real estate related loans. The value of a REIT is affected by changes in the value of the properties owned by the REIT or securing mortgage loans held by the REIT. REITs are dependent upon the ability of the REITs' managers, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and the qualification of the REITs under applicable regulatory requirements for favorable income tax treatment. REITs are also subject to risks generally associated with investments in real estate including possible declines in the value of real estate, general and local economic conditions, environmental problems and changes in interest rates. To the extent that assets underlying a REIT are concentrated geographically, by property type or in certain other respects, these risks may be heightened. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any expenses, including management fees, paid by a REIT in which it invests.

## Appendix B

### Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the periods ended December 31, 2000 and thereafter has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's annual report (available upon request without charge). The information for all periods prior to the year ended December 31, 2000 has been audited by the Fund's previous independent auditors who have ceased operations.

	Net asset value, beginning of year	Income (loss) from investment operations			Distributions to shareholders			Net asset value, end of year	Total return <sup>(a)</sup> (in 000s)	Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	Ratios assuming no expense reductions		Portfolio turnover rate
		Net investment income	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	From net realized gain	Total distributions				Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	Ratio of expenses to average net assets	
<b>CORE U.S. Equity Fund</b>													
For the year ended December 31, 2003	\$ 8.49	\$0.07 <sup>(b)</sup>	\$ 2.43	\$ 2.50	\$ (0.07)	\$ —	\$ (0.07)	\$10.92	29.47%	0.85%	0.79%	0.85%	92%
For the year ended December 31, 2002	10.94	0.06 <sup>(b)</sup>	(2.45)	(2.39)	(0.06)	—	(0.06)	8.49	(21.89)	0.85	0.60	0.86	84
For the year ended December 31, 2001	12.48	0.05 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.54)	(1.49)	(0.05)	—	(0.05)	10.94	(11.94)	0.81	0.48	0.82	72
For the year ended December 31, 2000	13.98	0.11 <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.46)	(1.35)	(0.08)	(0.07)	(0.15)	12.48	(9.62)	0.85	0.87	0.87	32
For the year ended December 31, 1999	11.42	0.05	2.72	2.77	(0.05)	(0.16)	(0.21)	13.98	24.30	0.80	0.70	1.52	70

Footnotes:

(a) Assumes investment at the net asset value at the beginning of the year, reinvestment of all distributions and a complete redemption of the investment at the net asset value at the end of the year.

(b) Calculated based on the average shares outstanding methodology.

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# Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust

## Prospectus

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Annual/Semi-annual Report

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. In the Fund's annual reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

Your insurance company will provide you with annual and semi-annual reports if the Fund serves as the investment vehicle for your variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy.

#### Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Fund and its policies is also available in the Fund's Additional Statement. The Additional Statement is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus (is legally considered part of this Prospectus).

The Additional Statement is available free upon request by calling Goldman Sachs at 1-800-621-2550.

To obtain other information and for shareholder inquiries:

By telephone – 1-800-621-2550

By mail – Goldman Sachs Funds  
4900 Sears Tower, 51st Floor  
Chicago, IL 60606-6372

By e-mail – [gs-funds@gs.com](mailto:gs-funds@gs.com)

On the Internet – Text-only versions of Trust documents are located online and may be downloaded from:  
SEC EDGAR database – <http://www.sec.gov>

You may review and obtain copies of Trust documents by visiting the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. You may also obtain copies of Trust documents, after paying a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 or by electronic request to: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov). Information on the operation of the public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.



### Asset Management

The Trust's investment company registration number is 811-08361.  
CORE<sup>SM</sup> is a service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.  
GSAM<sup>®</sup> is a registered service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

**PART B**  
**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**GOLDMAN SACHS GROWTH AND INCOME FUND**  
**GOLDMAN SACHS CORE<sup>SM</sup> U.S. EQUITY FUND**  
**GOLDMAN SACHS CORE<sup>SM</sup> SMALL CAP EQUITY FUND**  
**GOLDMAN SACHS CAPITAL GROWTH FUND**  
**GOLDMAN SACHS MID CAP VALUE FUND**  
**GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUND**  
**(PORTFOLIOS OF GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST)**

4900 Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6303

This Statement of Additional Information (the “Additional Statement”) is not a Prospectus. This Additional Statement should be read in conjunction with the prospectuses for Goldman Sachs Growth and Income Fund, Goldman Sachs CORE U.S. Equity Fund, Goldman Sachs CORE Small Cap Equity Fund, Goldman Sachs Capital Growth Fund, Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value Fund, and Goldman Sachs International Equity Fund (each, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”) dated April 29, 2004 as amended and/or supplemented from time to time (the “Prospectuses”), which may be obtained without charge from Goldman, Sachs & Co. by calling the telephone number, or writing to one of the addresses, listed below.

The audited financial statements and related report of Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors for each Fund, contained in each Fund’s 2003 Annual Report are incorporated herein by reference in the section “Financial Statements.” No other portions of the Funds’ Annual Report are incorporated herein by reference. The Annual Report may be obtained upon request and without charge by calling Goldman, Sachs & Co. toll free at 800-621-2550.

CORE<sup>SM</sup> is a service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

GSAM® is a registered service mark of Goldman, Sachs & Co.  
The date of this Additional Statement is April 29, 2004.

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**GOLDMAN SACHS ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.**

Investment Adviser to:

Goldman Sachs Growth and Income Fund  
Goldman Sachs CORE U.S. Equity Fund  
Goldman Sachs CORE Small Cap Equity Fund  
Goldman Sachs Capital Growth Fund  
Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value Fund  
32 Old Slip  
New York, New York 10005

**GOLDMAN SACHS ASSET MANAGEMENT  
INTERNATIONAL**

Investment Adviser to:

Goldman Sachs International Equity Fund  
Christchurch Court  
10-15 Newgate Street  
London, England EC1A7HD

**GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.**

Distributor  
85 Broad Street  
New York, New York 10004

**GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.**

Transfer Agent  
4900 Sears Tower  
Chicago, IL 60606

Toll free 800-621-2550

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## INTRODUCTION

Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) is an open-end, management investment company. Shares of the Trust may be purchased and held by the separate accounts (“Separate Accounts”) of participating life insurance companies (“Participating Insurance Companies”) for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the Trust are not offered directly to the general public. The following series of the Trust are described in this Additional Statement: Goldman Sachs Growth and Income Fund (“Growth and Income Fund”), Goldman Sachs CORE U.S. Equity Fund (“CORE U.S. Equity Fund”), Goldman Sachs CORE Small Cap Equity Fund (“CORE Small Cap Equity Fund”), Goldman Sachs Capital Growth Fund (“Capital Growth Fund”), Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value Fund (“Mid Cap Value Fund”) and Goldman Sachs International Equity Fund (“International Equity Fund”), (collectively referred to herein as the “Funds”). Other series of the Trust may be described in a separate Additional Statement.

Each Fund is a series of Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust, which was formed under the laws of the state of Delaware on September 16, 1997. The Trustees have authority under the Declaration of Trust to create and classify shares of beneficial interests into separate series and to classify and reclassify any series or portfolio of shares into one or more classes, without further action by shareholders. Pursuant thereto, the Trustees have created the Funds and other series. Additional series and classes may be added in the future from time to time.

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM”) (formerly Goldman Sachs Funds Management, L.P.), an affiliate of Goldman, Sachs & Co. (“Goldman Sachs”), serves as the investment adviser to the Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Small Cap Equity, Capital Growth, and Mid Cap Value Funds. Goldman Sachs Asset Management International (“GSAMI”), an affiliate of Goldman Sachs, serves as the investment adviser to the International Equity Fund. GSAM and GSAMI are sometimes individually referred to as an “Investment Adviser” and collectively herein as the “Investment Advisers.” In addition, Goldman Sachs serves as each Fund’s distributor and transfer agent. Each Fund’s custodian is State Street Bank and Trust Company (“State Street”).

The following information relates to and supplements the description of each Fund’s investment policies contained in the Prospectuses. See the Prospectuses for a more complete description of the Funds’ investment objectives and policies. Investing in the Funds entails certain risks and there is no assurance that a Fund will achieve its objective. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the same meaning as in the Prospectuses.



## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Each Fund has a distinct investment objective and policies. There can be no assurance that a Fund's objective will be achieved. Each Fund is a diversified open-end management company as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"). The investment objective and policies of each Fund, and the associated risks of each Fund, are discussed in the Funds' Prospectuses, which should be read carefully before an investment is made. All investment objectives and investment policies not specifically designated as fundamental may be changed without shareholder approval. However, with respect to the CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Small Cap Equity, Mid Cap Value and International Equity Funds to the extent required by Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") regulations, shareholders will be provided with sixty days' notice in the manner prescribed by the SEC before any change in a Fund's policy to invest at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings (measured at the time of purchase) or total assets (not including securities lending collateral and any investment of that collateral) in the particular type of investment suggested by its name. Additional information about the Funds, their policies, and the investment instruments they may hold, is provided below.

Each Fund's share price will fluctuate with market, economic and, to the extent applicable, foreign exchange conditions, so that an investment in any of the Funds may be worth more or less when redeemed than when purchased. None of the Funds should be relied upon as a complete investment program.

The following discussion supplements the information in the Funds' Prospectuses.

### General Information Regarding The Funds

The Investment Adviser may purchase for the Funds common stocks, preferred stocks, interests in real estate investment trusts, convertible debt obligations, convertible preferred stocks, equity interests in trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies and similar enterprises, warrants and stock purchase rights and synthetic and derivative instruments that have economic characteristics similar to equity securities ("equity investments"). The Investment Adviser utilizes first-hand fundamental research, including visiting company facilities to assess operations and to meet decision-makers in choosing a Fund's securities. The Investment Adviser may also use macro analysis of numerous economic and valuation variables to anticipate changes in company earnings and the overall investment climate. The Investment Adviser is able to draw on the research and market expertise of the Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research Department and other affiliates of the Investment Adviser, as well as information provided by other securities dealers. Equity investments in a Fund's portfolio will generally be sold when the Investment Adviser believes that the market price fully reflects or exceeds the investments' fundamental valuation or when other more attractive investments are identified.

**Value Style Funds.** The Growth and Income Fund and Mid Cap Value Fund are managed using a value oriented approach. The Investment Adviser evaluates securities using fundamental analysis and intends to purchase equity investments that are, in its view, underpriced relative to a combination of such companies' long-term earnings prospects, growth rate, free cash flow and/or

dividend-paying ability. Consideration will be given to the business quality of the issuer. Factors positively affecting the Investment Adviser's view of that quality include the competitiveness and degree of regulation in the markets in which the company operates, the existence of a management team with a record of success, the position of the company in the markets in which it operates, the level of the company's financial leverage and the sustainable return on capital invested in the business. The Funds may also purchase securities of companies that have experienced difficulties and that, in the opinion of the Investment Adviser, are available at attractive prices.

**Growth Style Fund.** The Capital Growth Fund is managed using a growth equity oriented approach. Equity investments for this Fund are selected based on their prospects for above average growth. The Investment Adviser will select securities of growth companies trading, in the Investment Adviser's opinion, at a reasonable price relative to other industries, competitors and historical price/earnings multiples. The Fund will generally invest in companies whose earnings are believed to be in a relatively strong growth trend, or, to a lesser extent, in companies in which significant further growth is not anticipated but whose market value per share is thought to be undervalued. In order to determine whether a security has favorable growth prospects, the Investment Adviser ordinarily looks for one or more of the following characteristics in relation to the security's prevailing price: prospects for above average sales and earnings growth per share; high return on invested capital; free cash flow generation; sound balance sheet, financial and accounting policies, and overall financial strength; established brand name; long product life cycle; enduring competitive advantages; effective research, product development, and marketing; pricing power; strength of management; and general operating characteristics that will enable the company to compete successfully in its marketplace.

**Quantitative Style Funds.** The CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds (the "CORE Equity Funds") are managed using both quantitative and fundamental techniques. CORE is an acronym for "Computer-Optimized, Research-Enhanced," which reflects the CORE Funds' investment process. This investment process and the proprietary multifactor model used to implement it are discussed below.

**Investment Process.** The Investment Adviser begins with a broad universe of U.S. equity investments for the CORE Equity Funds. As described more fully below, the Investment Adviser uses a proprietary multifactor model (the "Multifactor Model") to forecast the returns of different markets, currencies and individual securities. In the case of an equity security followed by the Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research Department (the "Research Department"), a rating is assigned based upon the Research Department's evaluation. In the discretion of the Investment Adviser, ratings may also be assigned to equity investments based on research ratings obtained from other industry sources.

In building a diversified portfolio for each CORE Equity Fund, the Investment Adviser utilizes optimization techniques to seek to construct the most efficient risk/return portfolio given each CORE Fund's benchmark. Each portfolio is primarily composed of securities rated highest by the foregoing investment process and has risk characteristics and industry weightings similar to the relevant Fund's benchmark.

**Multifactor Model.** The Multifactor Model is a rigorous computerized rating systems for forecasting the returns of different equity markets, currencies and individual equity investments according to fundamental investment characteristics. The CORE U.S. Equity Funds use one

Multifactor Model to forecast the returns of securities held in each Fund's portfolio. The Multifactor Model incorporates common variables including measures of analyst sentiment, valuation, momentum, profitability, earnings quality and management impact. All of the factors used in the Multifactor Model have been shown to significantly impact the performance of the securities, currencies and markets they were designed to forecast.

The weightings assigned to the factors in the Multifactor Model used by the CORE U.S. Equity Funds are derived using a statistical formulation that considers each factor's historical performance in different market environments. As such, the U.S. Multifactor Model is designed to evaluate each security using only the factors that are statistically related to returns in the anticipated market environment. Because they include many disparate factors, the Investment Adviser believes that the Multifactor Model is broader in scope and provide a more thorough evaluation than most conventional quantitative models. Securities and markets ranked highest by the relevant Multifactor Model do not have one dominant investment characteristic; rather, they possess an attractive combination of investment characteristics. By using a variety of relevant factors to select securities, currencies or markets, the Investment Adviser believes that the Fund will be better balanced and have more consistent performance than an investment portfolio that uses only one or two factors to select such investments.

The Investment Adviser will monitor, and may occasionally suggest and make changes to, the method by which securities, currencies or markets are selected for or weighted in a Fund. Such changes (which may be the result of changes in the Multifactor Model or the method of applying the Multifactor Model) may include: (i) evolutionary changes to the structure of the Multifactor Model (*e.g.*, the addition of new factors or a new means of weighting the factors); (ii) changes in trading procedures (*e.g.*, trading frequency or the manner in which a Fund uses futures); or (iii) changes in the method by which securities, currencies or markets are weighted in a Fund. Any such changes will preserve a Fund's basic investment philosophy of combining qualitative and quantitative methods of selecting securities using a disciplined investment process.

**Other Information.** Since normal settlement for equity investments is three trading days (for certain international markets settlement may be longer), the Funds will need to hold cash balances to satisfy shareholder redemption requests. Such cash balances will normally range from 2% to 5% of a Fund's net assets. CORE U.S. Equity Fund may enter into futures transactions only with respect to the S&P 500 Index and the CORE Small Cap Equity Fund may enter into futures transactions only with respect to a representative index in order to keep the Fund's effective equity exposure close to 100%. For example, if cash balances are equal to 5% of the net assets, the Fund may enter into long futures contracts covering an amount equal to 5% of the Fund's net assets. As cash balances fluctuate based on new contributions or withdrawals, a Fund may enter into additional contracts or close out existing positions.

## Additional Information About International Equity Fund

The International Equity Fund is managed using an active international approach, which utilizes a consistent process of stock selection undertaken by portfolio management teams located within each of the major investment regions, including Europe, Japan, Asia and the United States. In selecting securities, the Investment Adviser uses a long-term, bottom-up strategy based on first-hand fundamental research that is designed to give broad exposure to the available opportunities while seeking to add return primarily through stock selection. Equity investments for this Fund are evaluated based on three key factors—the business, the management and the valuation. The Investment Adviser ordinarily seeks securities that have, in the Investment Adviser’s opinion, superior earnings growth potential, sustainable franchise value with management attuned to creating shareholder value and relatively discounted valuations. In addition, the Investment Adviser uses a multi-factor risk model which seeks to assure that deviations from the benchmark are justifiable.

The International Equity Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing, under normal circumstances, substantially all, and at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes (measured at the time of purchase) in equity investments of companies that are organized outside the United States or whose securities are principally traded outside the United States.

The International Equity Fund’s Investment Adviser believes that outperformance is generated by a long-term focus on quality companies with quality managements that trade at attractive valuations.

*Bottom-up, fundamental research* is carried out by both the Investment Adviser’s four senior portfolio managers and its 80+ research analysts based in London, Singapore, Tokyo, New York and Tampa. These research analysts are organized into five global sector research teams – Consumer, Health Sciences, Financials, Industrials and Technology/Telecoms. The Investment Adviser’s global research platform also includes a ‘Specialist’ team that focuses on the small and mid-cap segments of each market. The rigorous investment criteria employed by the research analysts are designed to capture the quality of business, quality of management and valuation of the companies within the international equity universe.

*Stock selection.* The portfolio management team evaluates ideas with the global research analysts through formal weekly conference calls, regular visits to the Investment Adviser’s regional offices and regular ad hoc communication. These forums allow the portfolio managers to cross-examine the research analysts, question their assumptions, ensure issues have been raised, and offer counter-perspectives to their investment recommendations. After all questions arising from these discussions have been answered, primary stock selection is carried out by the International Equity portfolio managers, who assess each stock by balancing views of the global sector teams with their own before making a cross-border and cross-sector assessment of each company.

*Portfolio construction* is carried out by the Investment Adviser’s dedicated Portfolio Construction Team, which sizes each position based on the International Equity Portfolio Managers’ conviction in each stock and the position’s desired impact on portfolio risk. The Portfolio Managers work closely with the Portfolio Construction Team to position the research ideas in the International Equity Fund and cross-check positioning across all of the regional and sector flagship portfolios to ensure that investment themes are implemented consistently.

GSAMI's currency team manages the foreign exchange risk embedded in foreign equities by means of a currency overlay program. The program may be utilized to protect the value of foreign investments in sustained periods of dollar appreciation and to add returns by seeking to take advantage of foreign exchange fluctuations.

The members of GSAMI's International Equity team bring together years of experience in analyzing and investing in companies globally. Global research analysts have a local presence around the world that facilitates interaction with companies and enhances knowledge of local trends. Moreover, the ability of the Portfolio Managers to leverage the views of GSAMI's Corporate Credit and Currency Teams results in a deeper understanding of companies and industries and provides independent checks on our research views.

### **Corporate Debt Obligations**

Each Fund may, under normal market conditions, invest in corporate debt obligations, including obligations of industrial, utility and financial issuers. Corporate debt obligations include bonds, notes, debentures and other obligations of corporations to pay interest and repay principal. CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds may only invest in debt securities that are cash equivalents. Corporate debt obligations are subject to the risk of an issuer's inability to meet principal and interest payments on the obligations and may also be subject to price volatility due to such factors as market interest rates, market perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and general market liquidity.

An economic downturn could severely affect the ability of highly leveraged issuers of junk bond securities to service their debt obligations or to repay their obligations upon maturity. Factors having an adverse impact on the market value of junk bonds will have an adverse effect on a Fund's net asset value to the extent it invests in such securities. In addition, a Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings.

The secondary market for junk bonds, which is concentrated in relatively few market makers, may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities. This reduced liquidity may have an adverse effect on the ability of Growth and Income, Capital Growth, Mid Cap Value, and International Equity Funds to dispose of a particular security when necessary to meet their redemption requests or other liquidity needs. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for junk bonds could contract further, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer. As a result, the Investment Advisers could find it difficult to sell these securities or may be able to sell the securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded. Prices realized upon the sale of such lower rated or unrated securities, under such circumstances, may be less than the prices used in calculating a Fund's net asset value.

Since investors generally perceive that there are greater risks associated with the medium to lower rated securities of the type in which Growth and Income, Capital Growth, Mid Cap Value, and International Equity Funds may invest, the yields and prices of such securities may tend to fluctuate more than those for higher rated securities. In the lower quality segments of the fixed-income securities market, changes in perceptions of issuers' creditworthiness tend to occur more frequently and in a more

pronounced manner than do changes in higher quality segments of the fixed-income securities market, resulting in greater yield and price volatility.

Another factor which causes fluctuations in the prices of fixed-income securities is the supply and demand for similarly rated securities. In addition, the prices of fixed-income securities fluctuate in response to the general level of interest rates. Fluctuations in the prices of portfolio securities subsequent to their acquisition will not affect cash income from such securities but will be reflected in a Fund's net asset value.

Medium to lower rated and comparable non-rated securities tend to offer higher yields than higher rated securities with the same maturities because the historical financial condition of the issuers of such securities may not have been as strong as that of other issuers. Since medium to lower rated securities generally involve greater risks of loss of income and principal than higher rated securities, investors should consider carefully the relative risks associated with investment in securities which carry medium to lower ratings and in comparable unrated securities. In addition to the risk of default, there are the related costs of recovery on defaulted issues. The Investment Adviser will attempt to reduce these risks through portfolio diversification and by analysis of each issuer and its ability to make timely payments of income and principal, as well as broad economic trends and corporate developments.

The Investment Adviser employs its own credit research and analysis, which includes a study of existing debt, capital structure, ability to service debt and to pay dividends, the issuer's sensitivity to economic conditions, its operating history and the current trend of earnings. The Investment Adviser continually monitors the investments in a Fund's portfolio and evaluates whether to dispose of or to retain corporate debt obligations whose credit ratings or credit quality may have changed.

### **U.S. Government Securities**

Each Fund may invest in U.S. Government securities. Some U.S. Government Securities (such as Treasury bills, notes and bonds, which differ only in their interest rates, maturities and times of issuance) are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. Others, such as obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises, are supported either by (i) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury, (ii) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase certain obligations of the issuer or (iii) only the credit of the issuer. The U.S. government is under no legal obligation, in general, to purchase the obligations of its agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. No assurance can be given that the U.S. government will provide financial support to the U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises in the future.

U.S. Government Securities include (to the extent consistent with the Act), securities for which the payment of principal and interest is backed by an irrevocable letter of credit issued by the U.S. Government, or its agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. Government Securities may also include (to the extent consistent with the Act) participations in loans made to foreign governments or their agencies that are guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government or its agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. The secondary market for certain of these

participations is extremely limited. In the absence of a suitable secondary market, such participations are regarded as illiquid.

Each Fund may also purchase U.S. Government Securities in private placements and may also invest in separately traded principal and interest components of securities guaranteed or issued by the U.S. Treasury that are traded independently under the separate trading of registered interest and principal of securities program ("STRIPS"). Each Fund may also invest in zero coupon U.S. Treasury Securities and in zero coupon securities issued by financial institutions which represent a proportionate interest in underlying U.S. Treasury Securities. A zero coupon security pays no interest to its holder during its life and its value consist of the difference between its face value at maturity and its cost. The market prices of zero coupon securities generally are more volatile than the market prices of securities that pay interest periodically.

### **Bank Obligations**

Each Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. banks or foreign banks. Bank obligations, including without limitation, time deposits, bankers' acceptances and certificates of deposit, may be general obligations of the parent bank or may be limited to the issuing branch by the terms of the specific obligations or by government regulation.

Banks are subject to extensive but different governmental regulations which may limit both the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry is largely dependent upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operation of this industry.

### **Zero Coupon Bonds**

Each Fund's investments in fixed-income securities may include zero coupon bonds. Zero coupon bonds are debt obligations issued or purchased at a discount from face value. The discount approximates the total amount of interest the bonds would have accrued and compounded over the period until maturity. Zero coupon bonds do not require the periodic payment of interest. Such investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service but also require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of such cash. Such investments may experience greater volatility in market value than debt obligations which provide for regular payments of interest. In addition, if an issuer of zero coupon bonds held by a Fund defaults, the Fund may obtain no return at all on its investment. A Fund will accrue income on such investments for each taxable year which (net of deductible expenses, if any) is distributable to shareholders and which, because no cash is generally received at the time of accrual, may require the liquidation of other portfolio securities to obtain sufficient cash to satisfy the Fund's distribution obligations.



## **Variable and Floating Rate Securities**

The interest rates payable on certain fixed income securities in which a Fund may invest are not fixed and may fluctuate based upon changes in market rates. A variable rate obligation has an interest rate which is adjusted at predesignated periods in response to changes in the market rate of interest on which the interest rate is based. Variable and floating rate obligations are less effective than fixed rate instruments at locking in a particular yield. Nevertheless, such obligations may fluctuate in value in response to interest rate changes if there is a delay between changes in market interest rates and the interest reset date for the obligation.

## **Custodial Receipts and Trust Certificates**

Each Fund may invest in custodial receipts and trust certificates (which may be underwritten by securities dealers or banks), representing interests in securities held by a custodian or trustee. The securities so held may include U.S. Government Securities, municipal securities or other types of securities in which the Funds may invest. The custodial receipts or trust certificates are underwritten by securities dealers or banks and may evidence ownership of future interest payments, principal payments or both on the underlying securities, or, in some cases, the payment obligation of a third party that has entered into an interest rate swap or other arrangement with the custodian or trustee. For certain securities laws purposes, custodial receipts and trust certificates may not be considered obligations of the U.S. government or other issuer of the securities held by the custodian or trustee. As a holder of custodial receipts and trust certificates, the Funds will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses charged to the custodial account or trust. The Funds may also invest in separately issued interests in custodial receipts and trust certificates.

Although under the terms of a custodial receipt or trust certificate the Funds would be typically authorized to assert their rights directly against the issuer of the underlying obligation, the Fund could be required to assert through the custodian bank or trustee those rights as may exist against the underlying issuers. Thus, in the event an underlying issuer fails to pay principal and/or interest when due, the Funds may be subject to delays, expenses and risks that are greater than those that would have been involved if the Funds had purchased a direct obligation of the issuer. In addition, in the event that the trust or custodial account in which the underlying securities have been deposited is determined to be an association taxable as a corporation, instead of a non-taxable entity, the yield on the underlying securities would be reduced in recognition of any taxes paid.

Certain custodial receipts and trust certificates may be synthetic or derivative instruments that have interest rates that reset inversely to changing short-term rates and/or have embedded interest rate floors and caps that require the issuer to pay an adjusted interest rate if market rates fall below or rise above a specified rate. Because some of these instruments represent relatively recent innovations, and the trading market for these instruments is less developed than the markets for traditional types of instruments, it is uncertain how these instruments will perform under different economic and interest-rate scenarios. Also, because these instruments may be leveraged, their market values may be more volatile than other types of fixed income instruments and may present greater potential for capital gain or loss. The possibility of default by an issuer or the issuer's credit provider may be greater for these derivative instruments than for other types of instruments. In some cases, it may be difficult to determine the fair

value of a derivative instrument because of a lack of reliable objective information and an established secondary market for some instruments may not exist. In many cases, the Internal Revenue Service has not ruled on the tax treatment of the interest received on the derivative instruments and, accordingly, purchases of such instruments are based on the opinion of counsel to the sponsors of the instruments.

## **Mortgage Loans and Mortgage-Backed Securities**

**General Characteristics.** Each Fund (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may invest in mortgage-backed securities. Each mortgage pool underlying mortgage-backed securities consists of mortgage loans evidenced by promissory notes secured by first mortgages or first deeds of trust or other similar security instruments creating a first lien on owner occupied and non-owner occupied one-unit to four-unit residential properties, multifamily (*i.e.*, five or more) properties, agricultural properties, commercial properties and mixed use properties (the “Mortgaged Properties”). The Mortgaged Properties may consist of detached individual dwelling units, multifamily dwelling units, individual condominiums, townhouses, duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, row houses, individual units in planned unit developments and other attached dwelling units. The Mortgaged Properties may also include residential investment properties and second homes.

The investment characteristics of adjustable and fixed rate mortgage-backed securities differ from those of traditional fixed-income securities. The major differences include the payment of interest and principal on mortgage-backed securities on a more frequent (usually monthly) schedule, and the possibility that principal may be prepaid at any time due to prepayments on the underlying mortgage loans or other assets. These differences can result in significantly greater price and yield volatility than is the case with traditional fixed-income securities. As a result, if a Fund purchases mortgage-backed securities at a premium, a faster than expected prepayment rate will reduce both the market value and the yield to maturity from those which were anticipated. A prepayment rate that is slower than expected will have the opposite effect of increasing yield to maturity and market value. Conversely, if a Fund purchases mortgage-backed securities at a discount, faster than expected prepayments will increase, while slower than expected prepayments will reduce yield to maturity and market values. To the extent that a Fund invests in mortgage-backed securities, its Investment Adviser may seek to manage these potential risks by investing in a variety of mortgage-backed securities and by using certain hedging techniques.

**Government Guaranteed Mortgage-Backed Securities.** There are several types of government guaranteed mortgage-backed securities currently available, including guaranteed mortgage pass-through certificates and multiple class securities, which include guaranteed Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit Certificates (“REMIC Certificates”), other collateralized mortgage obligations and stripped mortgage-backed securities. A Fund is permitted to invest in other types of mortgage-backed securities that may be available in the future to the extent consistent with its investment policies and objective.

A Fund’s investments in mortgage-backed securities may include securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or one of its agencies, authorities, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises, such as the Government National Mortgage Association (“Ginnie Mae”), the Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie

Mac”). Ginnie Mae securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, which means that the U.S. Government guarantees that the interest and principal will be paid when due. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac securities are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have the ability to borrow from the U.S. Treasury, and as a result, they are generally viewed by the market as high quality securities with low credit risks. From time to time, proposals have been introduced before Congress for the purpose of restricting or eliminating federal sponsorship of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac that issue government guaranteed Mortgage-Backed Securities. The Trust cannot predict what legislation, if any, may be proposed in the future in Congress as regards such sponsorship or which proposals, if any, might be enacted. Such proposals, if enacted, might materially and adversely affect the availability of government guaranteed mortgage-backed securities and the Funds’ liquidity and value.

There is risk that the U.S. Government will not provide financial support to its agencies, authorities, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. A Fund may purchase U.S. Government securities that are not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, such as those issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The maximum potential liability of the issuers of some U.S. Government securities held by a Fund may greatly exceed their current resources, including their legal right to support from the U.S. Treasury. It is possible that these issuers will not have the funds to meet their payment obligations in the future.

**Ginnie Mae Certificates.** Ginnie Mae is a wholly-owned corporate instrumentality of the United States. Ginnie Mae is authorized to guarantee the timely payment of the principal of and interest on certificates that are based on and backed by a pool of mortgage loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration (“FHA Loans”), or guaranteed by the Veterans Administration (“VA Loans”), or by pools of other eligible mortgage loans. In order to meet its obligations under any guaranty, Ginnie Mae is authorized to borrow from the United States Treasury in an unlimited amount. The National Housing Act provides that the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the timely payment of principal and interest by Ginnie Mae of amounts due on Ginnie Mae certificates.

**Fannie Mae Certificates.** Fannie Mae is a stockholder-owned corporation chartered under an act of the United States Congress. Generally, Fannie Mae Certificates are issued and guaranteed by Fannie Mae and represent an undivided interest in a pool of mortgage loans (a “Pool”) formed by Fannie Mae. Each Pool consists of residential mortgage loans (“Mortgage Loans”) either previously owned by Fannie Mae or purchased by it in connection with the formation of the Pool. The Mortgage Loans may be either conventional Mortgage Loans (*i.e.*, not insured or guaranteed by any U.S. Government agency) or Mortgage Loans that are either insured by the Federal Housing Administration (“FHA”) or guaranteed by the Veterans Administration (“VA”). However, the Mortgage Loans in Fannie Mae Pools are primarily conventional Mortgage Loans. The lenders originating and servicing the Mortgage Loans are subject to certain eligibility requirements established by Fannie Mae.

Fannie Mae has certain contractual responsibilities. With respect to each Pool, Fannie Mae is obligated to distribute scheduled installments of principal and interest after Fannie Mae’s servicing and guaranty fee, whether or not received, to Certificate holders. Fannie Mae also is obligated to distribute to holders of Certificates an amount equal to the full principal balance of any foreclosed Mortgage Loan, whether or not such principal balance is actually recovered. The obligations of Fannie Mae under its guaranty of the Fannie Mae Certificates are obligations solely of Fannie Mae.

**Freddie Mac Certificates.** Freddie Mac is a publicly held U.S. Government sponsored enterprise. The principal activity of Freddie Mac currently is the purchase of first lien, conventional, residential mortgage loans and participation interests in such mortgage loans and their resale in the form of mortgage securities, primarily Freddie Mac Certificates. A Freddie Mac Certificate represents a pro rata interest in a group of mortgage loans or participations in mortgage loans (a “Freddie Mac Certificate group”) purchased by Freddie Mac.

Freddie Mac guarantees to each registered holder of a Freddie Mac Certificate the timely payment of interest at the rate provided for by such Freddie Mac Certificate (whether or not received on the underlying loans). Freddie Mac also guarantees to each registered Certificate holder ultimate collection of all principal of the related mortgage loans, without any offset or deduction, but does not, generally, guarantee the timely payment of scheduled principal. The obligations of Freddie Mac under its guaranty of Freddie Mac Certificates are obligations solely of Freddie Mac.

The mortgage loans underlying the Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae Certificates consist of adjustable rate or fixed-rate mortgage loans with original terms to maturity of up to forty years. Substantially all of these mortgage loans are secured by first liens on one-to-four-family residential properties or multi-family projects. Each mortgage loan must meet the applicable standards set forth in the law creating Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae. A Freddie Mac Certificate group may include whole loans, participation interests in whole loans, undivided interests in whole loans and participations comprising another Freddie Mac Certificate group.

**Conventional Mortgage Loans.** The conventional mortgage loans underlying the Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae Certificates consist of adjustable rate or fixed rate mortgage loans normally with original terms to maturity of between five and thirty years. Substantially all of these mortgage loans are secured by first liens on one to four family residential properties or multi-family projects. Each mortgage loan must meet the applicable standards set forth in the law creating Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae. A Freddie Mac Certificate group may include whole loans, participation interests in whole loans, undivided interests in whole loans and participations comprising another Freddie Mac Certificate Group.

**Mortgage Pass-Through Securities.** Each Fund (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may invest in both government guaranteed and privately issued mortgage pass-through securities (“Mortgage Pass-Throughs”); that is, fixed or adjustable rate mortgage-backed securities which provide for monthly payments that are a “pass-through” of the monthly interest and principal payments (including any prepayments) made by the individual borrowers on the pooled mortgage loans, net of any fees or other amounts paid to any guarantor, administrator and/or servicer of the underlying mortgage loans.

The following discussion describes only a few of the wide variety of structures of Mortgage Pass-Throughs that are available or may be issued.

**Description of Certificates.** Mortgage Pass-Throughs may be issued in one or more classes of senior certificates and one or more classes of subordinate certificates. Each such class may bear a different pass-through rate. Generally, each certificate will evidence the specified interest of the

holder thereof in the payments of principal or interest or both in respect of the mortgage pool comprising part of the trust fund for such certificates.

Any class of certificates may also be divided into subclasses entitled to varying amounts of principal and interest. If a REMIC election has been made, certificates of such subclasses may be entitled to payments on the basis of a stated principal balance and stated interest rate, and payments among different subclasses may be made on a sequential, concurrent, pro rata or disproportionate basis, or any combination thereof. The stated interest rate on any such subclass of certificates may be a fixed rate or one which varies in direct or inverse relationship to an objective interest index.

Generally, each registered holder of a certificate will be entitled to receive its pro rata share of monthly distributions of all or a portion of principal of the underlying mortgage loans or of interest on the principal balances thereof, which accrues at the applicable mortgage pass-through rate, or both. The difference between the mortgage interest rate and the related mortgage pass-through rate (less the amount, if any, of retained yield) with respect to each mortgage loan will generally be paid to the servicer as a servicing fee. Since certain adjustable rate mortgage loans included in a mortgage pool may provide for deferred interest (*i.e.*, negative amortization), the amount of interest actually paid by a mortgagor in any month may be less than the amount of interest accrued on the outstanding principal balance of the related mortgage loan during the relevant period at the applicable mortgage interest rate. In such event, the amount of interest that is treated as deferred interest will generally be added to the principal balance of the related mortgage loan and will be distributed pro rata to certificate-holders as principal of such mortgage loan when paid by the mortgagor in subsequent monthly payments or at maturity.

**Ratings.** The ratings assigned by a rating organization to Mortgage Pass-Throughs address the likelihood of the receipt of all distributions on the underlying mortgage loans by the related certificate-holders under the agreements pursuant to which such certificates are issued. A rating organization's ratings normally take into consideration the credit quality of the related mortgage pool, including any credit support providers, structural and legal aspects associated with such certificates, and the extent to which the payment stream on such mortgage pool is adequate to make payments required by such certificates. A rating organization's ratings on such certificates do not, however, constitute a statement regarding frequency of prepayments on the related mortgage loans. In addition, the rating assigned by a rating organization to a certificate may not address the remote possibility that, in the event of the insolvency of the issuer of certificates where a subordinated interest was retained, the issuance and sale of the senior certificates may be recharacterized as a financing and, as a result of such recharacterization, payments on such certificates may be affected.

**Credit Enhancement.** Credit support falls generally into two categories: (i) liquidity protection and (ii) protection against losses resulting from default by an obligor on the underlying assets. Liquidity protection refers to the provision of advances, generally by the entity administering the pools of mortgages, the provision of a reserve fund, or a combination thereof, to ensure, subject to certain limitations, that scheduled payments on the underlying pool are made in a timely fashion. Protection against losses resulting from default ensures ultimate payment of the obligations on at least a portion of the assets in the pool. Such credit support can be provided by among other things, payment guarantees, letters of credit, pool insurance, subordination, or any combination thereof.

***Subordination; Shifting of Interest; Reserve Fund.*** In order to achieve ratings on one or more classes of Mortgage Pass-Throughs, one or more classes of certificates may be subordinate certificates which provide that the rights of the subordinate certificate-holders to receive any or a specified portion of distributions with respect to the underlying mortgage loans may be subordinated to the rights of the senior certificate-holders. If so structured, the subordination feature may be enhanced by distributing to the senior certificate-holders on certain distribution dates, as payment of principal, a specified percentage (which generally declines over time) of all principal payments received during the preceding prepayment period (“shifting interest credit enhancement”). This will have the effect of accelerating the amortization of the senior certificates while increasing the interest in the trust fund evidenced by the subordinate certificates. Increasing the interest of the subordinate certificates relative to that of the senior certificates is intended to preserve the availability of the subordination provided by the subordinate certificates. In addition, because the senior certificate-holders in a shifting interest credit enhancement structure are entitled to receive a percentage of principal prepayments which is greater than their proportionate interest in the trust fund, the rate of principal prepayments on the mortgage loans will have an even greater effect on the rate of principal payments and the amount of interest payments on, and the yield to maturity of, the senior certificates.

In addition to providing for a preferential right of the senior certificate-holders to receive current distributions from the mortgage pool, a reserve fund may be established relating to such certificates (the “Reserve Fund”). The Reserve Fund may be created with an initial cash deposit by the originator or servicer and augmented by the retention of distributions otherwise available to the subordinate certificate-holders or by excess servicing fees until the Reserve Fund reaches a specified amount.

The subordination feature, and any Reserve Fund, are intended to enhance the likelihood of timely receipt by senior certificate-holders of the full amount of scheduled monthly payments of principal and interest due to them and will protect the senior certificate-holders against certain losses; however, in certain circumstances the Reserve Fund could be depleted and temporary shortfalls could result. In the event that the Reserve Fund is depleted before the subordinated amount is reduced to zero, senior certificate-holders will nevertheless have a preferential right to receive current distributions from the mortgage pool to the extent of the then outstanding subordinated amount. Unless otherwise specified, until the subordinated amount is reduced to zero, on any distribution date any amount otherwise distributable to the subordinate certificates or, to the extent specified, in the Reserve Fund will generally be used to offset the amount of any losses realized with respect to the mortgage loans (“Realized Losses”). Realized Losses remaining after application of such amounts will generally be applied to reduce the ownership interest of the subordinate certificates in the mortgage pool. If the subordinated amount has been reduced to zero, Realized Losses generally will be allocated pro rata among all certificate-holders in proportion to their respective outstanding interests in the mortgage pool.

***Alternative Credit Enhancement.*** As an alternative, or in addition to the credit enhancement afforded by subordination, credit enhancement for Mortgage Pass-Throughs may be provided by mortgage insurance, hazard insurance, by the deposit of cash, certificates of deposit, letters of credit, a limited guaranty or by such other methods as are acceptable to a rating agency. In certain circumstances, such as where credit enhancement is provided by guarantees or a letter of credit, the security is subject to credit risk because of its exposure to an external credit enhancement provider.

***Voluntary Advances.*** Generally, in the event of delinquencies in payments on the mortgage loans underlying the Mortgage Pass-Throughs, the servicer agrees to make advances of cash for the benefit of certificate-holders, but only to the extent that it determines such voluntary advances will be recoverable from future payments and collections on the mortgage loans or otherwise.

***Optional Termination.*** Generally, the servicer may, at its option with respect to any certificates, repurchase all of the underlying mortgage loans remaining outstanding at such time if the aggregate outstanding principal balance of such mortgage loans is less than a specified percentage (generally 5-10%) of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the mortgage loans as of the cut-off date specified with respect to such series.

***Multiple Class Mortgage-Backed Securities and Collateralized Mortgage Obligations.*** A Fund may invest in multiple class securities including collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) and REMIC Certificates. These securities may be issued by U.S. Government agencies, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac by trusts formed by private originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, mortgage bankers, commercial banks, insurance companies, investment banks and special purpose subsidiaries of the foregoing. In general, CMOs are debt obligations of a legal entity that are collateralized by, and multiple class mortgage-backed securities represent direct ownership interests in, a pool of mortgage loans or mortgage-backed securities the payments on which are used to make payments on the CMOs or multiple class mortgage-backed securities.

Fannie Mae REMIC Certificates are issued and guaranteed as to timely distribution of principal and interest by Fannie Mae. In addition, Fannie Mae will be obligated to distribute the principal balance of each class of REMIC Certificates in full, whether or not sufficient funds are otherwise available.

Freddie Mac guarantees the timely payment of interest on Freddie Mac REMIC Certificates and also guarantees the payment of principal as payments are required to be made on the underlying mortgage participation certificates (“PCs”). PCs represent undivided interests in specified level payment, residential mortgages or participations therein purchased by Freddie Mac and placed in a PC pool. With respect to principal payments on PCs, Freddie Mac generally guarantees ultimate collection of all principal of the related mortgage loans without offset or deduction but the receipt of the required payments may be delayed. Freddie Mac also guarantees timely payment of principal of certain PCs.

CMOs and guaranteed REMIC Certificates issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are types of multiple class mortgage-backed securities. The REMIC Certificates represent beneficial ownership interests in a REMIC trust, generally consisting of mortgage loans or Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac or Ginnie Mae guaranteed mortgage-backed securities (the “Mortgage Assets”). The obligations of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac under their respective guaranty of the REMIC Certificates are obligations solely of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, respectively.

CMOs and REMIC Certificates are issued in multiple classes. Each class of CMOs or REMIC Certificates, often referred to as a “tranche,” is issued at a specific adjustable or fixed interest rate and must be fully retired no later than its final distribution date. Principal prepayments on the Mortgage



Loans or the Mortgage Assets underlying the CMOs or REMIC Certificates may cause some or all of the classes of CMOs or REMIC Certificates to be retired substantially earlier than their final distribution dates. Generally, interest is paid or accrues on all classes of CMOs or REMIC Certificates on a monthly basis.

The principal of and interest on the Mortgage Assets may be allocated among the several classes of CMOs or REMIC Certificates in various ways. In certain structures (known as “sequential pay” CMOs or REMIC Certificates), payments of principal, including any principal prepayments, on the Mortgage Assets generally are applied to the classes of CMOs or REMIC Certificates in the order of their respective final distribution dates. Thus, no payment of principal will be made on any class of sequential pay CMOs or REMIC Certificates until all other classes having an earlier final distribution date have been paid in full.

Additional structures of CMOs and REMIC Certificates include, among others, “parallel pay” CMOs and REMIC Certificates. Parallel pay CMOs or REMIC Certificates are those which are structured to apply principal payments and prepayments of the Mortgage Assets to two or more classes concurrently on a proportionate or disproportionate basis. These simultaneous payments are taken into account in calculating the final distribution date of each class.

A wide variety of REMIC Certificates may be issued in parallel pay or sequential pay structures. These securities include accrual certificates (also known as “Z-Bonds”), which only accrue interest at a specified rate until all other certificates having an earlier final distribution date have been retired and are converted thereafter to an interest-paying security, and planned amortization class (“PAC”) certificates, which are parallel pay REMIC Certificates that generally require that specified amounts of principal be applied on each payment date to one or more classes or REMIC Certificates (the “PAC Certificates”), even though all other principal payments and prepayments of the Mortgage Assets are then required to be applied to one or more other classes of the Certificates. The scheduled principal payments for the PAC Certificates generally have the highest priority on each payment date after interest due has been paid to all classes entitled to receive interest currently. Shortfalls, if any, are added to the amount payable on the next payment date. The PAC Certificate payment schedule is taken into account in calculating the final distribution date of each class of PAC. In order to create PAC tranches, one or more tranches generally must be created that absorb most of the volatility in the underlying mortgage assets. These tranches tend to have market prices and yields that are much more volatile than other PAC classes.

### **Asset-Backed Securities**

Each Fund (except the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may invest in asset-backed securities. Asset-backed securities represent participations in, or are secured by and payable from, assets such as motor vehicle installment sales, installment loan contracts, leases of various types of real and personal property, receivables from revolving credit (credit card) agreements and other categories of receivables. Such assets are securitized through the use of trusts and special purpose corporations. Payments or distributions of principal and interest may be guaranteed up to certain amounts and for a certain time period by a letter of credit or a pool insurance policy issued by a financial institution unaffiliated with the trust or corporation, or other credit enhancements may be present.

Such securities are often subject to more rapid repayment than their stated maturity date would indicate as a result of the pass-through of prepayments of principal on the underlying loans. During periods of declining interest rates, prepayments of loans underlying asset backed securities can be expected to accelerate. Accordingly, a Fund's ability to maintain positions in such securities will be affected by reductions in the principal amount of such securities resulting from prepayments, and its ability to reinvest the returns of principal at comparable yields is subject to generally prevailing interest rates at that time. To the extent that a Fund invests in asset-backed securities, the values of such Fund's portfolio securities will vary with changes in market interest rates generally and the differentials in yields among various kinds of asset-backed securities.

Asset-backed securities present certain additional risks because asset-backed securities generally do not have the benefit of a security interest in collateral that is comparable to mortgage assets. Credit card receivables are generally unsecured and the debtors on such receivables are entitled to the protection of a number of state and federal consumer credit laws, many of which give such debtors the right to set-off certain amounts owed on the credit cards, thereby reducing the balance due. Automobile receivables generally are secured, but by automobiles rather than residential real property. Most issuers of automobile receivables permit the loan servicers to retain possession of the underlying obligations. If the servicer were to sell these obligations to another party, there is a risk that the purchaser would acquire an interest superior to that of the holders of the asset-backed securities. In addition, because of the large number of vehicles involved in a typical issuance and technical requirements under state laws, the trustee for the holders of the automobile receivables may not have a proper security interest in the underlying automobiles. Therefore, if the issuer of an asset-backed security defaults on its payment obligations there is the possibility that, in some cases, a Fund will be unable to possess and sell the underlying collateral and that the Fund's recoveries on repossessed collateral may not be available to support payments on the securities.

### **Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts**

Each Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts and may also purchase and write options on futures contracts. The CORE Small Cap Equity Fund may only enter into such transactions with respect to a representative index. The CORE U.S. Equity Fund may enter into futures transactions only with respect to the S&P 500 Index. The other Funds may purchase and sell futures contracts based on various securities, securities indices, foreign currencies and other financial instruments and indices. Each Fund will engage in futures and related options transactions in order to seek to increase total return or to hedge against changes in interest rates, securities prices or, to the extent a Fund invests in foreign securities, currency exchange rates, or to otherwise manage its term structure, sector selection and duration in accordance with its investment objective and policies. Each Fund may also enter into closing purchase and sale transactions with respect to such contracts and options. The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under that Act with respect to the Funds.

Futures contracts entered into by a Fund have historically been traded on U.S. exchanges or boards of trade that are licensed and regulated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") or with respect to certain funds, on foreign exchanges. More recently, certain futures may

also be traded either over-the-counter or on trading facilities such as derivatives transaction execution facilities, exempt boards of trade or electronic trading facilities that are licensed and/or regulated to varying degrees by the CFTC. Also, certain single stock futures and narrow based security index futures may be traded either over-the-counter or on trading facilities such as contract markets, derivatives transaction execution facilities and electronic trading facilities that are licensed and/or regulated to varying degrees by both the CFTC and the SEC, or on foreign exchanges.

Neither the CFTC, National Futures Association, SEC nor any domestic exchange regulates activities of any foreign exchange or boards of trade, including the execution, delivery and clearing of transactions, or has the power to compel enforcement of the rules of a foreign exchange or board of trade or any applicable foreign law. This is true even if the exchange is formally linked to a domestic market so that a position taken on the market may be liquidated by a transaction on another market. Moreover, such laws or regulations will vary depending on the foreign country in which the foreign futures or foreign options transaction occurs. For these reasons, a Fund's investments in foreign futures or foreign options transactions may not be provided the same protections in respect of transactions on United States exchanges. In particular, persons who trade foreign futures or foreign options contracts may not be afforded certain of the protective measures provided by the Commodity Exchange Act, the CFTC's regulations and the rules of the National Futures Association and any domestic exchange, including the right to use reparations proceedings before the CFTC and arbitration proceedings provided by the National Futures Association or any domestic futures exchange. Similarly, these persons may not have the protection of the U.S. securities laws.

**Futures Contracts.** A futures contract may generally be described as an agreement between two parties to buy and sell particular financial instruments for an agreed price during a designated month (or to deliver the final cash settlement price, in the case of a contract relating to an index or otherwise not calling for physical delivery at the end of trading in the contract).

When interest rates are rising or securities prices are falling, a Fund can seek through the sale of futures contracts to offset a decline in the value of its current portfolio securities. When interest rates are falling or securities prices are rising, a Fund, through the purchase of futures contracts, can attempt to secure better rates or prices than might later be available in the market when it effects anticipated purchases. Similarly, each Fund (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) can purchase and sell futures contracts on a specified currency in order to seek to increase total return or to protect against changes in currency exchange rates. For example, each Fund (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) can purchase futures contracts on foreign currency to establish the price in U.S. dollars of a security quoted or denominated in such currency that such Fund has acquired or expects to acquire. As another example, certain Funds may enter into futures transactions to seek a closer correlation between a Fund's overall currency exposures and the currency exposures of a Fund's performance benchmark.

Positions taken in the futures market are not normally held to maturity, but are instead liquidated through offsetting transactions which may result in a profit or a loss. While a Fund will usually liquidate futures contracts on securities or currency in this manner, a Fund may instead make or take delivery of the underlying securities or currency whenever it appears economically advantageous for the Fund to do so. A clearing corporation associated with the exchange on which futures are traded guarantees that, if still open, the sale or purchase will be performed on the settlement date.

**Hedging Strategies.** Hedging, by use of futures contracts, seeks to establish with more certainty than would otherwise be possible the effective price, rate of return or currency exchange rate on portfolio securities or securities that a Fund owns or proposes to acquire. A Fund may, for example, take a “short” position in the futures market by selling futures contracts to seek to hedge against an anticipated rise in interest rates or a decline in market prices or (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) foreign currency rates that would adversely affect the dollar value of such Fund’s portfolio securities. Similarly, each Fund (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may sell futures contracts on a currency in which its portfolio securities are quoted or denominated, or sell futures contracts on one currency to seek to hedge against fluctuations in the value of securities quoted or denominated in a different currency if there is an established historical pattern of correlation between the two currencies. If, in the opinion of the applicable Investment Adviser, there is a sufficient degree of correlation between price trends for a Fund’s portfolio securities and futures contracts based on other financial instruments, securities indices or other indices, a Fund may also enter into such futures contracts as part of its hedging strategy. Although under some circumstances prices of securities in a Fund’s portfolio may be more or less volatile than prices of such futures contracts, the Investment Advisers will attempt to estimate the extent of this volatility difference based on historical patterns and compensate for any such differential by having a Fund enter into a greater or lesser number of futures contracts or by attempting to achieve only a partial hedge against price changes affecting a Fund’s portfolio securities. When hedging of this character is successful, any depreciation in the value of portfolio securities will be substantially offset by appreciation in the value of the futures position. On the other hand, any unanticipated appreciation in the value of a Fund’s portfolio securities would be substantially offset by a decline in the value of the futures position.

On other occasions, a Fund may take a “long” position by purchasing such futures contracts. This may be done, for example, when a Fund anticipates the subsequent purchase of particular securities when it has the necessary cash, but expects the prices or currency exchange rates then available in the applicable market to be less favorable than prices or rates that are currently available.

**Options on Futures Contracts.** The acquisition of put and call options on futures contracts will give a Fund the right (but not the obligation), for a specified price, to sell or to purchase, respectively, the underlying futures contract at any time during the option period. As the purchaser of an option on a futures contract, a Fund obtains the benefit of the futures position if prices move in a favorable direction but limits its risk of loss in the event of an unfavorable price movement to the loss of the premium and transaction costs.

The writing of a call option on a futures contract generates a premium which may partially offset a decline in the value of a Fund’s assets. By writing a call option, a Fund becomes obligated, in exchange for the premium, to sell a futures contract if the option is exercised, which may have a value higher than the exercise price. The writing of a put option on a futures contract generates a premium, which may partially offset an increase in the price of securities that a Fund intends to purchase. However, a Fund becomes obligated (upon the exercise of the option) to purchase a futures contract if the option is exercised, which may have a value lower than the exercise price. Thus, the loss incurred by a Fund in writing options on futures is potentially unlimited and may exceed the amount of the

premium received. A Fund will incur transaction costs in connection with the writing of options on futures.

The holder or writer of an option on a futures contract may terminate its position by selling or purchasing an offsetting option on the same financial instrument. There is no guarantee that such closing transactions can be effected. A Fund's ability to establish and close out positions on such options will be subject to the development and maintenance of a liquid market.

**Other Considerations.** A Fund will engage in transactions in futures contracts and related options transactions only to the extent such transactions are consistent with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") for maintaining its qualification as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes.

Transactions in futures contracts and options on futures involve brokerage costs, require margin deposits and, in certain cases, require the Fund to segregate cash or liquid assets in an amount equal to the underlying value of such contracts and options.

While transactions in futures contracts and options on futures may reduce certain risks, such transactions themselves entail certain other risks. Thus, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance for a Fund than if it had not entered into any futures contracts or options transactions. In the event of an imperfect correlation between a futures position and a portfolio position which is intended to be protected, the desired protection may not be obtained and a Fund may be exposed to risk of loss.

Perfect correlation between a Fund's futures positions and portfolio positions will be difficult to achieve, particularly where futures contracts based on individual equity or corporate fixed-income securities are currently not available. In addition, it is not possible for a Fund to hedge fully or perfectly against currency fluctuations affecting the value of securities quoted or denominated in foreign currencies because the value of such securities is likely to fluctuate as a result of independent factors unrelated to currency fluctuations. The profitability of a Fund's trading in futures depends upon the ability of the Investment Adviser to analyze correctly the futures markets.

### **Options on Securities and Securities Indices**

**Writing Covered Options.** Each Fund may write (sell) covered call and put options on any securities in which it may invest or on any securities index composed of securities in which it may invest. A Fund may purchase and write such options on securities that are listed on national domestic securities exchanges or foreign securities exchanges or traded in the over-the-counter market. A call option written by a Fund obligates such Fund to sell specified securities to the holder of the option at a specified price if the option is exercised before the expiration date. All call options written by a Fund are covered, which means that such Fund will own the securities subject to the option as long as the option is outstanding or such Fund will use the other methods described below. A Fund's purpose in writing covered call options is to realize greater income than would be realized on portfolio securities transactions alone. However, a Fund may forego the opportunity to profit from an increase in the market price of the underlying security.

A put option written by a Fund would obligate such Fund to purchase specified securities from the option holder at a specified price if the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date. All put options written by a Fund would be covered, which means that such Fund will segregate cash or liquid assets with a value at least equal to the exercise price of the put option or will use the other methods described below. The purpose of writing such options is to generate additional income for the Fund. However, in return for the option premium, each Fund accepts the risk that it may be required to purchase the underlying securities at a price in excess of the securities' market value at the time of purchase.

In the case of a call option, the option is "covered" if a Fund owns the instrument underlying the call or has an absolute and immediate right to acquire that instrument without additional cash consideration (or, if additional cash consideration is required, liquid assets in such amount are segregated) upon conversion or exchange of other instruments held by it. A call option is also covered if a Fund holds a call on the same instrument as the option written where the exercise price of the option held is (i) equal to or less than the exercise price of the option written, or (ii) greater than the exercise price of the option written provided the Fund segregates liquid assets in the amount of the difference. A put option is also covered if a Fund holds a put on the same instrument as the option written where the exercise price of the option held is (i) equal to or higher than the exercise price of the option written, or (ii) less than the exercise price of the option written provided the Fund segregates liquid assets in the amount of the difference.

A Fund may also write (sell) covered call and put options on any securities index comprised of securities in which it may invest. Options on securities indices are similar to options on securities, except that the exercise of securities index options requires cash payments and does not involve the actual purchase or sale of securities. In addition, securities index options are designed to reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segment of the securities market rather than price fluctuations in a single security.

A Fund may cover call options on a securities index by owning securities whose price changes are expected to be similar to those of the underlying index, or by having an absolute and immediate right to acquire such securities without additional cash consideration (or for additional consideration which has been segregated by the Fund) upon conversion or exchange of other securities in its portfolio. A Fund may cover put options on a securities index by segregating cash or liquid assets with a value equal to the exercise price or by owning offsetting options as described above.

A Fund may terminate its obligations under an exchange-traded call or put option by purchasing an option identical to the one it has written. Obligations under over-the-counter options may be terminated only by entering into an offsetting transaction with the counterparty to such option. Such purchases are referred to as "closing purchase transactions."

**Purchasing Options.** Each Fund may purchase put and call options on any securities in which it may invest or options on any securities index comprised of securities in which it may invest. A Fund would also be able to enter into closing sale transactions in order to realize gains or minimize losses on options it had purchased.

A Fund may purchase call options in anticipation of an increase, in the market value of securities of the type in which it may invest. The purchase of a call option would entitle a Fund, in return for the premium paid, to purchase specified securities at a specified price during the option period. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain on the purchase of a call option if, during the option period, the value of such securities exceeded the sum of the exercise price, the premium paid and transaction costs; otherwise such a Fund would realize either no gain or a loss on the purchase of the call option.

A Fund may purchase put options in anticipation of a decline in the market value of securities in its portfolio (“protective puts”) or in securities in which it may invest. The purchase of a put option would entitle a Fund, in exchange for the premium paid, to sell specified securities at a specified price during the option period. The purchase of protective puts is designed to offset or hedge against a decline in the market value of a Fund’s securities. Put options may also be purchased by a Fund for the purpose of affirmatively benefiting from a decline in the price of securities which it does not own. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of the underlying securities decreased below the exercise price sufficiently to more than cover the premium and transaction costs; otherwise such a Fund would realize either no gain or a loss on the purchase of the put option. Gains and losses on the purchase of protective put options would tend to be offset by countervailing changes in the value of the underlying portfolio securities.

A Fund would purchase put and call options on securities indices for the same purposes as it would purchase options on individual securities. For a description of options on securities indices, see “Writing Covered Options” above.

**Risks Associated with Options Transactions.** There is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on an options exchange will exist for any particular exchange-traded option or at any particular time. If a Fund is unable to effect a closing purchase transaction with respect to covered options it has written, the Fund will not be able to sell the underlying securities or dispose of segregated assets until the options expire or are exercised. Similarly, if a Fund is unable to effect a closing sale transaction with respect to options it has purchased, it will have to exercise the options in order to realize any profit and will incur transaction costs upon the purchase or sale of underlying securities.

Reasons for the absence of a liquid secondary market on an exchange include the following: (i) there may be insufficient trading interest in certain options; (ii) restrictions may be imposed by an exchange on opening or closing transactions or both; (iii) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions may be imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options; (iv) unusual or unforeseen circumstances may interrupt normal operations on an exchange; (v) the facilities of an exchange or the Options Clearing Corporation may not at all times be adequate to handle current trading volume; or (vi) one or more exchanges could, for economic or other reasons, decide or be compelled at some future date to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options), in which event the secondary market on that exchange (or in that class or series of options) would cease to exist, although outstanding options on that exchange that had been issued by the Options Clearing Corporation as a result of trades on that exchange would continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.



Each Fund may purchase and sell both options that are traded on U.S. and foreign exchanges and options traded over-the-counter with broker-dealers who make markets in these options. The ability to terminate over-the-counter options is more limited than with exchange-traded options and may involve the risk that broker-dealers participating in such transactions will not fulfill their obligations.

Transactions by each Fund in options on securities and indices will be subject to limitations established by each of the exchanges, boards of trade or other trading facilities on which such options are traded governing the maximum number of options in each class which may be written or purchased by a single investor or group of investors acting in concert, regardless of whether the options are written or purchased on the same or different exchanges, boards of trade or other trading facility or are held in one or more accounts or through one or more brokers. Thus, the number of options which a Fund may write or purchase may be affected by options written or purchased by other investment advisory clients of the Investment Advisers. An exchange, board of trade or other trading facility may order the liquidation of positions found to be in excess of these limits, and it may impose certain other sanctions.

The writing and purchase of options is a highly specialized activity which involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. The use of options to seek to increase total return involves the risk of loss if the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of fluctuations in securities prices or interest rates. The successful use of options for hedging purposes also depends in part on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage future price fluctuations and the degree of correlation between the options and securities markets. If the Investment Adviser is incorrect in its expectation of changes in securities prices or determination of the correlation between the securities on which options are written and purchased and the securities in a Fund's investment portfolio, the Fund may incur losses that it would not otherwise incur. The writing of options could increase a Fund's portfolio turnover rate and, therefore, associated brokerage commissions or spreads.

### **Warrants and Stock Purchase Rights**

Each Fund may invest in warrants or rights (in addition to those acquired in units or attached to other securities) which entitle the holder to buy equity securities at a specific price for a specific period of time. A Fund will invest in warrants and rights only if such equity securities are deemed appropriate by the Investment Adviser for investment by the Fund. The CORE Equity Funds have no present intention of acquiring warrants or rights. Warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

### **Foreign Investments**

Each Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers. The Growth and Income and Capital Growth Funds may invest in the aggregate up to 25% and 10%, respectively, of their total assets (not including securities lending collateral and any investment of that collateral) in foreign securities, including securities of issuers located in emerging countries. The Mid-Cap Value Fund may invest in the aggregate up to 25% of its net assets plus any borrowings (measured at the time of purchase) in foreign securities, including securities of issuers located in emerging countries. The International

Equity Fund invests, under normal circumstances, substantially all, and at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes (measured at the time of purchase) in foreign securities. With respect to the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds, equity securities of foreign issuers must be traded in the United States.

Investments in foreign securities may offer potential benefits not available from investments solely in U.S. dollar-denominated or quoted securities of domestic issuers. Such benefits may include the opportunity to invest in foreign issuers that appear, in the opinion of the applicable Investment Adviser, to offer the potential for long-term growth of capital and income, the opportunity to invest in foreign countries with economic policies or business cycles different from those of the United States and the opportunity to reduce fluctuations in portfolio value by taking advantage of foreign stock markets that do not necessarily move in a manner parallel to U.S. markets.

Investing in foreign securities involves certain special risks, including those discussed in the Funds' Prospectuses and those set forth below, which are not typically associated with investing in U.S. dollar-denominated or quoted securities of U.S. issuers. Investments in foreign securities usually involve currencies of foreign countries. Accordingly, a Fund that invests in foreign securities may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency rates and in exchange control regulations and may incur costs in connection with conversions between various currencies. The Capital Growth, Mid Cap Value and International Equity Funds may be subject to currency exposure independent of their securities positions. To the extent that a Fund is fully invested in foreign securities while also maintaining currency positions, it may be exposed to greater combined risk.

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time. They generally are determined by the forces of supply and demand in the foreign exchange markets and the relative merits of investments in different countries, actual or anticipated changes in interest rates and other complex factors, as seen from an international perspective. Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by intervention by U.S. or foreign governments or central banks or the failure to intervene or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad.

Since foreign issuers generally are not subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies, there may be less publicly available information about a foreign company than about a U.S. company. Volume and liquidity in most foreign securities markets are less than in the United States and securities of many foreign companies are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies. The securities of foreign issuers may be listed on foreign securities exchanges or be traded in foreign over-the-counter markets. Fixed commissions on foreign securities exchanges are generally higher than negotiated commissions on U.S. exchanges, although each Fund endeavors to achieve the most favorable net results on its portfolio transactions. There is generally less government supervision and regulation of foreign securities exchanges, brokers, dealers and listed and unlisted companies than in the United States and the legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States.

Foreign markets also have different clearance and settlement procedures, and in certain markets there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, making it difficult to conduct such transactions. Such delays in settlement could result in

temporary periods when some of a Fund's assets are uninvested and no return is earned on such assets. The inability of a Fund to make intended security purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities. Inability to dispose of portfolio securities due to settlement problems could result either in losses to the Fund due to subsequent declines in value of the portfolio securities or, if the Fund has entered into a contract to sell the securities, could result in possible liability to the purchaser. In addition, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, limitations on the movement of funds and other assets between different countries, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments which could adversely affect a Fund's investments in those countries. Moreover, individual foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position.

Each Fund may invest in foreign securities which take the form of sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") and Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs") and (except for the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs") or other similar instruments representing securities of foreign issuers (together, "Depositary Receipts").

ADRs represent the right to receive securities of foreign issuers deposited in a domestic bank or a correspondent bank. ADRs are traded on domestic exchanges or in the U.S. over-the-counter market and, generally, are in registered form. EDRs and GDRs are receipts evidencing an arrangement with a non-U.S. bank similar to that for ADRs and are designed for use in the non-U.S. securities markets. EDRs and GDRs are not necessarily quoted in the same currency as the underlying security.

To the extent a Fund acquires Depositary Receipts through banks which do not have a contractual relationship with the foreign issuer of the security underlying the Depositary Receipts to issue and service such unsponsored Depositary Receipts, there may be an increased possibility that the Fund would not become aware of and be able to respond to corporate actions such as stock splits or rights offerings involving the foreign issuer in a timely manner. In addition, the lack of information may result in inefficiencies in the valuation of such instruments. Investment in Depositary Receipts does not eliminate all the risks inherent in investing in securities of non-U.S. issuers. The market value of Depositary Receipts is dependent upon the market value of the underlying securities and fluctuations in the relative value of the currencies in which the Depositary Receipts and the underlying securities are quoted. However, by investing in Depositary Receipts, such as ADRs, that are quoted in U.S. dollars, a Fund may avoid currency risks during the settlement period for purchases and sales.

As described more fully below, each Fund (except CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may invest in countries with emerging economies or securities markets. Political and economic structures in many of such countries may be undergoing significant evolution and rapid development, and such countries may lack the social, political and economic stability characteristic of more developed countries. Certain of such countries have in the past failed to recognize private property rights and have at times nationalized or expropriated the assets of private companies. As a result, the risks described above, including the risks of nationalization or expropriation of assets, may be heightened. See "Investing in Emerging Markets" below.

**Investing in Emerging Markets.** The International Equity Fund is intended for long-term investors who can accept the risks associated with investing primarily in equity and equity-related securities of foreign issuers, including emerging country issuers, as well as the risks associated with investments quoted or denominated in foreign currencies. The Growth and Income, Capital Growth and Mid Cap Value Funds may invest, to a lesser extent, in equity and equity-related securities of foreign issuers, including emerging country issuers.

The securities markets of emerging countries are less liquid and subject to greater price volatility and have a smaller market capitalization than the U.S. securities markets. In certain countries, there may be fewer publicly traded securities, and the market may be dominated by a few issues or sectors. Issuers and securities markets in such countries are not subject to as extensive and frequent accounting, financial and other reporting requirements or as comprehensive government regulations as are issuers and securities markets in the U.S. In particular, the assets and profits appearing on the financial statements of emerging country issuers may not reflect their financial position or results of operations in the same manner as financial statements for U.S. issuers. Substantially less information may be publicly available about emerging country issuers than is available about issuers in the United States.

Emerging country securities markets are typically marked by a high concentration of market capitalization and trading volume in a small number of issuers representing a limited number of industries, as well as a high concentration of ownership of such securities by a limited number of investors. The markets for securities in certain emerging countries are in the earliest stages of their development. Even the markets for relatively widely traded securities in emerging countries may not be able to absorb, without price disruptions, a significant increase in trading volume or trades of a size customarily undertaken by institutional investors in the securities markets of developed countries. The limited size of many of these securities markets can cause prices to be erratic for reasons apart from factors that affect the soundness and competitiveness of the securities issuers. For example, prices may be unduly influenced by traders who control large positions in these markets. Additionally, market making and arbitrage activities are generally less extensive in such markets, which may contribute to increased volatility and reduced liquidity of such markets. The limited liquidity of emerging country markets may also affect a Fund's ability to accurately value its portfolio securities or to acquire or dispose of securities at the price and time it wishes to do so or in order to meet redemption requests.

Transaction costs, including brokerage commissions or dealer mark-ups, in emerging countries may be higher than in the United States and other developed securities markets. In addition, existing laws and regulations are often inconsistently applied. As legal systems in emerging countries develop, foreign investors may be adversely affected by new or amended laws and regulations. In circumstances where adequate laws exist, it may not be possible to obtain swift and equitable enforcement of the law.

With respect to investments in certain emerging market countries, antiquated legal systems may have an adverse impact on the Funds. For example, while the potential liability of a shareholder in a U.S. corporation with respect to acts of the corporation is generally limited to the amount of the shareholder's investment, the notion of limited liability is less clear in certain emerging market countries. Similarly, the rights of investors in emerging market companies may be more limited than those of shareholders in U.S. corporations.

Foreign investment in the securities markets of certain emerging countries is restricted or controlled to varying degrees. These restrictions may limit a Fund's investment in certain emerging countries and may increase the expenses of the Fund. Certain emerging countries require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit investment by foreign persons to only a specified percentage of an issuer's outstanding securities or a specific class of securities which may have less advantageous terms (including price) than securities of the company available for purchase by nationals. In addition, the repatriation of both investment income and capital from emerging countries may be subject to restrictions which require governmental consents or prohibit repatriation entirely for a period of time. Even where there is no outright restriction on repatriation of capital, the mechanics of repatriation may affect certain aspects of the operation of a Fund. A Fund may be required to establish special custodial or other arrangements before investing in certain emerging countries.

Emerging countries may be subject to a substantially greater degree of economic, political and social instability and disruption than is the case in the United States, Japan and most Western European countries. This instability may result from, among other things, the following: (i) authoritarian governments or military involvement in political and economic decision making, including changes or attempted changes in governments through extra-constitutional means; (ii) popular unrest associated with demands for improved political, economic or social conditions; (iii) internal insurgencies; (iv) hostile relations with neighboring countries; (v) ethnic, religious and racial disaffection or conflict; and (vi) the absence of developed legal structures governing foreign private investments and private property. Such economic, political and social instability could disrupt the principal financial markets in which the Funds may invest and adversely affect the value of the Funds' assets. A Fund's investments can also be adversely affected by any increase in taxes or by political, economic or diplomatic developments.

Certain Funds may seek investment opportunities within the former "east bloc" countries in Eastern Europe. See "Investment Objective and Policies" in the prospectuses. Most Eastern European countries have had a centrally planned, socialist economy for a substantial period of time. The governments of many Eastern European countries have more recently been implementing reforms directed at political and economic liberalization, including efforts to decentralize the economic decision-making process and move towards a market economy. However, business entities in many Eastern European countries do not have an extended history of operating in a market-oriented economy, and the ultimate impact of Eastern European countries' attempts to move toward more market-oriented economies is currently unclear. In addition, any change in the leadership or policies of Eastern European countries may halt the expansion of or reverse the liberalization of foreign investment policies now occurring and adversely affect existing investment opportunities.

The economies of emerging countries may differ unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resources, self-sufficiency and balance of payments. Many emerging countries have experienced in the past, and continue to experience, high rates of inflation. In certain countries inflation has at times accelerated rapidly to hyperinflationary levels, creating a negative interest rate environment and sharply eroding the value of outstanding financial assets in those countries. Other emerging countries, on the other hand, have recently experienced deflationary pressures and are in economic recessions. The economies of many emerging countries are heavily dependent upon international trade and are accordingly affected by protective trade barriers and the economic conditions of their trading partners. In addition, the

economies of some emerging countries are vulnerable to weakness in world prices for their commodity exports.

A Fund's income and, in some cases, capital gains from foreign stocks and securities will be subject to applicable taxation in certain of the countries in which it invests, and treaties between the U.S. and such countries may not be available in some cases to reduce the otherwise applicable tax rates.

Foreign markets also have different clearance and settlement procedures and in certain U.S. markets, there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions making it difficult to conduct such transactions. Such delays in settlement could result in temporary periods when a portion of the assets of a Fund remain uninvested and no return is earned on such assets. The inability of a Fund to make intended security purchases or sales due to settlement problems could result either in losses to the Fund due to subsequent declines in value of the portfolio securities or, if the Fund has entered into a contract to sell the securities, could result in possible liability to the purchaser.

**Sovereign Debt Obligations.** The International Equity Fund may invest in sovereign debt obligations. Investments in sovereign debt obligations involve special risks not present in corporate debt obligations. The issuer of the sovereign debt or the governmental authorities that control the repayment of the debt may be unable or unwilling to repay principal or interest when due, and the Fund may have limited recourse in the event of a default. During periods of economic uncertainty, the market prices of sovereign debt, and the Fund's net asset value, may be more volatile than prices of debt obligations of U.S. issuers. In the past, the governments of certain emerging countries have encountered difficulties in servicing their debt obligations, withheld payments of principal and interest and declared moratoria on the payment of principal and interest on their sovereign debts.

A sovereign debtor's willingness or ability to repay principal and pay interest in a timely manner may be affected by, among other factors, its cash flow situation, the extent of its foreign currency reserves, the availability of sufficient foreign exchange, the relative size of the debt service burden, the sovereign debtor's policy toward principal international lenders and local political constraints. Sovereign debtors may also be dependent on expected disbursements from foreign governments, multinational agencies and other entities to reduce principal and interest arrearages on their debt. The failure of a sovereign debtor to implement economic reforms, achieve specified levels of economic performance or repay principal or interest when due may result in the cancellation of the third parties' commitments to lend funds to the sovereign debtor, which may further impair such debtor's ability or willingness to timely service its debts.

**Brady Bonds.** Certain foreign debt obligations, customarily referred to as "Brady Bonds," are created through the exchange of existing commercial bank loans to foreign entities for new obligations in connection with debt restructuring under a plan introduced by former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, Nicholas F. Brady (the "Brady Plan"). Brady Bonds may be fully or partially collateralized or uncollateralized and issued in various currencies (although most are U.S. dollar denominated). In the event of a default on collateralized Brady Bonds for which obligations are accelerated, the collateral for the payment of principal will not be distributed to investors, nor will such obligations be sold and the proceeds distributed. The collateral will be held by the collateral agent to the scheduled maturity of the

defaulted Brady Bonds, which will continue to be outstanding, at which time the face amount of the collateral will equal the principal payments which would have then been due on the Brady Bonds in the normal course. In light of the residual risk of the Brady Bonds and, among other factors, the history of default with respect to commercial bank loans by public and private entities of countries issuing Brady Bonds, investments in Brady Bonds may be speculative.

**Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts.** The Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Small Cap Equity, Mid Cap Value and Capital Growth Funds may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts for hedging purposes and to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates. The International Equity Fund may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts for hedging purposes, to seek to protect against anticipated changes in future foreign currency exchange rates and to seek to increase total return. A forward foreign currency exchange contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties, at a price set at the time of the contract. These contracts are traded in the interbank market between currency traders (usually large commercial banks) and their customers. A forward contract generally has no deposit requirement, and no commissions are generally charged at any stage for trades.

At the maturity of a forward contract a Fund may either accept or make delivery of the currency specified in the contract or, at or prior to maturity, enter into a closing transaction involving the purchase or sale of an offsetting contract. Closing transactions with respect to forward contracts are often, but not always, effected with the currency trader who is a party to the original forward contract.

A Fund may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts in several circumstances. First, when a Fund enters into a contract for the purchase or sale of a security denominated or quoted in a foreign currency, or when a Fund anticipates the receipt in a foreign currency of dividend or interest payments on such a security which it holds, the Fund may desire to “lock in” the U.S. dollar price of the security or the U.S. dollar equivalent of such dividend or interest payment, as the case may be. By entering into a forward contract for the purchase or sale, for a fixed amount of dollars, of the amount of foreign currency involved in the underlying transactions, the Fund will attempt to protect itself against an adverse change in the relationship between the U.S. dollar and the subject foreign currency during the period between the date on which the security is purchased or sold, or on which the dividend or interest payment is declared, and the date on which such payments are made or received.

Additionally, when the Investment Adviser believes that the currency of a particular foreign country may suffer a substantial decline against the U.S. dollar, it may enter into a forward contract to sell, for a fixed amount of U.S. dollars, the amount of foreign currency approximating the value of some or all of such Fund’s portfolio securities quoted or denominated in such foreign currency. The precise matching of the forward contract amounts and the value of the securities involved will not generally be possible because the future value of such securities in foreign currencies will change as a consequence of market movements in the value of those securities between the date on which the contract is entered into and the date it matures. Using forward contracts to protect the value of a Fund’s portfolio securities against a decline in the value of a currency does not eliminate fluctuations in the underlying prices of the securities. It simply establishes a rate of exchange, which a Fund can achieve at some future point in time. The precise projection of short-term currency market movements is not

possible, and short-term hedging provides a means of fixing the U.S. dollar value of only a portion of a Fund's foreign assets.

Each Fund may engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in one currency to hedge against fluctuations in the value of securities quoted or denominated in a different currency. In addition, certain Funds may enter into foreign currency transactions to seek a close correlation between a Fund's overall currency exposures and the currency exposures of a Fund's performance benchmark.

The International Equity Fund may also enter into forward contracts to seek to increase total return. Unless otherwise covered in accordance with applicable regulations, cash or liquid assets of a Fund will be segregated in an amount equal to the value of the Fund's total assets committed to the consummation of forward foreign currency exchange contracts. The segregated assets will be marked-to-market on a daily basis. If the value of the segregated assets declines, additional cash or liquid assets will be segregated on a daily basis so that the value of the assets will equal the amount of a Fund's commitments with respect to such contracts.

While a Fund may enter into forward contracts to reduce currency exchange rate risks, transactions in such contracts involve certain other risks. Thus, while a Fund may benefit from such transactions, unanticipated changes in currency prices may result in a poorer overall performance for a Fund than if it had not engaged in any such transactions. Moreover, there may be imperfect correlation between a Fund's portfolio holdings of securities quoted or denominated in a particular currency and forward contracts entered into by such Fund. Such imperfect correlation may cause a Fund to sustain losses which will prevent a Fund from achieving a complete hedge or expose the Fund to risk of foreign exchange loss.

Markets for trading foreign forward currency contracts offer less protection against defaults than is available when trading in currency instruments on an exchange. Forward contracts are subject to the risk that the counterparty to such contract will default on its obligation. Since a forward foreign currency exchange contract is not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, a default on the contract would deprive a Fund of unrealized profits, transaction costs or the benefits of a currency hedge or force the Fund to cover its purchase or sale commitments, if any, at the current market price. In addition, the institutions that deal in foreign forward currency contracts are not required to continue to make markets in the currencies they trade and these markets can experience periods of illiquidity. A Fund will not enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts, currency swaps or other privately negotiated currency instruments unless the credit quality of the unsecured senior debt or the claims paying ability of the counterparty is considered to be investment grade by the Investment Adviser. To the extent that a substantial portion of a Fund's total assets, adjusted to reflect the Fund's net position after giving effect to currency transactions, is denominated or quoted in the currencies of foreign countries, the Fund will be more susceptible to the risk of adverse economic and political developments within those countries.

**Writing and Purchasing Currency Call and Put Options.** Each Fund may, to the extent that it invests in foreign securities, write and purchase put and call options on foreign currencies for the purpose of protecting against declines in the U.S. dollar value of foreign portfolio securities and against increases in the U.S. dollar cost of foreign securities to be acquired. As with other kinds of option transactions, however, the writing of an option on foreign currency will constitute only a partial hedge,



up to the amount of the premium received. If and when a Fund seeks to close out an option, the Fund could be required to purchase or sell foreign currencies at disadvantageous exchange rates, thereby incurring losses. The purchase of an option on foreign currency may constitute an effective hedge against exchange rate fluctuations; however, in the event of exchange rate movements adverse to a Fund's position, the Fund may forfeit the entire amount of the premium plus related transaction costs. Options on foreign currencies may be traded on U.S. and foreign exchanges or over-the-counter.

Options on currency may also be used for cross-hedging purposes, which involves writing or purchasing options on one currency to seek to hedge against changes in exchange rates for a different currency with a pattern of correlation, or to seek to increase total return when the Investment Adviser anticipates that the currency will appreciate or depreciate in value, but the securities quoted or denominated in that currency do not present attractive investment opportunities and are not included in the Fund's portfolio.

A call option written by a Fund obligates the Fund to sell a specified currency to the holder of the option at a specified price if the option is exercised before the expiration date. A put option written by a Fund would obligate a Fund to purchase a specified currency from the option holder at a specified price if the option is exercised before the expiration date. The writing of currency options involves a risk that a Fund will, upon exercise of the option, be required to sell currency subject to a call at a price that is less than the currency's market value or be required to purchase currency subject to a put at a price that exceeds the currency's market value. Written put and call options on foreign currencies may be covered in a manner similar to written put and call options on securities and securities indices described under "Writing Covered Options" above.

A Fund may terminate its obligations under a call or put option by purchasing an option identical to the one it has written. Such purchases are referred to as "closing purchase transactions." A Fund may enter into closing sale transactions in order to realize gains or minimize losses on options purchased by the Fund.

A Fund would normally purchase call options on foreign currency in anticipation of an increase in the U.S. dollar value of currency in which securities to be acquired by the Fund are quoted or denominated. The purchase of a call option would entitle a Fund, in return for the premium paid, to purchase specified currency at a specified price during the option period. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of such currency exceeded the sum of the exercise price, the premium paid and transaction costs; otherwise, the Fund would realize either no gain or a loss on the purchase of the call option.

A Fund would normally purchase put options in anticipation of a decline in the U.S. dollar value of the currency in which securities in its portfolio are quoted or denominated ("protective puts"). The purchase of a put option would entitle a Fund, in exchange for the premium paid, to sell a specified currency at a specified price during the option period. The purchase of protective puts is usually designed to offset or hedge against a decline in the U.S. dollar value of a Fund's portfolio securities due to currency exchange rate fluctuations. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of the underlying currency decreased below the exercise price sufficiently to more than cover the premium and transaction costs; otherwise, the Fund would realize either no gain or a loss on the purchase of the put option. Gains and losses on the purchase of protective put options

would tend to be offset by countervailing changes in the value of underlying currency or portfolio securities.

As noted, in addition to using options for the hedging purposes described above, the Funds may use options on currency to seek to increase total return. The Funds may write (sell) covered put and call options on any currency in order to realize greater income than would be realized on portfolio securities transactions alone. However, in writing covered call options for additional income, the Funds may forego the opportunity to profit from an increase in the market value of the underlying currency. Also, when writing put options, the Funds accept, in return for the option premium, the risk that they may be required to purchase the underlying currency at a price in excess of the currency's market value at the time of purchase.

**Special Risks Associated With Options on Currency.** An exchange traded options position may be closed out only on an options exchange that provides a secondary market for an option of the same series. Although a Fund will generally purchase or write only those options for which there appears to be an active secondary market, there is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on an exchange will exist for any particular option, or at any particular time. For some options, no secondary market on an exchange may exist. In such event, it might not be possible to effect closing transactions in particular options, with the result that a Fund would have to exercise its options in order to realize any profit and would incur transaction costs upon the sale of underlying securities pursuant to the exercise of put options. If a Fund as a covered call option writer is unable to effect a closing purchase transaction in a secondary market, it may not be able to sell the underlying currency (or security quoted or denominated in that currency) until the option expires or it delivers the underlying currency upon exercise.

There is no assurance that higher than anticipated trading activity or other unforeseen events might not, at times, render certain of the facilities of the Options Clearing Corporation inadequate, and thereby result in the institution by an exchange of special procedures which may interfere with the timely execution of customers' orders.

A Fund may purchase and write over-the-counter options to the extent consistent with its limitation on investments in illiquid securities. Trading in over-the-counter options is subject to the risk that the other party will be unable or unwilling to close out options purchased or written by a Fund.

The amount of the premiums which a Fund may pay or receive may be adversely affected as new or existing institutions, including other investment companies, engage in or increase their option purchasing and writing activities.

### **Convertible Securities**

Each Fund may invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities are bonds, debentures, notes, preferred stocks or other securities that may be converted into or exchanged for a specified amount of common stock of the same or different issuer within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula. A convertible security entitles the holder to receive interest that is generally paid or accrued on debt or a dividend that is paid or accrued on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Convertible securities have unique investment

characteristics, in that they generally (i) have higher yields than common stocks, but lower yields than comparable non-convertible securities, (ii) are less subject to fluctuation in value than the underlying common stock due to their fixed-income characteristics and (iii) provide the potential for capital appreciation if the market price of the underlying common stock increases.

The value of a convertible security is a function of its “investment value” (determined by its yield in comparison with the yields of other securities of comparable maturity and quality that do not have a conversion privilege) and its “conversion value” (the security’s worth, at market value, if converted into the underlying common stock). The investment value of a convertible security is influenced by changes in interest rates, with investment value normally declining as interest rates increase and increasing as interest rates decline. The credit standing of the issuer and other factors may also have an effect on the convertible security’s investment value. The conversion value of a convertible security is determined by the market price of the underlying common stock. If the conversion value is low relative to the investment value, the price of the convertible security is governed principally by its investment value. To the extent the market price of the underlying common stock approaches or exceeds the conversion price, the price of the convertible security will be increasingly influenced by its conversion value. A convertible security generally will sell at a premium over its conversion value by the extent to which investors place value on the right to acquire the underlying common stock while holding a fixed-income security.

A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a price established in the convertible security’s governing instrument. If a convertible security held by a Fund is called for redemption, the Fund will be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security, convert it into the underlying common stock or sell it to a third party. Any of these actions could have an adverse effect on a Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective, which, in turn, could result in losses to the Fund.

In evaluating a convertible security, the Investment Adviser will give primary emphasis to the attractiveness of the underlying common stock. Convertible debt securities are equity investments for purposes of each Fund’s investment policies.

### **Preferred Securities**

Each Fund may invest in preferred securities. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default (such as a covenant default or filing of a bankruptcy petition) or other non-compliance by the issuer with the terms of the preferred stock. Often, however, on the occurrence of any such event of default or non-compliance by the issuer, preferred stockholders will be entitled to gain representation on the issuer’s board of directors or increase their existing board representation. In addition, preferred stockholders may be granted voting rights with respect to certain issues on the occurrence of any event of default.

## **Currency Swaps**

The International Equity Fund may enter into currency swaps for both hedging purposes and to seek to increase total return. Currency swaps involve the exchange by a Fund with another party of their respective rights to make or receive payments in specified currencies.

A great deal of flexibility is possible in the way swap transactions are structured. Currency swaps usually involve the delivery of a gross payment stream in one designated currency in exchange for the gross payment stream in another designated currency. Therefore, the entire principal value of a currency swap is subject to the risk that the other party to the swap will default on its contractual delivery obligations. To the extent that the Fund's potential exposure in a transaction involving a swap is covered by the segregation of cash or liquid assets or otherwise, the Fund and the Investment Adviser believe that the transactions do not constitute senior securities under the Act and, accordingly, will not treat them as being subject to the Fund's borrowing restrictions.

The International Equity Fund will not enter into swap transactions unless the unsecured commercial paper, senior debt or claims paying ability of the other party thereto is considered to be investment grade by the Investment Adviser. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. The swap market has grown substantially in recent years with a large number of banks and investment banking firms acting both as principals and as agents utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap market has become relatively liquid in comparison with the markets for other similar instruments which are traded in the interbank market. The Investment Advisers, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, are responsible for determining and monitoring the liquidity of the Fund's transactions in swaps.

The use of currency swaps is a highly specialized activity which involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. If an Investment Adviser is incorrect in its forecasts of market values, interest rates and currency exchange rates, the investment performance of the Fund would be less favorable than it would have been if this investment technique were not used.

## **Equity Swaps**

The Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Small Cap Equity, Capital Growth, Mid Cap Value, and International Equity Funds may enter into equity swap contracts to invest in a market without owning or taking physical custody of securities in various circumstances, including circumstances where direct investment in the securities is restricted for legal reasons or is otherwise impracticable. Equity swaps may also be used for hedging purposes or to seek to increase total return. The counterparty to an equity swap contract will typically be a bank, investment banking firm or broker/dealer. Equity swap contracts may be structured in different ways. For example, a counterparty may agree to pay the Fund the amount, if any, by which the notional amount of the equity swap contract would have increased in value had it been invested in the particular stocks or an index of stocks, plus the dividends that would have been received on those stocks. In these cases, the Fund may agree to pay to the counterparty a floating rate of interest on the notional amount of the equity swap contract plus the amount, if any, by which that notional amount would have decreased in value had it

been invested in such stocks. Therefore, the return to the Fund on the equity swap contract should be the gain or loss on the notional amount plus dividends on the stocks less the interest paid by the Fund on the notional amount. In other cases, the counterparty and the Fund may each agree to pay the other the difference between the relative investment performances that would have been achieved if the notional amount of the equity swap contract had been invested in different stocks (or indices of stocks).

A Fund will generally enter into equity swaps on a net basis, which means that the two payment streams are netted out, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. Payments may be made at the conclusion of an equity swap contract or periodically during its term. Equity swaps normally do not involve the delivery of securities or other underlying assets. Accordingly, the risk of loss with respect to equity swaps is normally limited to the net amount of payments that a Fund is contractually obligated to make. If the other party to an equity swap defaults, a Fund's risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that such Fund is contractually entitled to receive, if any. Inasmuch as these transactions are entered into for hedging purposes or are offset by segregated cash or liquid assets to cover the Fund's potential exposure, the Funds and their Investment Advisers believe that transactions do not constitute senior securities under the Act and, accordingly, will not treat them as being subject to a Fund's borrowing restrictions.

A Fund will not enter into swap transactions unless the unsecured commercial paper, senior debt or claims paying ability of the other party thereto is considered to be investment grade by the Investment Adviser. A Fund's ability to enter into certain swap transactions may be limited by tax considerations.

### **Real Estate Investment Trusts**

The Funds may invest in shares of REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles which invest primarily in income producing real estate or real estate related loans or interests. REITs are generally classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs or a combination of equity and mortgage REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive income primarily from the collection of rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive income from the collection of interest payments. Similar to investment companies such as the Funds, REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with certain requirements under the Code. A Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of expenses incurred by REITs in which it invests in addition to the expenses incurred directly by the Fund.

Investing in REITs involves certain unique risks. Equity REITs may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by such REITs, while mortgage REITs may be affected by the quality of any credit extended. REITs are dependent upon management skills, are not diversified (except to the extent the Code requires), and are subject to the risks of financing projects. REITs are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers, self-liquidation, and the possibilities of failing to qualify for the exemption from tax for distributed income under the Code and failing to maintain their exemptions from the Act. REITs (especially mortgage REITs) are also subject to interest rate risks.

### **Lending of Portfolio Securities**

Each Fund may lend portfolio securities. Under present regulatory policies, such loans may be made to institutions, such as brokers or dealers (including, Goldman Sachs), and are required to be secured continuously by collateral in cash, cash equivalents, letters of credit or U.S. Government Securities maintained on a current basis at an amount, marked to market daily, at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. Cash received as collateral for securities lending transactions may be invested in short-term investments. Investing the collateral subjects it to market depreciation or appreciation, and the Fund is responsible for any loss that may result from its investment of the borrowed collateral. A Fund will have the right to terminate a loan at any time and recall the loaned securities within the normal and customary settlement time for securities transactions. For the duration of a loan, a Fund will continue to receive the equivalent of the interest or dividends paid by the issuer on the securities loaned and will also receive compensation from investment of the collateral. A Fund will not have the right to vote any securities having voting rights during the existence of the loan, but a Fund may call the loan in anticipation of an important vote to be taken by the holders of the securities or the giving or withholding of their consent on a material matter affecting the investment. As with other extensions of credit there are risks of delay in recovering, or even loss of rights in, the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. However, the loans will be made only to firms deemed to be of good standing, and when the consideration which can be earned currently from securities loans of this type is deemed to justify the attendant risk. In determining whether to lend securities to a particular borrower and during the period of the loan, the creditworthiness of the borrower will be considered and monitored. It is intended that the value of securities loaned by a Fund will not exceed one-third of the value of the Fund's total assets (including the loan collateral). Loan collateral (including any investment of the collateral) is not subject to the percentage limitations stated elsewhere in this Additional Statement or the Prospectuses regarding investing in fixed-income securities and cash equivalents.

The Funds' Board of Trustees has approved each Fund's participation in a securities lending program and adopted policies and procedures relating thereto. Under the securities lending program, the Funds have retained an affiliate of the Investment Adviser to serve as the securities lending agent for the Funds, for these services, the lending agent may receive a fee from the Funds, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund's investment of cash received as collateral, for loaned securities. The lending agent may, on behalf of the Funds, invest cash collateral received by a Fund for securities loans in, among other things, other registered or unregistered funds. These funds include private investing funds or money market funds that are managed by the Investment Adviser or its affiliates for the purpose of investing cash collateral generated from securities lending activities and which pay the Investment Adviser or its affiliates for these services. Each Fund's Board of Trustees will periodically review securities loan transactions for which the Goldman Sachs affiliate has acted as lending agent for compliance with the Fund's securities lending procedures. Goldman Sachs also has been approved as a borrower under each Fund's securities lending program, subject to certain conditions.

#### **When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments**

Each Fund may purchase securities on a when-issued basis or purchase or sell securities on a forward commitment basis beyond the customary settlement time. These transactions involve a commitment by a Fund to purchase or sell securities at a future date. The price of the underlying securities (usually expressed in terms of yield) and the date when the securities will be delivered and

paid for (the settlement date) are fixed at the time the transaction is negotiated. When-issued purchases and forward commitment transactions are negotiated directly with the other party, and such commitments are not traded on exchanges. A Fund will generally purchase securities on a when-issued basis or purchase or sell securities on a forward commitment basis only with the intention of completing the transaction and actually purchasing or selling the securities. If deemed advisable as a matter of investment strategy, however, a Fund may dispose of or negotiate a commitment after entering into it. The Funds may realize a capital gain or loss in connection with these transactions. For purposes of determining a Fund's duration, the maturity of when-issued or forward commitment securities will be calculated from the commitment date. A Fund is generally required to segregate, until three days prior to the settlement date, cash and liquid assets in an amount sufficient to meet the purchase price unless the Fund's obligations are otherwise covered. Securities purchased or sold on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involve a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines prior to the settlement date or if the value of the security to be sold increases prior to the settlement date.

### **Investment in Unseasoned Companies**

Each Fund may invest in companies (including predecessors) which have operated less than three years. The securities of such companies may have limited liquidity, which can result in their being priced higher or lower than might otherwise be the case. In addition, investments in unseasoned companies are more speculative and entail greater risk than do investments in companies with an established operating record.

### **Other Investment Companies**

Each Fund reserves the right to invest up to 10% of its total assets, calculated at the time of purchase in the securities of other investment companies (including, exchange-traded funds such as Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts™ ("SPDRs") and iShares<sup>sm</sup> (as defined below)) but, may not invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of any one investment company or acquire more than 3% of the voting securities of any other investment company. Pursuant to an exemptive order obtained from the SEC, the Funds may invest in money market funds for which an Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates serves as investment adviser, administrator and/or distributor. A Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by investment companies in which it invests in addition to the management fees (and other expenses) paid by the Fund. However, to the extent that the Fund invests in a money market fund for which an Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates acts as Investment Adviser, the management fees payable by the Fund to an Investment Adviser or its affiliates will, to the extent required by the SEC, be reduced by an amount equal to the Fund's proportionate share of the management fees paid by such money market fund to the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates. Although the Funds do not expect to do so in the foreseeable future, each Fund is authorized to invest substantially all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series thereof that has substantially the same investment objective, policies and fundamental restrictions as the Fund.

Exchange-traded funds are shares of unaffiliated investment companies issuing shares which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national stock exchange or the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations Systems ("NASDAQ") National Market System. SPDRs are

interests in a unit investment trust (“UIT”) that may be obtained from the UIT or purchased in the secondary market (SPDRs are listed on the American Stock Exchange). The UIT was established to accumulate and hold a portfolio of common stocks that is intended to track the price performance and dividend yield of the Standard & Poor’s 500 Composite Stock Price Index (the “S&P Index”). The UIT is sponsored by a subsidiary of the AMEX. SPDRs may be used for several reasons, including, but not limited to, facilitating the handling of cash flows or trading or reducing transaction costs. The price movement of SPDRs may not perfectly parallel the price activity of the S&P Index. The UIT will issue SPDRs in aggregations known as “Creation Units” in exchange for a “Portfolio Deposit” consisting of (i) a portfolio of securities substantially similar to the component securities (“Index Securities”) of the S&P Index, (ii) a cash payment equal to a pro rata portion of the dividends accrued on the UIT’s portfolio securities since the last dividend payment by the UIT, net of expenses and liabilities, and (iii) a cash payment or credit (“Balancing Amount”) designed to equalize the net asset value of the S&P Index and the net asset value of a Portfolio Deposit.

SPDRs are not individually redeemable, except upon termination of the UIT. To redeem, an investor must accumulate enough SPDRs to reconstitute a Creation Unit. The liquidity of small holdings of SPDRs, therefore, will depend upon the existence of a secondary market. Upon redemption of a Creation Unit, an investor will receive Index Securities and cash identical to the Portfolio Deposit required of an investor wishing to purchase a Creation Unit that day.

The price of SPDRs is derived from and based upon the securities held by the UIT. Accordingly, the level of risk involved in the purchase or sale of a SPDR is similar to the risk involved in the purchase or sale of traditional common stock, with the exception that the pricing mechanism for SPDRs is based on a basket of stocks. Disruptions in the markets for the securities underlying SPDRs purchased or sold by the Funds could result in losses on SPDRs.

Each Fund (other than CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may also purchase shares of investment companies investing primarily in foreign securities, including “country funds.” Country funds have portfolios consisting primarily of securities of issuers located in specified foreign countries or regions. Each Fund may, subject to the limitations stated above, invest in iShares<sup>sm</sup> and similar securities that invest in securities included in specified indices, including the MSCI indices for various countries and regions. iShares<sup>sm</sup> are listed on the AMEX and were initially offered to the public in 1996. The market prices of iShares<sup>sm</sup> are expected to fluctuate in accordance with both changes in the NAVs of their underlying indices and supply and demand of iShares<sup>sm</sup> on the AMEX. iShares<sup>sm</sup> have a limited operating history and information is lacking regarding the actual performance and trading liquidity of iShares<sup>sm</sup> for extended periods or over complete market cycles. In addition, there is no assurance that the requirements of the AMEX necessary to maintain the listing of iShares<sup>sm</sup> will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting iShares<sup>sm</sup> should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of a Fund’s shares could also be substantially and adversely affected. If such disruptions were to occur, a Fund could be required to reconsider the use of iShares<sup>sm</sup> as part of its investment strategy.

### **Repurchase Agreements**

Each Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with banks, brokers and securities dealers which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of their repurchase



obligation. The International Equity Fund may also enter into repurchase agreements involving certain foreign government securities. A repurchase agreement is an arrangement under which a Fund purchases securities and the seller agrees to repurchase the securities within a particular time and at a specified price. Custody of the securities is maintained by a Fund's custodian (or sub-custodian). The repurchase price may be higher than the purchase price, the difference being income to a Fund, or the purchase and repurchase prices may be the same, with interest at a stated rate due to a Fund together with the repurchase price on repurchase. In either case, the income to a Fund is unrelated to the interest rate on the security subject to the repurchase agreement.

For purposes of the Act and generally for tax purposes, a repurchase agreement is deemed to be a loan from a Fund to the seller of the security. For other purposes, it is not always clear whether a court would consider the security purchased by a Fund subject to a repurchase agreement as being owned by a Fund or as being collateral for a loan by a Fund to the seller. In the event of commencement of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings with respect to the seller of the security before repurchase of the security under a repurchase agreement, a Fund may encounter delay and incur costs before being able to sell the security. Such a delay may involve loss of interest or a decline in the value of the security. If the court characterizes the transaction as a loan and a Fund has not perfected a security interest in the security, a Fund may be required to return the security to the seller's estate and be treated as an unsecured creditor of the seller. As an unsecured creditor, a Fund would be at risk of losing some or all of the principal and interest involved in the transaction.

Apart from the risk of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings, there is also the risk that the seller may fail to repurchase the security. However, if the market value of the security subject to the repurchase agreement becomes less than the repurchase price (including accrued interest), a Fund will direct the seller of the security to deliver additional securities so that the market value of all securities subject to the repurchase agreement equals or exceeds the repurchase price. Certain repurchase agreements which provide for settlement in more than seven days can be liquidated before the nominal fixed term on seven days or less notice. Such repurchase agreements will be regarded as liquid instruments.

The Funds, together with other registered investment companies having management agreements with the Investment Advisers or their affiliates, may transfer uninvested cash balances into a single joint account, the daily aggregate balance of which will be invested in one or more repurchase agreements.

### **Reverse Repurchase Agreements**

A Fund may borrow money by entering into transactions called reverse repurchase agreements. Under these arrangements, a Fund will sell portfolio securities to dealers in U.S. Government Securities or members of the Federal Reserve System, with an agreement to repurchase the security on an agreed date, price and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the possible risk that the value of portfolio securities a Fund relinquishes may decline below the price the Fund must pay when the transaction closes. Borrowings may magnify the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested resulting in an increase in the speculative character of a Fund's outstanding shares.

When a Fund enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, it places in a separate custodial account either liquid assets or other high-grade debt securities that have a value equal to or greater than the repurchase price. The account is then continuously monitored to make sure that an appropriate value is maintained. Reverse repurchase agreements are considered to be borrowings under the Act.

### **Restricted and Illiquid Securities**

Each Fund may purchase securities that are not registered or offered in an exempt non-public offering (“Restricted Securities”) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“1933 Act”), including securities eligible for resale to “qualified institutional buyers” pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act. However, a Fund will not invest more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments, which include securities (both foreign and domestic) that are not readily marketable, certain SMBS, certain municipal leases and participation interests, certain over-the-counter options, repurchase agreements and time deposits with a notice or demand period of more than seven days, and certain Restricted Securities, unless it is determined, based upon a continuing review of the trading markets for the specific instrument, that such instrument is liquid. The Trustees have adopted guidelines under which the Investment Advisers determine and monitor the liquidity of the Funds’ portfolio securities. This investment practice could have the effect of increasing the level of illiquidity in a Fund to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these instruments.

The purchase price and subsequent valuation of Restricted Securities may reflect a discount from the price at which such securities trade when they are not restricted, since the restriction may make them less liquid. The amount of the discount from the prevailing market price is expected to vary depending upon the type of security, the character of the issuer, the party who will bear the expenses of registering the Restricted Securities and prevailing supply and demand conditions.

### **Short Sales**

The Funds (other than the CORE U.S. Equity and CORE Small Cap Equity Funds) may engage in short sales against the box. In a short sale, the seller sells a borrowed security and has a corresponding obligation to the lender to return the identical security. The seller does not immediately deliver the securities sold and is said to have a short position in those securities until delivery occurs. While a short sale is made by selling a security the seller does not own, a short sale is “against the box” to the extent that the seller contemporaneously owns or has the right to obtain, at no added cost, securities identical to those sold short. It may be entered into by a Fund, for example, to lock in a sales price for a security the Fund does not wish to sell immediately. If a Fund sells securities short against the box, it may protect itself from loss if the price of the securities declines in the future, but will lose the opportunity to profit on such securities if the price rises.

If a Fund effects a short sale of securities at a time when it has an unrealized gain on the securities, it may be required to recognize that gain as if it had actually sold the securities (as a “constructive sale”) on the date it effects the short sale. However, such constructive sale treatment may not apply if the Fund closes out the short sale with securities other than the appreciated securities held at the time of the short sale and if certain other conditions are satisfied. Uncertainty regarding the tax consequences of effecting short sales may limit the extent to which the Fund may effect short sales.

## Portfolio Turnover

Each Fund may engage in active short-term trading to benefit from yield disparities among different issues of securities or among the markets for equity or fixed-income securities, or for other reasons. Portfolio turnover may vary greatly from year to year as well as within a particular year, and may be affected by changes in the holdings of specific issuers, changes in country and currency weightings, cash requirements for redemption of shares and by requirements which enable the Funds to receive favorable tax treatment. The Funds are not restricted by policy with regard to portfolio turnover and will make changes in their investment portfolio from time to time as business and economic conditions as well as market price may dictate.

## INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The investment restrictions set forth below have been adopted by the Trust as fundamental policies that cannot be changed with respect to a Fund without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority (as defined in the Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the affected Fund. The investment objective of each Fund and all other investment policies or practices of each Fund are considered by the Trust not to be fundamental and accordingly may be changed without shareholder approval. For purposes of the Act, “majority of the outstanding voting securities” means the lesser of the vote of (i) 67% or more of the shares of the Trust or a Fund present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Trust or a Fund are present or represented by proxy, or (ii) more than 50% of the shares of the Trust or a Fund. For purposes of the following limitations, any limitation which involves a maximum percentage shall not be considered violated unless an excess over the percentage occurs immediately after, and is caused by, an acquisition or encumbrance of securities or assets of, or borrowings by, a Fund. With respect to the Funds’ fundamental investment restriction no. 3, asset coverage of at least 300% (as defined in the Act), inclusive of any amounts borrowed, must be maintained at all times.

As a matter of fundamental policy, a Fund may not:

(1) make any investment inconsistent with the Fund’s classification as a diversified company under the Act. This restriction does not, however, apply to any Fund classified as a non-diversified company under the Act;

(2) invest 25% or more of its total assets in the securities of one or more issuers conducting their principal business activities in the same industry (excluding the U.S. Government or any of its agencies or instrumentalities). (For the purposes of this restriction, state and municipal governments and their agencies, authorities and instrumentalities are not deemed to be industries; telephone companies are considered to be a separate industry from water, gas or electric utilities; personal credit finance companies and business credit finance companies are deemed to be separate industries; and wholly-owned finance companies are considered to be in the industry of their parents if their activities are primarily related to financing the activities of their parents.) This restriction does not apply to investments in municipal securities which have been pre-refunded by the use of obligations of the U.S. Government or any of its agencies or instrumentalities;

(3) borrow money, except (a) the Fund may borrow from banks (as defined in the Act) or through reverse repurchase agreements in amounts up to 33-1/3% of its total assets (including the amount borrowed), (b) the Fund may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, borrow up to an additional 5% of its total assets for temporary purposes, (c) the Fund may obtain such short-term credits as may be necessary for the clearance of purchases and sales of portfolio securities, (d) the Fund may purchase securities on margin to the extent permitted by applicable law and (e) the Fund may engage in transactions in mortgage dollar rolls which are accounted for as financings;

(4) make loans, except through (a) the purchase of debt obligations in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies, (b) repurchase agreements with banks, brokers, dealers and other financial institutions, and (c) loans of securities as permitted by applicable law;

(5) underwrite securities issued by others, except to the extent that the sale of portfolio securities by the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriting;

(6) purchase, hold or deal in real estate, although a Fund may purchase and sell securities that are secured by real estate or interests therein, securities of real estate investment trusts and mortgage-related securities and may hold and sell real estate acquired by a Fund as a result of the ownership of securities;

(7) invest in commodities or commodity contracts, except that the Fund may invest in currency and financial instruments and contracts that are commodities or commodity contracts; or

(8) issue senior securities to the extent such issuance would violate applicable law.

Each Fund may, notwithstanding any other fundamental investment restriction or policy, invest some or all of its assets in a single open-end investment company or series thereof with substantially the same investment objective, restrictions and policies as the Fund.

In addition to the fundamental policies mentioned above, the Trustees have adopted the following non-fundamental policies which can be changed or amended by action of the Trustees without approval of shareholders.

A Fund may not:

- (a) Invest in companies for the purpose of exercising control or management;
- (b) Invest more than 15% of the Fund's net assets in illiquid investments including illiquid repurchase agreements with a notice or demand period of more than seven days, securities which are not readily marketable and restricted securities not eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act;
- (c) Purchase additional securities if the Fund's borrowings (excluding covered mortgage dollar rolls) exceed 5% of its net assets; or
- (d) Make short sales of securities, except short sales against the box.

## TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

The business and affairs of the Funds are managed under the direction of the Board of Trustees subject to the laws of the State of Delaware and the Trust's Declaration of Trust. The Trustees are responsible for deciding matters of general policy and reviewing the actions of the Trust's service providers. The officers of the Trust conduct and supervise each Fund's daily business operations.

### Trustees of the Trust

Information pertaining to the Trustees of the Trust is set forth below. Trustees who are not deemed to be "interested persons" of the Trust as defined in the Act are referred to as "Independent Trustees." Trustees who are deemed to be "interested persons" of the Trust are referred to as "Interested Trustees."

### Independent Trustees

Name, Address and Age <sup>1</sup>	Position(s) Held with the Trust <sup>2</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>3</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>4</sup>	Other Directorships Held by Trustee <sup>5</sup>
Ashok N. Bakhru Age: 62	Chairman & Trustee	Since 1997	President, ABN Associates (July 1994–March 1996 and November 1998–Present); Executive Vice President – Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Coty Inc. (manufacturer of fragrances and cosmetics) (April 1996–November 1998); Director of Arkwright Mutual Insurance Company (1984– 1999); Trustee of International House of Philadelphia (program center and residential community for students and professional trainees from the United States and foreign countries) (1989- Present); Member of Cornell University Council (1992- Present); Trustee of the Walnut Street Theater (1992- Present); Trustee, Scholarship America (1998-Present); Director, Private Equity Investors–III and IV (November 1998-Present), and Equity-Limited Investors II (April 2002-Present); and Chairman, Lenders Service Inc. (provider of mortgage lending services) (2000- Present).	64	None
			Chairman of the Board and Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).		

## Independent Trustees

Name, Address and Age <sup>1</sup>	Position(s) Held with the Trust <sup>2</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>3</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>4</sup>	Other Directorships Held by Trustee <sup>5</sup>
John P. Coblantz, Jr. Age: 62	Trustee	Since 2003	Partner, Deloitte & Touche LLP (June 1975 – May 2003).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).	64	None
Patrick T. Harker Age: 45	Trustee	Since 2000	Dean and Reliance Professor of Operations and Information Management, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (February 2000- Present); Interim and Deputy Dean, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (July 1999-Present); and Professor and Chairman of Department of Operations and Information Management, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (July 1997– August 2000).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).	64	None
Mary P. McPherson Age: 68	Trustee	Since 1997	Vice President, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (provider of grants for conservation, environmental and educational purposes) (October 1997-Present); Director, Smith College (1998-Present); Director, Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation (health educational programs) (1977-Present); Director, Philadelphia Contributionship (insurance) (1985-Present); Director Emeritus, Amherst College (1986–1998); Director, The Spencer Foundation (educational research) (1993- February 2003); member of PNC Advisory Board (banking) (1993-1998); and Director, American School of Classical Studies in Athens (1997-Present).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs	64	None

			Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).		
Wilma J. Smelcer Age: 55	Trustee	Since 2001	Chairman, Bank of America, Illinois (banking) (1998- January 2001); and Governor, Board of Governors, Chicago Stock Exchange (national securities exchange) (April 2001-April 2004).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).	64	None

## Independent Trustees

Name, Address and Age <sup>1</sup>	Position(s) Held with the Trust <sup>2</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>3</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>4</sup>	Other Directorships Held by Trustee <sup>5</sup>
Richard P. Strubel Age: 64	Trustee	Since 1997	<p>President, COO and Director Unext, Inc. (provider of educational services via the internet) (1999-Present); Director, Cantilever Technologies, Inc. (a private software company) (1999-Present); Trustee, The University of Chicago (1987-Present); and Managing Director, Tandem Partners, Inc. (management services firm) (1990–1999).</p> <p>Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).</p>	64	Gildan Activewear Inc. (an activewear clothing marketing and manufacturing company); Unext, Inc. (provider of educational services via the internet); Northern Mutual Fund Complex (53 Portfolios).



## Interested Trustees

Name, Address and Age <sup>1</sup>	Position(s) Held with the Trust <sup>2</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>3</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>4</sup>	Other Directorships Held by Trustee <sup>5</sup>
*Gary D. Black Age: 42	Trustee	Since 2002	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (June 2001-Present); Executive Vice President, AllianceBernstein (investment adviser) (October 2000 – June 2001); Managing Director, Global Institutional Investment Management, Sanford Bernstein (investment adviser) (January 1999 – October 2000); and Senior Research Analyst Sanford Bernstein (investment adviser) (February 1992 – December 1998).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).	64	None
*James McNamara Age: 41	Trustee & Vice President	Since 2002  Since 2001	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (December 1998-Present); Director of Institutional Fund Sales, GSAM (April 1998 – December 2000); and Senior Vice President and Manager, Dreyfus Institutional Service Corporation (January 1993 – April 1998).  Vice President–Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).  Trustee–Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).	64	None
*Alan A. Shuch Age: 54	Trustee	Since 1997	Advisory Director – GSAM (May 1999-Present); Consultant to GSAM (December 1994 – May 1999); and Limited Partner, Goldman Sachs (December 1994 - May 1999).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).	64	None

## Interested Trustees

Name, Address and Age <sup>1</sup>	Position(s) Held with the Trust <sup>2</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>3</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>4</sup>	Other Directorships Held by Trustee <sup>5</sup>
*Kaysie P. Uniacke Age: 43	Trustee & President	Since 2001  Since 2002	Managing Director, GSAM (1997-Present).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).  President – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (2002-Present) (registered investment companies).  Assistant Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (1997 – 2002) ( registered investment companies).	64	None

\* These persons are considered to be “Interested Trustees” because they hold positions with Goldman Sachs and own securities issued by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Each Interested Trustee holds comparable positions with certain other companies of which Goldman Sachs, GSAM or an affiliate thereof is the investment adviser, administrator and/or distributor.

<sup>1</sup> Each Trustee may be contacted by writing to the Trustee, c/o Goldman Sachs, One New York Plaza, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York, 10004, Attn: Howard B. Surloff.

<sup>2</sup> Each Trustee holds office for an indefinite term until the earliest of: (a) the election of his or her successor; (b) the date the Trustee resigns or is removed by the Board of Trustees or shareholders, in accordance with the Trust’s Declaration of Trust; (c) the date the Trustee attains the age of 72 years (in accordance with the current resolutions of the Board of Trustees, which may be changed by the Trustees without shareholder vote); or (d) the termination of the Trust.

<sup>3</sup> The Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex consists of the Trust and Goldman Sachs Trust. As of December 31, 2003, the Trust consisted of the 6 portfolios described in this Additional Statement, and Goldman Sachs Trust consisted of 58 portfolios.

<sup>5</sup> This column includes only directorships of companies required to report to the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (i.e., “public companies”) or other investment companies registered under the Act.

## Officers of the Trust

Information pertaining to the officers of the Trust is set forth below.

### Officers of the Trust

Name, Age And Address	Position(s) Held With the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
Kaysie P. Uniacke 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 43	President & Trustee	Since 2002  Since 2001	Managing Director, GSAM (1997-Present).  Trustee – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).  President – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).  Assistant Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (1997–2002) (registered investment companies).
John M. Perlowski 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 39	Treasurer	Since 1997	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (November 2003-Present); and Vice President, Goldman Sachs (July 1995-November 2003).  Treasurer – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Philip V. Giuca, Jr. 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 42	Assistant Treasurer	Since 1998	Vice President, Goldman Sachs (May 1992-Present).  Assistant Treasurer – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Peter Fortner 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 46	Assistant Treasurer	Since 2000	Vice President, Goldman Sachs (July 2000-Present); Associate, Prudential Insurance Company of America (November 1985–June 2000); and Assistant Treasurer, certain closed-end funds administered by Prudential (1999 and 2000).  Assistant Treasurer – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Kenneth G. Curran 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 40	Assistant Treasurer	Since 2001	Vice President, Goldman Sachs (November 1998-Present); and Senior Tax Manager, KPMG Peat Marwick (accountants) (August 1995–October 1998).  Assistant Treasurer – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).

## Officers of the Trust

Name, Age And Address	Position(s) Held With the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
James A. Fitzpatrick 4900 Sears Tower Chicago, IL 60606 Age: 44	Vice President	Since 1997	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (October 1999– Present); and Vice President of GSAM (April 1997–December 1999).  Vice President – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Jesse Cole 4900 Sears Tower Chicago, IL 60606 Age: 40	Vice President	Since 1998	Vice President, GSAM (June 1998-Present); and Vice President, AIM Management Group, Inc. (investment adviser) (April 1996–June 1998).  Vice President – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Kerry K. Daniels 4900 Sears Tower Chicago, IL 60606 Age: 41	Vice President	Since 2000	Manager, Financial Control – Shareholder Services, Goldman Sachs (1986-Present).  Vice President – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Christopher Keller 4900 Sears Tower Chicago, IL 60606 Age: 38	Vice President	Since 2000	Vice President, Goldman Sachs (April 1997–Present).  Vice President –Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
James McNamara 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 41	Vice President & Trustee	Since 2001  Since 2002	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (December 1998-Present); Director of Institutional Fund Sales, GSAM (April 1998–December 2000); and Senior Vice President and Manager, Dreyfus Institutional Service Corporation (January 1993 – April 1998).  Vice President—Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).  Trustee — Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).

## Officers of the Trust

Name, Age And Address	Position(s) Held With the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
Howard B. Surloff One New York Plaza 37 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10004 Age: 38	Secretary	Since 2001	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (November 2002–Present); Associate General Counsel, Goldman Sachs and General Counsel to the U.S. Funds Group (December 1997–Present).  Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies) (2001–Present) and Assistant Secretary prior thereto.
Dave Fishman 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 39	Assistant Secretary	Since 2001	Managing Director, Goldman Sachs (December 2001–Present); and Vice President, Goldman Sachs (1997–December 2001).  Assistant Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Danny Burke 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 41	Assistant Secretary	Since 2001	Vice President, Goldman Sachs (1987–Present).  Assistant Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Elizabeth D. Anderson 32 Old Slip New York, NY 10005 Age: 34	Assistant Secretary	Since 1997	Fund Manager, GSAM (April 1996–Present).  Assistant Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).
Amy E. Curran One New York Plaza 37 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10004 Age: 34	Assistant Secretary	Since 1999	Vice President, Goldman Sachs (June 1999–Present); Assistant General Counsel, Goldman Sachs (2000–Present); Counsel, Goldman Sachs (1998–2000); and Associate, Dechert Price & Rhoads (law firm) (September 1996–1998).  Assistant Secretary – Goldman Sachs Mutual Fund Complex (registered investment companies).

<sup>1</sup> Officers hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Each officer holds comparable positions with certain other companies of which Goldman Sachs, GSAM or an affiliate thereof is the investment adviser, administrator and/or distributor.

## **Standing Board Committees**

The Board of Trustees has established six standing committees in connection with their governance of the Funds – Audit, Governance and Nominating, Executive, Valuation, Dividend and Schedule E.

The Audit Committee oversees the audit process and provides assistance to the full Board of Trustees with respect to fund accounting, tax compliance and financial statement matters. In performing its responsibilities, the Audit Committee selects and recommends annually to the entire Board of Trustees a firm of independent certified public accountants to audit the books and records of the Trust for the ensuing year, and reviews with the firm the scope and results of each audit. All of the Independent Trustees serve on the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee held three meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

The Governance and Nominating Committee has been established to: (1) assist the Board of Trustees in matters involving mutual fund governance and industry practices; (2) select and nominate candidates for appointment or election to serve as Trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Trust or its investment adviser or distributor (as defined by the Act) and (3) advise the Board of Trustees on ways to improve its effectiveness. All of the Independent Trustees serve on the Governance and Nominating Committee. The Governance and Nominating Committee held six meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003. As stated above, each Trustee holds office for an indefinite term until the occurrence of certain events. In filling Board vacancies, the Governance and Nominating Committee will consider nominees recommended by shareholders. Nominee recommendations should be submitted to the Trust at its mailing address stated in the Funds’ Prospectuses and should be directed to the attention of Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust Governance and Nominating Committee.

The Executive Committee has the power to conduct the current and ordinary business of the Trust and to exercise powers of the Board of Trustees when the Board is not in session. Mr. Black and Ms. Uniacke serve on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee did not meet during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

The Valuation Committee is authorized to act for the Board of Trustees in connection with the valuation of portfolio securities held by the Funds in accordance with the Trust’s Valuation Procedures. Mr. Shuch and Ms. Uniacke serve on the Valuation Committee. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, the Valuation Committee held seven meetings.

The Dividend Committee is authorized, subject to the ratification of Trustees who are not members of the committee, to declare dividends and capital gain distributions consistent with each Fund’s Prospectuses. Currently, the sole member of the Trust’s Dividend Committee is Ms. Uniacke. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, the Dividend Committee held one meeting with respect to the Funds.

The Schedule E Committee is authorized to address potential conflicts of interest regulated by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (“NASD”). Currently, the Independent Trustees

are alternate members of this committee. The Schedule E Committee did not meet during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

### Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares

The following table shows the dollar range of shares beneficially owned by each Trustee in the Funds and other portfolios of the Trust and Goldman Sachs Trust.

Name of Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds <sup>1</sup>	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee <sup>2</sup>
Ashok N. Bakhru	None	Over \$100,000
Gary D. Black	None	Over \$100,000
John P. Coblantz, Jr. <sup>3</sup>	None	None
Patrick T. Harker	None	Over \$100,000
James McNamara	None	\$10,001 - \$50,000
Mary P. McPherson	None	Over \$100,000
Alan A. Shuch	None	Over \$100,000
Wilma J. Smelcer	None	\$50,001 - \$100,000
Richard P. Strubel	None	Over \$100,000
Kaysie P. Uniacke	None	Over \$100,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes the value of shares beneficially owned by each Trustee in each Fund described in this Additional Statement as of December 31, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Includes the Trust and Goldman Sachs Trust. As of December 31, 2003, the Trust consisted of the 6 portfolios described in this Additional Statement, and Goldman Sachs Trust consisted of 58 portfolios.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Coblantz was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Goldman Sachs Trust and Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust as of October 30, 2003.

As of April 1, 2004, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group owned less than 1% of the outstanding shares of beneficial interest of each Fund.

### Board Compensation

The Trust pays each Independent Trustee an annual fee for his or her services as a Trustee of the Trust, plus an additional fee for each regular and special telephonic Board meeting, Audit Committee meeting and Governance and Nominating Committee meeting attended by such Trustee. The Independent Trustees are also reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in connection with attending such meetings. The Trust may also pay the incidental costs of a Trustee to attend training or other types of conferences relating to the investment company industry.

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the compensation of each Trustee of the Trust for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003:

Name of Trustee	Aggregate Compensation from the Funds	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of the Trust's Expenses	Total Compensation From Fund Complex (including the Funds) <sup>1</sup>
Ashok N. Bakhru <sup>2</sup>	\$18,238	\$ 0	\$171,000
Gary D. Black	0	0	0
John P. Coblentz, Jr. <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0
Patrick T. Harker	13,794	0	126,000
James McNamara	0	0	0
Mary P. McPherson	13,794	0	126,000
Alan A. Shuch	0	0	0
Wilma J. Smelcer	13,794	0	126,000
Richard P. Strubel	13,794	0	126,000
Kaysie P. Uniacke	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> The Fund Complex consists of the Trust and Goldman Sachs Trust. The Trust consisted of 6 portfolios and Goldman Sachs Trust consisted of 58 portfolios as of December 31, 2003

<sup>2</sup> Includes compensation as Board Chairman.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Coblentz was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Trust and Goldman Sachs Trust as of October 30, 2003.

## Miscellaneous

The Trust, its Investment Advisers and principal underwriter have adopted codes of ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the Act that permit personnel subject to their particular codes of ethics to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds.

### MANAGEMENT SERVICES

#### Investment Advisers

As stated in the Funds' Prospectuses, Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. ("GSAM"), 32 Old Slip, New York, New York, serves as Investment Adviser to the Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Small Cap Equity, Capital Growth, and Mid Cap Value Funds pursuant to a management agreement. GSAM is a subsidiary of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and an affiliate of Goldman Sachs. Prior to the end of April, 2003, Goldman Sachs Asset Management, a business unit of The Investment Management Division of Goldman Sachs served as the Fund's investment adviser. On or about April 26, 2003 GSAM assumed Goldman Sachs Asset Management's investment advisory responsibilities for the Funds. GSAMI, Christchurch Court, 10-15 Newgate Street, London, England, EC1A7HD, an affiliate of Goldman Sachs, serves as Investment Adviser to the International Equity Fund pursuant to a management agreement. As a company with unlimited liability under the laws of England, GSAMI is regulated by the Investment Management Regulatory Organization Limited, a United Kingdom self-regulatory organization, in the conduct of its investment advisory business. See



“Service Providers” in the Funds’ Prospectuses for a description of the applicable Investment Adviser’s duties to the Funds.

Founded in 1869, Goldman Sachs is among the oldest and largest investment banking firms in the United States. Goldman Sachs is a leader in developing portfolio strategies and in many fields of investing and financing, participating in financial markets worldwide and serving individuals, institutions, corporations and governments. Goldman Sachs is also among the principal market sources for current and thorough information on companies, industrial sectors, markets, economies and currencies, and trades and makes markets in a wide range of equity and debt securities 24-hours a day. The firm is headquartered in New York and has offices throughout the United States and in Bangkok, Beijing, Buenos Aires, Calgary, Dublin, Frankfurt, Geneva, George Town, Hong Kong, Johannesburg, London, Madrid, Mexico City, Milan, Moscow, Paris, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Stockholm, Sydney, Taipei, Tokyo, Toronto and Zurich. It has trading professionals throughout the United States, as well as in London, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore. The active participation of Goldman Sachs in the world’s financial markets enhances its ability to identify attractive investments. Goldman Sachs has agreed to permit the Funds to use the name “Goldman Sachs” or a derivative thereof as part of each Fund’s name for as long as a Fund’s management agreement (“Management Agreement”) is in effect.

The Investment Advisers are able to draw on the substantial research and market expertise of Goldman Sachs whose investment research effort is one of the largest in the industry. The Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research Department covers approximately 2,400 companies, over 50 economies and over 25 markets. The in-depth information and analyses generated by Goldman Sachs’ research analysts are available to the Investment Advisers. The Investment Advisers manage money for some of the world’s largest institutional investors.

For more than a decade, Goldman Sachs has been among the top-ranked firms in Institutional Investor’s annual “All-America Research Team” survey. In addition, many of Goldman Sachs’ economists, securities analysts, portfolio strategists and credit analysts have consistently been highly ranked in respected industry surveys conducted in the United States and abroad. Goldman Sachs is also among the leading investment firms using quantitative analytics to structure and evaluate portfolios.

In managing the Funds, the Investment Advisers have access to Goldman Sachs’ economics research. The Economics Research Department, based in London, conducts economic, financial and currency markets research which analyzes economic trends and interest and exchange rate movements worldwide. The Economics Research Department tracks factors such as inflation and money supply figures, balance of trade figures, economic growth, commodity prices, monetary and fiscal policies, and political events that can influence interest rates and currency trends. The success of Goldman Sachs’ international research team has brought wide recognition to its members. The team has earned top rankings in various external surveys such as Extel, Institutional Investors and Reuters. These rankings acknowledge the achievements of Goldman Sachs’ economists, strategists and equity analysts.

The Investment Adviser expects to utilize Goldman Sachs’ sophisticated option-adjusted analytics to help make strategic asset allocations within the markets for U.S. Government, Mortgage-Backed and other securities and to employ this technology periodically to re-evaluate a Fund’s

investments as market conditions change. Goldman Sachs has also developed a prepayment model designed to estimate mortgage prepayments and cash flows under different interest rate scenarios. Because a mortgage-backed security incorporates the borrower's right to prepay the mortgage, the Investment Adviser uses a sophisticated option-adjusted spread (OAS) model to measure expected returns. A security's OAS is a function of the level and shape of the yield curve, volatility and the Investment Adviser's expectation of how a change in interest rates will affect prepayment levels. Since the OAS model assumes a relationship between prepayments and interest rates, the Investment Adviser considers it a better way to measure a security's expected return and absolute and relative values than yield to maturity. In using OAS technology, the Investment Adviser will first evaluate the absolute level of a security's OAS and consider its liquidity and its interest rate, volatility and prepayment sensitivity. The Investment Adviser will then analyze its value relative to alternative investments and to its own investments. The Investment Adviser will also measure a security's interest rate risk by computing an option adjusted duration (OAD). The Investment Adviser believes a security's OAD is a better measurement of its price sensitivity than cash flow duration, which systematically misstates portfolio duration. The Investment Adviser also evaluates returns for different mortgage market sectors and evaluates the credit risk of individual securities. This sophisticated technical analysis allows the Investment Adviser to develop portfolio and trading strategies using Mortgage-Backed Securities that are believed to be superior investments on a risk-adjusted basis and which provide the flexibility to meet the respective Fund's duration targets and cash flow pattern requirements.

Because the OAS is adjusted for the differing characteristics of the underlying securities, the OAS of different mortgage-backed securities can be compared directly as an indication of their relative value in the market. The Investment Advisers also expect to use OAS-based pricing methods to calculate projected security returns under different, discrete interest rate scenarios, and Goldman Sachs' proprietary prepayment model to generate yield estimates under these scenarios. The OAS, scenario returns, expected returns, and yields of securities in the mortgage market can be combined and analyzed in an optimal risk-return matching framework.

The Investment Advisers will use OAS analytics to choose what they believe is an appropriate portfolio of investments for a Fund from a universe of eligible investments. In connection with initial portfolio selections, in addition to using OAS analytics as an aid to meeting each Fund's particular composition and performance targets, the Investment Advisers will also take into account important market criteria like the available supply and relative liquidity of various mortgage securities in structuring the portfolio.

The Investment Advisers also expect to use OAS analytics to evaluate the mortgage market on an ongoing basis. Changes in the relative value of various mortgage-backed securities could suggest tactical trading opportunities for the Funds. The Investment Advisers will have access to both current market analysis as well as historical information on the relative value relationships among different mortgage-backed securities. Current market analysis and historical information is available in the Goldman Sachs database for most actively traded mortgage-backed securities.

Goldman Sachs has agreed to provide the Investment Advisers, on a non-exclusive basis, use of its mortgage prepayment model, OAS model and any other proprietary services which it now has or may develop, to the extent such services are made available to other similar customers. Use of these services by the Investment Advisers with respect to a Fund does not preclude Goldman Sachs from

providing these services to third parties or using such services as a basis for trading for its own account or the account of others.

The fixed-income research capabilities of Goldman Sachs available to the Investment Advisers include the Goldman Sachs Fixed-Income Research Department and the Credit Department. The Fixed-Income Research Department monitors developments in U.S. and foreign fixed-income markets, assesses the outlooks for various sectors of the markets and provides relative value comparisons, as well as analyzes trading opportunities within and across market sectors. The Fixed-Income Research Department is at the forefront in developing and using computer-based tools for analyzing fixed-income securities and markets, developing new fixed income products and structuring portfolio strategies for investment policy and tactical asset allocation decisions. The Credit Department tracks specific governments, regions and industries and from time to time may review the credit quality of a Fund's investments.

In allocating assets among foreign countries and currencies for the Funds which can invest in foreign securities, the Investment Advisers will have access to the Global Asset Allocation Model. The model is based on the observation that the prices of all financial assets, including foreign currencies, will adjust until investors globally are comfortable holding the pool of outstanding assets. Using the model, the Investment Advisers will estimate the total returns from each currency sector which are consistent with the average investor holding a portfolio equal to the market capitalization of the financial assets among those currency sectors. These estimated equilibrium returns are then combined with the expectations of Goldman Sachs' research professionals to produce an optimal currency and asset allocation for the level of risk suitable for a Fund given its investment objectives and criteria.

The Management Agreement with respect to the Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Small Cap Equity and International Equity Funds was initially approved by the Trustees, including a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Management Agreement or "interested persons" (as such term is defined in the Act) of any party thereto (the "non-interested Trustees"), on October 21, 1997. The Funds' Management Agreement was most recently approved by the Trustees, including a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Management Agreement or "interested persons" of any party thereto, on February 4, 2004. At that meeting the Board of Trustees reviewed the written and oral presentations provided by the Investment Advisers in connection with the Trustees' consideration of the Management Agreements. The Trustees also reviewed, with the advice of legal counsel, their responsibilities under applicable law. The Trustees considered, in particular, the restructuring of the Investment Adviser and the assumption of investment advisory responsibilities by Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P., including the assurances that the same personnel and resources would be committed to the management of the Funds. The Trustees also considered, in particular, the regulatory settlement that had been reached by Goldman Sachs regarding investment bank and research department conflicts of interest. In addition, the Trustees considered the Funds' respective management fee rates; the Funds' respective operating expense ratios; the Investment Advisers' current and prospective fee waivers and expense reimbursements for the respective Funds and pricing philosophy; and the investment performance of the Funds for the prior year and longer time periods. The information on these matters was also compared to similar information for other mutual funds. In addition, the Trustees considered the Funds' management fee structure in comparison to the structures used by other mutual funds; the revenues received by the Investment Advisers and their affiliates from the Funds for their investment management services and for other, non-investment

management services, and their expenses in providing such services; the brokerage and research services received in connection with the placement of brokerage transactions for the Funds; and the Funds' asset levels and possible economies of scale. The Trustees also considered the personnel and resources of the Investment Advisers, the overall nature and quality of the Investment Advisers' services and the specific provisions of each Management Agreement. After consideration of the Investment Advisers' presentations, the non-interested Trustees discussed at greater length in executive session the fairness and reasonableness of the Management Agreements to the Funds and their shareholders, including the trends in expense levels and investment performance, and concluded that each of the Management Agreements should be reapproved and continued in the interests of the relevant Funds and their shareholders. The arrangement was approved by the sole shareholder of the Growth and Income and International Equity Funds on December 31, 1997, by the sole shareholder of the CORE U.S. Equity Fund and CORE Small Cap Equity Fund on February 12, 1998 and by the sole shareholder of the Capital Growth Fund and Mid Cap Value Fund on April 29, 1998, in each case by consent action to satisfy conditions imposed by the SEC in connection with the registration of shares of the Funds. The Management Agreement will remain in effect with respect to each Fund until June 30, 2004 and from year to year thereafter provided such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by (i) the vote of a majority of such Fund's outstanding voting securities or a majority of the Trustees, and (ii) the vote of a majority of the non-interested Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Management Agreement will terminate automatically with respect to each Fund if assigned (as defined in the Act) and is terminable at any time without penalty by the Trustees or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the affected Fund on 60 days' written notice to the Investment Adviser and by the Investment Adviser on 60 days' written notice to the Trust.

Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Investment Advisers are entitled to receive the fees listed below, payable monthly of such Fund's average daily net assets.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Management Fee</b>
<b>GSAM</b>	
Growth and Income Fund	0.75%
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	0.70
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	0.75
Capital Growth Fund	0.75
Mid Cap Value Fund	0.80
<b>GSAMI</b>	
International Equity Fund	1.00%

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001 the amount of fees incurred by each Fund then in existence pursuant to the Management Agreement were as follows:

	2003	2002	2001
Growth and Income Fund	\$ 336,295	\$ 288,101	\$ 290,046
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	1,180,209	1,075,955	1,055,436
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	428,325	394,097	345,170
Capital Growth Fund	198,348	129,442	111,481
Mid Cap Value Fund	3,472,612	2,636,097	1,366,161
International Equity Fund	172,679	156,515	234,413

Under its Management Agreement, each Investment Adviser also: (i) supervises all non-advisory operations of each Fund that it advises; (ii) provides personnel to perform such executive, administrative and clerical services as are reasonably necessary to provide effective administration of each Fund; (iii) arranges for at each Fund's expense (a) the preparation of all required tax returns, (b) the preparation and submission of reports to existing shareholders, (c) the periodic updating of prospectuses and statements of additional information and (d) the preparation of reports to be filed with the SEC and other regulatory authorities; (iv) maintains each Fund's records; and (v) provides office space and all necessary office equipment and services.

#### **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Goldman Sachs is a worldwide, full-service investment banking, broker-dealer, asset management and financial services organization. As a result, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., the asset management division of Goldman Sachs, the Investment Advisers, and their affiliates, directors, partners, trustees, managers, members, officers and employees (collectively, for purposes of this "Potential Conflicts of Interest" section, "Goldman Sachs"), including those who may be involved in the investment activities and business operations of the Funds, are engaged in businesses and have interests other than that of managing the Funds. These activities and interests include potential multiple advisory, transactional and financial and other interests in accounts, securities, instruments and companies that may be directly or indirectly purchased or sold by the Funds and its service providers chosen to provide services to the Funds. These are considerations of which investors in the Funds should be aware, and which may cause conflicts that could disadvantage the Funds.

Present and future activities of Goldman Sachs in addition to those described in this "Potential Conflicts of Interest" section may give rise to additional conflicts of interest.

#### *Certain Activities and Interests of Goldman Sachs and Clients*

Goldman Sachs is a major participant in global financial markets. As such, it acts as an investor, investment banker, investment manager, financier, advisor, market maker, trader, prime broker, lender, agent and principal in the global fixed income, currency, commodity, equity and other markets in which the Funds directly and indirectly invest. Thus, it is likely that the Funds will invest in, engage in transactions with, make voting decisions with respect to, or obtain services from entities for which Goldman Sachs performs or seeks to perform investment banking or other services. In

addition, it is likely that the Funds will undertake transactions in securities in which Goldman Sachs makes a market or otherwise has direct or indirect interests. The Investment Advisers make decisions for a Fund in accordance with their obligations as Investment Advisers. However, Goldman Sachs' other activities may have a negative effect on the Funds.

Goldman Sachs may give advice, and take action, with respect to any current or future client or proprietary or other accounts, including accounts that may provide greater fees or other compensation to Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers or in which Goldman Sachs personnel, including personnel of the Investment Adviser have an interest, that may compete or conflict with the advice given to the Funds, or may involve a different timing or nature of action taken than with respect to the Funds. For example, the Funds may be competing for investment opportunities with Goldman Sachs, or with other current or future accounts or funds that may provide higher fees or other compensation to Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers, or with funds in which Goldman Sachs personnel, including personnel of the Investment Advisers, invest. Goldman Sachs and its clients (including other accounts or funds that may provide greater fees or other compensation to Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers or in which Goldman Sachs personnel, including personnel of the Investment Advisers, have an interest) may buy or sell the securities of issuers while a Fund is undertaking the same or a differing, including, potentially opposite, strategy, which could increase the cost of that strategy to the Fund or otherwise disadvantage the Fund. For example, the Fund may buy a security and Goldman Sachs or its clients (including other advisory accounts of the Investment Adviser) may establish a short position in the same security. That subsequent short sale may result in impairment of the price of the security which the Fund holds. Conversely, the Fund may establish a short position in a security and Goldman Sachs or its clients (including other advisory accounts of the Investment Adviser) may buy that same security. That subsequent purchase may result in impairment of the price of the short sale position which the Fund holds. In addition, transactions in investments by one or more accounts, clients and Goldman Sachs may have the effect of diluting or otherwise disadvantaging the values, prices or investment strategies of other accounts, particularly, but not limited to, in small capitalization, emerging market or less liquid strategies.

In addition, conflicts may arise because portfolio decisions regarding a Fund may benefit other accounts or funds, including accounts or funds that may provide greater fees or other compensation to Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers than provided by the Fund, or accounts or funds in which Goldman Sachs personnel, including personnel of the Investment Advisers, have an interest. For example, the sale of a long position or establishment of a short position by a Fund may impair the price of the same security sold short by (and therefore accrue to the benefit of) another account or fund, and the purchase of a security or covering of a short position in a security by a Fund may increase the price of the same security held by (and therefore accrue to the benefit of) another account or fund.

The directors, partners, trustees, managers, members, officers and employees of Goldman Sachs may buy and sell securities or other investments for their own accounts (including through funds managed by Goldman Sachs). As a result of differing trading and investment strategies or constraints, positions may be taken by directors, partners, trustees, managers, members, officers and employees that are the same, different from or made at different times than positions taken for the Funds. To lessen the possibility that a Fund will be materially adversely affected by the personal trading described above, each of the Funds and Goldman Sachs, as the Funds' Investment Adviser and distributor, has adopted a code of ethics (collectively, the "Codes of Ethics") in compliance with Section 17(j) of the

Act that restricts securities trading in the personal accounts of investment professionals and others who normally come into possession of information regarding the Funds' portfolio transactions. The Codes of Ethics can be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-202-942-8090. The Codes of Ethics are also available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies may also be obtained after paying a duplicating fee by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-0102, or by electronic request to [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).

Goldman Sachs and its clients may pursue or enforce rights with respect to an issuer in which a Fund has invested, and those activities may have an adverse effect on the Funds. Prices, availability, liquidity and terms of Fund investments may be negatively impacted by Goldman Sachs and its clients' activities, and transactions for the Funds may be impaired or effected at prices or terms that may be less favorable than would otherwise have been the case. The results of the investment activities of the Funds may differ significantly from the results achieved by Goldman Sachs for its proprietary accounts or accounts managed by it and from the results achieved by the Investment Advisers for other advised accounts. In addition, other client transactions may also adversely impact the Funds. Subject to applicable law, clients of the Investment Advisers may also have, as a result of receiving client reports or otherwise, access to information regarding the Investment Advisers' transactions or views which may affect their transactions outside of accounts controlled by the asset management division of Goldman Sachs and also negatively impact the performance of the Funds. Further, the Funds may be adversely affected by cash flows and market movements arising from purchases and redemptions of Fund shares as well as increases of capital in and withdrawals of capital from other accounts advised by Goldman Sachs or an affiliate.

The Investment Advisers' management of the Funds may benefit Goldman Sachs. For example, the Funds may, subject to applicable law, invest, directly or indirectly, in the securities of companies affiliated with Goldman Sachs or in which Goldman Sachs has an equity, debt or other interest. Subject to applicable law, the Funds may engage in investment transactions which may result in Goldman Sachs or its clients (including other accounts or funds that may provide greater fees or other compensation to Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers or in which Goldman Sachs personnel, including personnel of the Investment Advisers, have an interest) being relieved of obligations or otherwise divesting of an investment. The purchase, holding and sale of investments by the Funds may enhance the profitability of Goldman Sachs' own investments in and its activities with respect to such companies.

When Goldman Sachs acts as broker, dealer, agent, lender, advisor or in other commercial capacities for the Funds, it is anticipated that the commissions, mark-ups, mark-downs, financial advisory fees, underwriting and placement fees, sales fees, financing and commitment fees, brokerage fees, other fees, compensation or profits, rates, terms and conditions charged by Goldman Sachs will be commercially reasonable, although Goldman Sachs will have an interest in obtaining fees and other amounts, which are favorable to Goldman Sachs. In such circumstances, Goldman Sachs will be entitled to retain all such fees and other amounts and no fees or other compensation payable by the Funds will be reduced thereby. When Goldman Sachs acts as broker, dealer, agent, lender, advisor or in other commercial capacities for the Funds, it may take commercial steps in its own interests, which may have an adverse effect on the Funds. In addition, when Goldman Sachs acts in such capacities, its

representatives may be in possession of information not available to others, including the Investment Advisers and such representatives may act on the basis of such information. These actions may have adverse effects on the Funds. When acting in such capacity, Goldman Sachs is under no obligation to disseminate such information to the Investment Advisers or to others. Subject to applicable law, Goldman Sachs may from time to time in-source or outsource certain processes or functions in connection with a variety of services to the Funds in investment management and administrative capacities.

Goldman Sachs, and its sales personnel and other dealers, have interests in promoting sales of the Funds. The remuneration and profitability of activity relating to sales of Fund shares may be greater than that of other products. Further, Goldman Sachs may have business relationships with, and purchase, or distribute or sell services or products from or to, dealers, consultants and others who recommend, sell, or have interests or relationships associated with sales or recommendations of Fund shares or portfolio transactions for the Funds. In addition, Goldman Sachs employees, including employees of the Investment Advisers, may have board or advisory relationships with issuers, dealers, consultants and charitable organizations which may own or which may recommend or sell shares of the Funds or portfolio transactions for the Funds. As a result, those persons and institutions may have conflicts associated with the promotion of Fund shares and portfolio investment-related matters that would create incentives for them to promote such sales or raise other conflicts.

#### *Certain Regulatory Matters*

From time to time, the activities of a Fund may be restricted because of regulatory requirements applicable to Goldman Sachs and/or its internal policies designed to comply with, limit the applicability of, or otherwise relate to such requirements. An investment fund not affiliated with Goldman Sachs would not be subject to some of those considerations in relation to transactions with Goldman Sachs. There may be periods when the Investment Advisers may not initiate or recommend certain types of transactions, or may otherwise restrict or limit its advice in certain securities or instruments issued by or related to companies for which Goldman Sachs is performing investment banking, market making or other services or has proprietary positions. For example, when Goldman Sachs is engaged in an underwriting or other distribution of securities of, or advisory services for, a company, the Funds may be prohibited from or limited in purchasing or selling securities of that company. Similar situations could arise if Goldman Sachs personnel serve as directors of companies the securities of which the Funds wish to purchase or sell. However, if permitted by applicable law, the Funds may purchase investments that are issued, or the subject of an underwriting, distribution, or advisory assignment by Goldman Sachs, or in cases in which Goldman Sachs-related personnel are directors or officers of the issuer.

The investment activities of Goldman Sachs for proprietary accounts and accounts and funds under their management may also limit the investment opportunities for, or rights of, the Funds including in certain regulated industries, emerging markets and in certain futures and derivative transactions where restrictions may be imposed upon the aggregate amount of investment by affiliated investors. The Investment Advisers may restrict or limit transactions or exercise of rights for the Funds, or limit the amount of voting securities purchased for the Funds, which may limit positions or restrict the Funds from voting in situations in which the Funds have an interest, in order to avoid circumstances which, in the view of the Investment Advisers, would require aggregation of the Funds’



positions with investments of Goldman Sachs that would approach or exceed certain ownership thresholds.

To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Investment Advisers may enter into transactions and invest in futures, securities, currencies, swaps, options, forward contracts or other instruments on behalf of the Funds in which Goldman Sachs, acting as principal or on a proprietary basis for its customers, serves as the counterparty. The Funds may also enter into cross transactions in which Goldman Sachs acts on behalf of the Funds and for the other party to the transaction. Goldman Sachs may have a potentially conflicting division of responsibilities to both parties to a cross transaction. The Funds will only consider engaging in a principal or cross transaction with Goldman Sachs or its affiliates to the extent permitted by applicable law. The Investment Advisers will, to the extent required by law, obtain necessary consents prior to entering into such transactions.

From time to time, Goldman Sachs may come into possession of material, non-public information or other information that could limit the ability of the Funds to buy and sell investments. The Funds' investment flexibility may be constrained as a consequence. In making investment decisions for a Fund, the Investment Advisers are not permitted to obtain or use material non-public information acquired by any division, department or affiliate of Goldman Sachs in the course of their activities.

*Other Investment Management-Related Activities*

The Investment Advisers will allocate investment opportunities and make purchase and sale decisions among the Funds and other funds and accounts of Goldman Sachs (which may include other funds and accounts for which Goldman Sachs may receive greater performance-based or other compensation than they received from the Funds, or in which Goldman Sachs, its affiliates and/or personnel may have a beneficial interest) managed by it in a reasonable and equitable manner, as determined in its sole discretion. The Investment Advisers may determine that an investment opportunity or particular purchases or sales are appropriate for one or more funds or accounts, including funds or accounts in which performance-based or other compensation received by Goldman Sachs is greater than that received from the Funds or in which investment personnel or other employees of Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers have an interest, or for itself or an affiliate, but not for the Funds, or is appropriate for, or available to, the Funds but in different sizes, terms or timing than is appropriate for others. Although allocating orders among funds or accounts that pay greater performance-based or other compensation to Goldman Sachs than do the Funds or in which investment personnel or other employees of Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers have an interest may create a potential conflict of interest, the Investment Advisers will not make allocation decisions based on such fees and compensation. The amount, timing, structuring or terms of an investment by the Funds may differ from, and performance may be lower than, investments and performance of other funds or accounts or the interests of Goldman Sachs and its personnel, including funds or accounts with greater performance-based or other compensation paid to Goldman Sachs or in which investment personnel or other employees of Goldman Sachs or the Investment Advisers have an interest. Purchases and sales of securities for the account of the Funds may be bunched or aggregated with orders for other accounts of Goldman Sachs, including other investment accounts (including those in which Goldman Sachs or its personnel have a beneficial interest). Because of the prevailing trading activity, it is frequently not possible to receive the same price or execution on the entire volume of

securities sold. When this occurs, the various prices may be averaged which may be disadvantageous to the Funds.

The Funds and the Investment Advisers or their affiliates or personnel may from time to time receive research products and services in connection with the brokerage services that brokers (including, without limitation, affiliates of the Investment Advisers) may provide to the Funds or one or more other funds or accounts managed by Goldman Sachs. Such products and services may disproportionately benefit other funds or accounts of Goldman Sachs relative to the Funds based on the amount of brokerage commissions paid by the Funds and such other funds or accounts.

To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Funds may invest all or some of their short term cash investments in any money market fund advised or managed by Goldman Sachs, and may invest in other investment funds advised or managed by Goldman Sachs. In addition, subject to applicable law, Goldman Sachs may keep any fees accruing to it in connection with any such investments, and the fees or allocations from the Funds will not be reduced thereby (*i.e.*, there could be “double fees” involved in making any such investment, which would not arise in connection with a Shareholder’s direct purchase of underlying investments).

Goldman Sachs may create, write, sell or issue, or act as placement agent or distributor of, derivative instruments with respect to which the underlying securities, currencies or instruments may be those in which the Funds invest or which may be based on the performance of the Funds. Goldman Sachs (including its personnel or funds or accounts managed by Goldman Sachs or in which Goldman Sachs has a proprietary interest) may, from time to time, invest in the Funds but reserves the right to redeem some or all of its investment at any time. These investments and redemptions will be made without notice to the shareholders. These derivative related activities, as well as such investment and redemption activities may have an adverse effect on the Funds’ investment management, flexibility, diversification strategies and on the amount of fees, expenses and other costs incurred directly or indirectly through a Fund by the shareholders.

The Funds will be required to establish business relationships with their counterparties based on the Funds’ own credit standing. Neither Goldman Sachs nor the Investment Advisers or any of their affiliates will have any obligation to allow their credit to be used in connection with the Funds’ establishment of their business relationships, nor is it expected that the Funds’ counterparties will rely on the credit of such entities in evaluating the Funds’ creditworthiness. In addition, the Funds, when the Investment Advisers deem it appropriate, may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, borrow funds from Goldman Sachs or its affiliates, at rates and on other terms arranged with Goldman Sachs.

Subject to applicable law, in connection with its management of the Fund, the Investment Advisers may utilize investment policy advisors or a committee which may include personnel of Goldman Sachs or of unaffiliated firms. Those individuals may, as a result, obtain information regarding the Funds’ proposed investment activities which is not generally available to the public. The Investment Advisers may also have access to certain fundamental analysis and proprietary technical models developed by Goldman Sachs and other affiliates. The Investment Advisers will not be under any obligation, however, to effect transactions on behalf of the Funds in accordance with such analysis and models. In addition, Goldman Sachs has no obligation to seek information or to make available

to or share with the Funds any information, investment strategies, opportunities or ideas known to Goldman Sachs personnel or developed or used in connection with other clients or activities.

The Investment Advisers have adopted policies and procedures designed to prevent conflicts of interest from influencing proxy voting decisions they make on behalf of advisory clients, including the Funds, and to ensure that such decisions are made in accordance with the Investment Advisers' fiduciary obligations to their clients. Nevertheless, notwithstanding the Investment Advisers' proxy voting policies and procedures, the Investment Advisers' actual proxy voting decisions may have the effect of favoring the interests of clients or businesses of other divisions or units of Goldman Sachs and/or its affiliates, provided that the Investment Advisers believe such voting decision to be in accordance with its fiduciary obligations. For a more detailed discussion of these policies and procedures, see the section of this Additional Statement entitled "Proxy Voting."

### **Distributor and Transfer Agent**

Goldman Sachs, 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004, serves as the exclusive distributor of shares of the Funds pursuant to a "best efforts" arrangement as provided by a distribution agreement with the Trust on behalf of each Fund. Shares of the Funds are offered and sold on a continuous basis by Goldman Sachs, acting as agent. Under the distribution agreement, each Fund is responsible for, among other things, the payment of all fees and expenses in connection with the preparation and filing of any registration statement and prospectus covering the issue and sale of shares, and the registration and qualification of shares for sale with the SEC and in the various states, including registering the Fund as a broker or dealer. Each Fund will also pay the fees and expenses of preparing, printing and mailing prospectuses annually to existing shareholders and any notice, proxy statement, report, prospectus or other communication to shareholders of the Fund, printing and mailing confirmations of purchases of shares, any issue taxes or any initial transfer taxes, a portion of toll-free telephone service for shareholders, wiring funds for share purchases and redemptions (unless paid by the shareholder who initiates the transaction), printing and postage of business reply envelopes and a portion of the computer terminals used by both the Fund and the Distributor.

The Distributor will pay for, among other things, printing and distributing prospectuses or reports prepared for its use in connection with the offering of the shares to variable annuity and variable insurance accounts and preparing, printing and mailing any other literature or advertising in connection with the offering of the shares to variable annuity and variable insurance accounts. The Distributor will pay all fees and expenses in connection with its qualification and registration as a broker or dealer under federal and state laws, a portion of the toll-free telephone service and of computer terminals, and of any activity which is primarily intended to result in the sale of shares issued by each Fund.

As agent, the Distributor currently offers shares of each Fund on a continuous basis to the separate accounts of Participating Insurance Companies in all states in which such Fund may from time to time be registered or where permitted by applicable law. The underwriting agreements provide that the Distributor accepts orders for shares at net asset value without sales commission or load being charged. The Distributor has made no firm commitment to acquire shares of any Fund.

Goldman Sachs, 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, IL 60606, serves as the Trust's transfer agent. Under its transfer agency agreement with the Trust, Goldman Sachs has undertaken with the Trust with respect to each Fund to: (i) record the issuance, transfer and redemption of shares, (ii) provide purchase and redemption confirmations and quarterly statements, as well as certain other statements, (iii) provide certain information to the Trust's custodian and the relevant sub-custodian in connection with redemptions, (iv) provide dividend crediting and certain disbursing agent services, (v) maintain shareholder accounts, (vi) provide certain state Blue Sky and other information, (vii) provide shareholders and certain regulatory authorities with tax related information, (viii) respond to shareholder inquiries, and (ix) render certain other miscellaneous services. Effective September 1, 2002, the fees charged for transfer agency services are calculated daily and payable monthly at an annual rate of 0.04% of the average daily net assets of each Fund.

As compensation for the services rendered to the Trust by Goldman Sachs as transfer agent and the assumption by Goldman Sachs of the expenses related thereto, Goldman Sachs received fees net of waivers for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001 from the Funds as follows under the fee schedules then in effect:

	2003	2002	2001
Growth and Income Fund	\$ 17,936	\$12,919	\$11,839
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	67,440	27,114	11,988
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	22,844	14,345	11,888
Capital Growth Fund	10,579	10,412	11,863
Mid Cap Value Fund	173,631	54,648	11,913
International Equity Fund	6,907	9,891	11,889

Goldman Sachs voluntarily waived \$0, \$9,600 and \$14,400 of transfer agent fees with respect to each Fund for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, respectively.

### Expenses

The Trust, on behalf of each Fund, is responsible for the payment of each Fund's respective expenses. The expenses include, without limitation, management fees; custodial and transfer agency fees; brokerage fees and commissions; filing fees for the registration or qualification of the Trust's shares under federal or state securities laws; organizational expenses; fees and expenses incurred by the Trust in connection with membership in investment company organizations including, but not limited to, the Investment Company Institute; taxes; interest; costs of liability insurance, fidelity bonds or indemnification; any costs, expenses or losses arising out of any liability of, or claim for damages or other relief asserted against, the Trust for violation of any law; legal and auditing fees and expenses; expenses of preparing and setting in type prospectuses, Additional Statements, proxy material, reports and notices and the printing and distributing of the same to the Trust's shareholders and regulatory authorities; compensation and expenses of the Trust's "non-interested" Trustees; and extraordinary expenses, if any, incurred by the Trust.

The imposition of the Investment Adviser's fee, as well as other operating expenses, will have the effect of reducing the total return to investors. From time to time, each Investment Adviser may waive receipt of its fees and/or voluntarily assume certain expenses of a Fund, which would have the effect of lowering that Fund's overall expense ratio and increasing total return to investors at the time such amounts are waived or assumed, as the case may be.

Each Investment Adviser has voluntarily agreed to limit "Other Expenses" (excluding management fees, transfer agent fees and expenses, taxes, interest, brokerage, litigation and indemnification costs, shareholder meeting and other extraordinary expenses) to the extent that such expenses exceed, on an annual basis, a percentage rate of the average daily net assets of each of the following Funds:

	Other Expenses Limit Prior to December 22, 2003	Other Expense Limit Effective December 22, 2003
Growth and Income Fund	0.25%	0.11%
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	0.20	0.16%
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	0.25	0.11%
Capital Growth Fund	0.25	0.11%
Mid Cap Value Fund	0.25	0.25%
International Equity Fund	0.35	0.16%

Effective December 22, 2003, each Investment Adviser has agreed to reduce the other expense limitation as set forth in the table above.

Except for Mid Cap Value Fund, each Investment Adviser has contractually agreed to maintain these expense limitation reductions through June 30, 2005.

The expense limitation for the Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Value Fund may be discontinued or modified by the Investment Adviser at its discretion at any time.

Fees and expenses borne by the Funds relating to legal counsel, registering shares of a Fund, holding meetings and communicating with shareholders may include an allocable portion of the cost of maintaining an internal legal and compliance department. Each Fund may also bear an allocable portion of the Investment Adviser's costs of performing certain accounting services not being provided by a Fund's Custodian.

#### **Reimbursement and Other Expense Reductions**

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, the amounts of certain "Other Expenses" of each Fund that were reduced or otherwise limited were as follows under the expense limitations that were then in effect:

	Fiscal year ended December 31, 2003	Fiscal year ended December 31, 2002	Fiscal year ended December 31, 2001
Growth and Income Fund	\$ 78,645	\$ 73,547	\$ 51,085
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	0	0	4,143
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	124,823	118,895	85,192
Capital Growth Fund	108,712	104,518	86,214
Mid Cap Value Fund	0	0	0
International Equity Fund	212,824	224,829	149,993

The Funds have entered into certain expense offset arrangements with the custodian resulting in a reduction on each Fund's expenses. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001 each Fund's custody fees were reduced by the following approximate amounts under such arrangement.

	2003	2002	2001
Growth and Income Fund	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	1,000	1,000	2,000
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	1,000	1,000	2,000
Capital Growth Fund	1,000	1,000	2,000
Mid Cap Value Fund	3,000	1,000	3,000
International Equity Fund	1,000	—	—

### **Custodian**

State Street, 225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, is the custodian of the Trust's portfolio securities and cash. State Street also maintains the Trust's accounting records. State Street may appoint domestic and foreign sub-custodians and use depositories from time to time to hold securities and other instruments purchased by the Trust in foreign countries and to hold cash and currencies for the Trust.

### **Independent Auditors**

Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, 5 Times Square, New York, New York 10036, currently serve as auditors of the Funds of the Trust for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2004. In addition to audit services, Ernst & Young LLP prepares the Funds' Federal and state tax returns, and provides consultation and assistance on accounting, internal control and related matters. The data set forth under "Financial Highlights" in the Prospectuses for the fiscal years or periods ended on or before December 31, 1999 were audited by the Funds' former auditor, which has ceased operations.

## **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS AND BROKERAGE**

The Investment Advisers are responsible for decisions to buy and sell securities, the selection of brokers and dealers to effect the transactions and the negotiation of brokerage commissions, if any. Purchases and sales of securities on a securities exchange are effected through brokers who charge a negotiated commission for their services. Increasingly, securities traded over-the-counter also involve the payment of negotiated brokerage commissions. Orders may be directed to any broker including, to the extent and in the manner permitted by applicable law, Goldman Sachs.

In the over-the-counter market, most securities have historically traded on a “net” basis with dealers acting as principal for their own accounts without a stated commission, although the price of a security usually includes a profit to the dealer. In underwritten offerings, securities are purchased at a fixed price which includes an amount of compensation to the underwriter, generally referred to as the underwriter’s concession or discount. On occasion, certain money market instruments may be purchased directly from an issuer, in which case no commissions or discounts are paid.

In placing orders for portfolio securities of a Fund, the Advisers are generally required to give primary consideration to obtaining the most favorable execution and net price available. This means that an Investment Adviser will seek to execute each transaction at a price and commission, if any, which provides the most favorable total cost or proceeds reasonably attainable in the circumstances. As permitted by Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Fund may pay a broker who provides brokerage and research services an amount of disclosed commission in excess of the commission which another broker would have charged for effecting that transaction. Such practice is subject to (i) a good faith determination by the Trustees that such commission is reasonable in light of the services provided; and (ii) to such policies as the Trustees may adopt from time to time. While the Investment Advisers generally seek reasonably competitive spreads or commissions, a Fund will not necessarily be paying the lowest spread or commission available. Within the framework of this policy, the Investment Advisers will consider research and investment services provided by brokers or dealers who effect or are parties to portfolio transactions of a Fund, the Investment Advisers and their affiliates, or their other clients. Such research and investment services are those which brokerage houses customarily provide to institutional investors and include research reports on particular industries and companies; economic surveys and analyses; recommendations as to specific securities; research products, including quotation equipment and computer related programs; advice concerning the value of securities, the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities, and the availability of securities or the purchasers or sellers of securities; analyses and reports concerning issuers, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and performance of accounts; services relating to effecting securities transactions and functions incidental thereto (such as clearance and settlement); and other lawful and appropriate assistance to the Investment Advisers in the performance of their decision-making responsibilities.

Such services are used by the Investment Advisers in connection with all of their investment activities, and some of such services obtained in connection with the execution of transactions for a Fund may be used in managing other investment accounts. Conversely, brokers furnishing such services may be selected for the execution of transactions of such other accounts, whose aggregate assets may be larger than those of a Fund, and the services furnished by such brokers may be used by the Investment Advisers in providing management services for the Trust. On occasion, a broker-dealer

might furnish an Investment Adviser with a service which has a mixed use (i.e., the service is used both for investment and brokerage activities and for other activities). Where this occurs, an Investment Adviser will reasonably allocate the cost of the service, so that the portion or specific component which assists in investment and brokerage activities is obtained using portfolio commissions from the Funds or other managed accounts, and the portion or specific component which provides other assistance (for example, administrative or non-research assistance) is paid for by an Investment Adviser from its own funds.

In circumstances where two or more broker-dealers offer comparable prices and execution capability, preference may be given to a broker-dealer which has sold shares of the Fund as well as shares of other investment companies or accounts managed by the Investment Advisers. This policy does not imply a commitment to execute all portfolio transactions through all broker-dealers that sell shares of the Fund.

On occasions when an Investment Adviser deems the purchase or sale of a security to be in the best interest of a Fund as well as its other customers (including any other fund or other investment company or advisory account for which such Investment Adviser acts as investment adviser or subadviser), the Investment Adviser, to the extent permitted by applicable laws and regulations, may aggregate the securities to be sold or purchased for the Fund with those to be sold or purchased for such other customers in order to obtain the best net price and most favorable execution under the circumstances. In such event, allocation of the securities so purchased or sold, as well as the expenses incurred in the transaction, will be made by the applicable Investment Adviser in the manner it considers to be equitable and consistent with its fiduciary obligations to such Fund and such other customers. In some instances, this procedure may adversely affect the price and size of the position obtainable for a Fund.

Commission rates in the U.S. are established pursuant to negotiations with the broker based on the quality and quantity of execution services provided by the broker in the light of generally prevailing rates. The allocation of orders among brokers and the commission rates paid are reviewed periodically by the Trustees.

Subject to the above considerations, the Investment Advisers may use Goldman Sachs as a broker for a Fund. In order for Goldman Sachs to effect any portfolio transactions for each Fund, the commissions, fees or other remuneration received by Goldman Sachs must be reasonable. This standard would allow Goldman Sachs to receive no more than the remuneration which would be expected to be received by an unaffiliated broker in a commensurate arm's-length transaction. Furthermore, the Trustees, including a majority of the Trustees who are not "interested" Trustees, have adopted procedures which are reasonably designed to provide that any commissions, fees or other remuneration paid to Goldman Sachs are consistent with the foregoing standard. Brokerage transactions with Goldman Sachs are also subject to such fiduciary standards as may be imposed upon Goldman Sachs by applicable law.



For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, each Fund in existence paid brokerage commissions as follows. The amount of brokerage commissions paid by a Fund may vary substantially from year to year because of differences in shareholder purchase and redemption activity, portfolio turnover rates and other factors.

	<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid</b>	<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid to Affiliated Persons</b>	<b>Total Amount of Transactions on which Commissions Paid<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Amount of Transactions Effected through Brokers Providing Research</b>	<b>Brokerage Commissions Paid to Brokers Providing Research</b>
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003:</b>					
Growth and Income Fund	\$ 83,857	\$ 3,060(4%) <sup>2</sup>	\$ 477,165,878(0%) <sup>3</sup>	\$ 7,947,904	\$ 10,325
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	3,269	0(0%) <sup>2</sup>	902,065,994(0%) <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	95,453	82,008(86%) <sup>2</sup>	807,843,875(14%) <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A
Capital Growth Fund	19,893	365(2%) <sup>2</sup>	273,599,477(0%) <sup>3</sup>	2,457,667	2,830
Mid Cap Value Fund	1,030,048	14,721(1%) <sup>2</sup>	4,495,296,787(0%) <sup>3</sup>	106,438,699	192,403
International Equity Fund	32,822	135(0%) <sup>2</sup>	175,204,112(0%) <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A

<sup>1</sup> The figures in the table report brokerage commissions only from securities transactions. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, Goldman Sachs and affiliated broker/dealers earned \$3,060, \$3,050, \$87,506, \$365, \$14,721, and \$512 in brokerage commissions from portfolio transactions, including futures transactions, executed on behalf of the Growth and Income Fund, CORE U.S. Equity Fund, CORE Small Cap Equity Fund, Capital Growth Fund, Mid Cap Value Fund and International Equity Fund, respectively.

<sup>2</sup> Percentage of total commissions paid.

<sup>3</sup> Percentage of total amount of transactions involving the payment of commissions effected through Goldman Sachs and affiliated broker/dealers.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, each Fund in existence paid brokerage commissions as follows. The amount of brokerage commissions paid by a Fund may vary substantially from year to year because of differences in shareholder purchase and redemption activity, portfolio turnover rates and other factors.

	<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid</b>	<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid to Affiliated Persons</b>	<b>Total Amount of Transactions on which Commissions Paid<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2002:</b>			
Growth and Income Fund	\$ 127,658	\$ 3,518	\$ 75,477,730
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	9,476	0	127,309,849
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	32,050	0	120,893,183
Capital Growth Fund	20,185	96	14,460,487
Mid Cap Value Fund	1,200,043	26,390	730,281,628
International Equity Fund	42,161	112	25,140,694

<sup>1</sup> The figures in the table report brokerage commissions only from securities transactions. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, Goldman Sachs earned \$3,518, \$1,490, \$350, \$96, \$26,390, and \$1,208 in brokerage commissions from portfolio transactions, including futures transactions, executed on behalf of the Growth and Income Fund, CORE U.S. Equity Fund, CORE Small Cap Equity Fund, Capital Growth Fund, Mid Cap Value Fund, and International Equity Fund, respectively.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001, each Fund in existence paid brokerage commissions as follows. The amount of brokerage commissions paid by a Fund may vary substantially from year to year because of differences in shareholder purchase and redemption activity, portfolio turnover rates and other factors.

	<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid</b>	<b>Total Brokerage Commissions Paid to Goldman Sachs<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total Amount of Transactions on which Commissions Paid</b>
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2001:</b>			
Growth and Income Fund	\$ 66,706	\$ 2,442	\$ 41,436,982
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	57,314	0	232,898,958
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	39,035	0	86,396,123
Capital Growth Fund	14,832	0	127,472,598
Mid Cap Value Fund	728,267	26,636	382,166,233
International Equity Fund	57,830	583	38,450,411

<sup>1</sup> The figures in the table report brokerage commissions only from securities transactions. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001, Goldman Sachs earned \$2,442, \$2,240, \$750, \$0, \$26,626, and \$0 in brokerage commissions from portfolio transactions, including futures transactions, executed on behalf of the Growth and Income Fund, CORE U.S. Equity Fund, CORE Small Cap Equity Fund, Capital Growth Fund, Mid Cap Value Fund, and International Equity Fund, respectively.

As of December 31, 2003, the Trust held the following amounts of securities of its regular broker-dealers, as defined in rule 10b-1 under the Act, or their parents (\$ in thousands):

	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Growth &amp; Income</b>	
Merrill Lynch	\$1,345
Lehman Brothers	1,104
JP Morgan Chase & Co	4,467
<b>CORE U.S. Equity</b>	
Merrill Lynch	\$2,323
Lehman Brothers	1,938
JP Morgan Chase & Co	2,332
<b>Capital Growth</b>	
Merrill Lynch	\$1,494
<b>Mid Cap Value</b>	
Bear Stearns	\$4,714
<b>International Equity</b>	
Deutsche	\$1,073
Credit Suisse First Boston	1,827

#### NET ASSET VALUE

In accordance with procedures adopted by the Trustees of the Trust, the net asset value per share of each Fund is calculated by determining the value of the net assets attributable to that Fund and dividing by the number of outstanding shares. All securities are valued on each Business Day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (normally but not always 4:00 p.m. New York time) or such later time as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ market may officially close. The term “Business Day” means any day the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading which is Monday through Friday except for holidays. The New York Stock Exchange is closed on the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Washington’s Birthday, Good Friday, Memorial Day (observed), Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time by which orders must be received may be changed in case of an emergency or if regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange is stopped at a time other than 4:00 p.m. New York Time. The Trust reserves the right to reprocess purchase, redemption and exchange transactions that were initially processed at a net asset value other than the Fund’s official closing net asset value that is subsequently adjusted and to recover amounts from (or distribute amounts to) shareholders based on the official closing net asset value. The Trust reserves the right to advance the time by which purchase and redemption orders must be received for same business day credit as otherwise permitted by the SEC. In addition, each

Fund may compute its net asset value as of any time permitted pursuant to any exemption, order or statement of the SEC or its staff.

Portfolio securities of a Fund for which accurate market quotations are available are valued as follows: (i) securities listed on any U.S. or foreign stock exchange or on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations System (“NASDAQ”) will be valued at the last sale price, or official closing price on the exchange or system in which they are principally traded on the valuation date. If there is no sale on the valuation day, securities traded will be valued at the closing bid price, or if a closing bid price is not available, at either the exchange or system defined close price on the exchange or system in which such securities are principally traded. If the relevant exchange or system has not closed by the above-mentioned time for determining a Fund’s net asset value, the securities will be valued at the last sale price or official closing or, if not available at the bid price at the time the net asset value is determined; (ii) over-the-counter securities not quoted on NASDAQ will be valued at the last sale price on the valuation day or, if no sale occurs, at the last bid price at the time net asset value is determined; (iii) equity securities for which no prices are obtained under sections (i) or (ii), including those for which a pricing service supplies no exchange quotation or a quotation that is believed by the portfolio manager/trader to be inaccurate, will be valued at their fair value in accordance with procedures approved by the Board of Trustees; (iv) fixed-income securities with a remaining maturity of 60 days or more for which accurate market quotations are readily available will normally be valued according to dealer-supplied bid quotations or bid quotations from a recognized pricing service (e.g., Interactive Data Corp., Merrill Lynch, J.J. Kenny, Muller Data Corp., Bloomberg, EJV, Reuters or Standard & Poor’s); (v) fixed-income securities for which accurate market quotations are not readily available are valued by the Investment Adviser based on valuation models that take into account spread and daily yield changes on government securities in the appropriate market (i.e. matrix pricing); (vi) debt securities with a remaining maturity of 60 days or less are valued by the Investment Adviser at amortized cost, which the Trustees have determined to approximate fair value; and (vii) all other instruments, including those for which a pricing service supplies no exchange quotation or a quotation that is believed by the portfolio manager/trader to be inaccurate, will be valued in accordance with the valuation procedures approved by the Board of Trustees.

The value of all assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies will be converted into U.S. dollar values at current exchange rates of such currencies against U.S. dollars last quoted by any major bank. If such quotations are not available, the rate of exchange will be determined in good faith by or under procedures established by the Board of Trustees.

Generally, trading in securities on European, Asian and Far Eastern securities exchanges and on over-the-counter markets in these regions is substantially completed at various times prior to the close of business on each Business Day in New York (i.e., a day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading). In addition, European, Asian or Far Eastern securities trading generally or in a particular country or countries may not take place on all Business Days in New York. Furthermore, trading takes place in various foreign markets on days which are not Business Days in New York and days on which the Funds’ net asset values are not calculated. Such calculation does not take place contemporaneously with the determination of the prices of the majority of the portfolio securities used in such calculation. The Fund’s investments are valued based on market quotations or, in the case of foreign securities, prices provided by an independent service (if available) that are intended to reflect more accurately the value of those securities at the time the Funds’ NAV is calculated. If market quotations or independent information is not readily available, or if the Investment Adviser believes that such quotations or prices do not accurately reflect fair value, the fair value of the Funds’ investments may be otherwise determined in good faith under procedures established by the Trustees. In providing the Funds’ daily fair valuations for such securities, an independent service will take into account multiple factors including, but not limited to, movements in the U.S. securities markets, certain depository receipts, futures contracts and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of an independent service and fair valuation involve the risk that the values used by the Funds to price their investments may be higher or lower than the values used by other investment companies and investors to price the same investments.

The proceeds received by each Fund of the Trust from the issue or sale of its shares, and all net investment income, realized and unrealized gain and proceeds thereof, subject only to the rights of creditors, will be specifically allocated to such Fund or particular series and constitute the underlying assets of that Fund. The underlying assets of each Fund will be segregated on the books of account, and will be charged with the liabilities in respect of such Fund and with a share of the general liabilities of the Trust. Expenses of the Trust with respect to the Funds and the other series of the Trust are generally allocated in proportion to the net asset values of the respective Funds or series except where allocations of direct expenses can otherwise be fairly made.

## **PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

A Fund may from time to time quote or otherwise use total return, yield and/or distribution rate information in advertisements, shareholder reports or sales literature. Average annual total return and yield are computed pursuant to formulas specified by the SEC.

Thirty-day yield is derived by dividing net investment income earned during a recent thirty-day period by the product of the average daily number of shares outstanding and entitled to receive dividends during the period and the maximum public offering price per share on the last day of the relevant period. The results are compounded on a bond equivalent (semi-annual) basis and then annualized by assuming that yield is realized each month for 12 months and is reinvested every six months. Net investment income is equal to the dividends and interest earned during the period, reduced by accrued expenses for the period. The calculation of net investment income for these purposes may differ from the net investment income determined for accounting purposes.

The distribution rate for a specified period is calculated by annualizing distributions of net investment income for such period and dividing this amount by the net asset value per share or maximum public offering price on the last day of the period.

Average annual total return for a specified period is derived by calculating the actual dollar amount of the investment return on a \$1,000 investment made at the maximum public offering price at the beginning of the period, and then calculating the annual compounded rate of return which would produce that amount, assuming a redemption at the end of the period. This calculation assumes a complete redemption of the investment. It also assumes that all dividends and distributions are reinvested at net asset value on the reinvestment dates during the period.

Year-by-year total return and cumulative total return for a specified period are each derived by calculating the percentage rate required to make a \$1,000 investment (made at the maximum public offering price with all distributions reinvested) at the beginning of such period equal to the actual total value of such investment at the end of such period. The table set forth below indicates the total return (capital changes plus investment of all distributions) on a hypothetical investment of \$1,000 in a Fund for the periods indicated.

Each Fund's performance will fluctuate, unlike bank deposits or other investments which pay a fixed yield for a stated period of time. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future return. Actual performance will depend on such variables as portfolio quality, the type of portfolio instruments acquired, portfolio expenses and other factors. Performance is one basis investors may use to analyze a Fund as compared to other funds and other investment vehicles. However, the performance of other funds and other investment vehicles may not be comparable because of the foregoing variables, and differences in the methods used in valuing their portfolio instruments, computing net asset value and determining performance.

Occasionally statistics may be used to specify Fund volatility or risk. Measures of volatility or risk are generally used to compare a Fund's net asset value or performance relative to a market index. One measure of volatility is beta. Beta is the volatility of a Fund relative to the total market. A beta of more than 1.00 indicates volatility greater than the market, and a beta of less than 1.00 indicates volatility less than the market. Another measure of volatility or risk is standard deviation. Standard deviation is used to measure variability of net asset value or total return around an average, over a specified period of time. The premise is that greater volatility connotes greater risk undertaken in achieving performance.

**VALUE OF \$1,000 INVESTMENT  
(AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN)**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Assuming expense reimbursements</b>	<b>Assuming no expense reimbursements</b>
Growth and Income Fund	1/1/03 – 12/31/03 – One year	24.36%	24.15%
	1/12/98 – 12/31/03 – Since inception	0.97%	0.42%
CORE U.S. Equity Fund	1/1/03 – 12/31/03 – One year	29.47%	29.47%
	2/13/98 – 12/31/03 – Since inception	2.37%	1.94%
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	1/1/03 – 12/31/03 – One year	46.00%	45.66%
	2/13/98 – 12/31/03 – Since inception	5.98%	4.69%
Capital Growth Fund	1/1/03 – 12/31/03 – One year	23.74%	23.25%
	4/30/98 – 12/31/03 – Since inception	1.08%	-0.24%
Mid Cap Value Fund	1/1/03 – 12/31/03 – One year	28.39%	28.39%
	5/1/98 – 12/31/03 – Since inception	7.89%	7.12%
International Equity Fund	1/1/03 – 12/31/03 – One year	35.49%	33.70%
	1/12/98 – 12/31/03 – Since inception	2.84%	1.63%

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All returns are average annual total returns.



A Fund's performance data will be based on historical results and will not be intended to indicate future performance. A Fund's total return yield will vary based on market conditions, portfolio expenses, portfolio investments and other factors. In addition to the Investment Adviser's decisions regarding issuer/industry/country investment selection and allocation, other factors may affect Fund performance. These factors include, but are not limited to, Fund operating fees and expenses, portfolio turnover, and subscription and redemption cash flows affecting a Fund. The value of a Fund's shares will fluctuate and an investor's shares may be worth more or less than their original cost upon redemption. Performance may reflect expense limitations in effect. In their absence, performance would be reduced. The Trust may also, at its discretion, from time to time make a list of a Fund's holdings available to investors upon request.

## **SHARES OF THE TRUST**

Each Fund is a series of Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust, which was formed under the laws of the state of Delaware on September 16, 1997. The Trustees have authority under the Trust's Declaration of Trust to create and classify shares of beneficial interests in separate series, without further action by shareholders. Additional series may be added in the future. The Trustees also have authority to classify and reclassify any series or portfolio of shares into one or more classes.

Certain aspects of the shares may be altered after advance notice to shareholders if it is deemed necessary in order to satisfy certain tax regulatory requirements.

When issued for the consideration described in the Prospectuses, shares are fully paid and non-assessable. In the event of liquidation, shareholders are entitled to share pro rata in the net assets of the applicable class of the relevant Fund available for distribution to such shareholders. All shares are freely transferable and have no preemptive, subscription or conversion rights.

Rule 18f-2 under the Act provides that any matter required to be submitted by the provisions of the Act or applicable state law, or otherwise, to the holders of the outstanding voting securities of an investment company such as the Trust shall not be deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each class or series affected by such matter. Rule 18f-2 further provides that a class or series shall be deemed to be affected by a matter unless the interests of each class or series in the matter are substantially identical or the matter does not affect any interest of such class or series. However, Rule 18f-2 exempts the selection of independent public accountants, the approval of principal distribution contracts and the election of trustees from the separate voting requirements of Rule 18f-2.

The Trust is not required to hold annual meetings of shareholders and does not intend to hold such meetings. In the event that a meeting of shareholders is held, each share of the Trust will be entitled, as determined by the Trustees without the vote or consent of the shareholders, either to one vote for each share or to one vote for each dollar of net asset value represented by such shares on all matters presented to shareholders including the elections of Trustees (this method of voting being referred to as "dollar based voting"). However, to the extent required by the Act or otherwise determined by the Trustees, series and classes of the Trust will vote

separately from each other. Shareholders of the Trust do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of Trustees. Meetings of shareholders of the Trust, or any series or class thereof, may be called by the Trustees, certain officers or upon the written request of holders of 10% or more of the shares entitled to vote at such meetings. The Trustees will call a special meeting of shareholders for the purpose of electing Trustees if, at any time, less than a majority of Trustees holding office at the time were elected by shareholders. The shareholders of the Trust will have voting rights only with respect to the limited number of matters specified in the Declaration of Trust and such other matters as the Trustees may determine or may be required by law.

The Declaration of Trust provides for indemnification of Trustees, officers, employees and agents of the Trust unless the recipient is adjudicated (i) to be liable by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such person's office or (ii) not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such person's actions were in the best interest of the Trust. The Declaration of Trust provides that, if any shareholder or former shareholder of any series is held personally liable solely by reason of being or having been a shareholder and not because of the shareholder's acts or omissions or for some other reason, the shareholder or former shareholder (or the shareholder's heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives or general successors) shall be held harmless from and indemnified against all loss and expense arising from such liability. The Trust, acting on behalf of any affected series, must, upon request by such shareholder, assume the defense of any claim made against such shareholder for any act or obligation of the series and satisfy any judgment thereon from the assets of the series.

The Declaration of Trust permits the termination of the Trust or of any series or class of the Trust (i) by a majority of the affected shareholders at a meeting of shareholders of the Trust, series or class; or (ii) by a majority of the Trustees without shareholder approval if the Trustees determine, in their sole discretion, that such action is in the best interest of the Trust, such series, such class or their shareholders. The Trustees may consider such factors as they, in their sole discretion, deem appropriate in making such determination, including (i) the inability of the Trust or any series or class to maintain its assets at an appropriate size; (ii) changes in laws or regulations governing the Trust or series affecting assets of the type in which it invests; or (iii) economic developments or trends having a significant adverse impact on their business or operations of the Trust or series.

The Declaration of Trust authorizes the Trustees without shareholder approval to cause the Trust, or any series thereof, to merge or consolidate with any corporation, association, trust or other organization or sell or exchange all or substantially all of the property belonging to the Trust or any series thereof. In addition, the Trustees, without shareholder approval, may adopt a master-feeder structure by investing all or a portion of the assets of a series of the Trust in the securities of another open-end investment company.

The Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees to amend the Declaration of Trust without a shareholder vote. However, shareholders of the Trust have the right to vote on any amendment (i) that would adversely affect the voting rights of shareholders; (ii) that is required by law to be approved by shareholders; (iii) that would amend the provisions of the Declaration of Trust regarding amendments and supplements thereto; or (iv) that the Trustees determine to submit to shareholders.

The Trustees may appoint separate Trustees with respect to one or more series or classes of the Trust's shares (the "Series Trustees"). Series Trustees may, but are not required to, serve as Trustees of the Trust or any other series or class of the Trust. To the extent provided by the Trustees in the appointment of Series Trustees, the Series Trustees may have, to the exclusion of any other Trustees of the Trust, all the powers and authorities of Trustees under the Declaration of Trust with respect to such series or class, but may have no power or authority with respect to any other series or class.

As of April 1, 2004, the following entities owned of record or beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the Growth and Income Fund: Protective Var. Annuity Sep. Account, Attn: Tom Barrett, 2801 Highway 280 S, Birmingham, AL 35223-2479 (76%); GE Life & Annuity Assurance Co., Attn: Variable Accounting, 6610 Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230-1702 (10%); The Ohio National Life Insurance Company, Attn: Dennis Taney, One Financial Way, Cincinnati, OH 45242-5851 (6%).

As of April 1, 2004, the following entities owned of record or beneficially more than 5% of outstanding shares of the Core U.S. Equity Fund: IDS Life Insurance Co. A/C 1, Investment Acctg. — Managed Assets, 1646 AXP Financial Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474-0001 (45%); Protective Var. Annuity Sep. Account, Attn: Tom Barrett, 2801 Highway 280 S, Birmingham, AL 35223-2479 (44%).

As of April 1, 2004, the following entities owned of record or beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the CORE Small Cap Equity Fund: Protective Var. Annuity Sep. Account, Attn: Tom Barrett, 2801 Highway 280 S, Birmingham, AL 35223-2479 (58%); IDS Life Insurance Co. A/C 1, Investment Acctg. — Managed Assets, 1646 AXP Financial Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474-0001 (30%).

As of April 1, 2004, the following entities owned of record or beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the Capital Growth Fund: Protective Var. Annuity Sep. Account, Attn: Tom Barrett, 2801 Highway 280 S, Birmingham, AL 35223-2479 (70%); The Ohio National Life Insurance Company, Attn: Dennis Taney, One Financial Way, Cincinnati, OH 45242-5851 (5%).

As of April 1, 2004, the following entities owned of record or beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the Mid Cap Value Fund: IDS Life Insurance Co. A/C 1, Investment Acctg. — Managed Assets, 1646 AXP Financial Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474-0001 (58%); GE Life & Annuity Assurance Co., Attn: Variable Accounting, 6610 Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230-1702 (25%).

As of April 1, 2004, the following entities owned of record or beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the International Equity Fund: Protective Var. Annuity Sep. Account, Attn: Tom Barrett, 2801 Highway 280 S, Birmingham, AL 35223-2479 (78%); Sun Life of Canada (U.S.), P.O. Box 9134, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481-9134 (8%).

## **Shareholder and Trustee Liability**

Under Delaware law, the shareholders of the Funds are not generally subject to liability for the debts or obligations of the Trust. Similarly, Delaware law provides that a series of the Trust will not be liable for the debts or obligations of any other series of the Trust. However, no similar statutory or other authority limiting statutory trust shareholder liability exists in other states. As a result, to the extent that a Delaware statutory trust or a shareholder is subject to the jurisdiction of courts of such other states, the courts may not apply Delaware law and may thereby subject the Delaware statutory trust shareholders to liability. To guard against this risk, the Declaration of Trust contains an express disclaimer of shareholder liability for acts or obligations of a Series. Notice of such disclaimer will normally be given in each agreement, obligation or instrument entered into or executed by a series or the Trust. The Declaration of Trust provides for indemnification by the relevant Series for all loss suffered by a shareholder as a result of an obligation of the series. The Declaration of Trust also provides that a series shall, upon request, assume the defense of any claim made against any shareholder for any act or obligation of the series and satisfy any judgment thereon. In view of the above, the risk of personal liability of shareholders of a Delaware statutory trust is remote.

In addition to the requirements under Delaware law, the Declaration of Trust provides that shareholders of a series may bring a derivative action on behalf of the series only if the following conditions are met: (i) shareholders eligible to bring such derivative action under Delaware law who hold at least 10% of the outstanding shares of the series, or 10% of the outstanding shares of the class to which such action relates, shall join in the request for the Trustees to commence such action; and (ii) the Trustees must be afforded a reasonable amount of time to consider such shareholder request and to investigate the basis of such claim. The Trustees will be entitled to retain counsel or other advisers in considering the merits of the request and may require an undertaking by the shareholders making such request to reimburse the Fund for the expense of any such advisers in the event that the Trustees determine not to bring such action.

The Declaration of Trust further provides that the Trustees will not be liable for errors of judgment or mistakes of fact or law, but nothing in the Declaration of Trust protects a Trustee against liability to which he or she would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office.

## **TAXATION**

Shares of the Funds are offered to Separate Accounts that fund variable annuity contracts and variable insurance policies issued by Participating Insurance Companies. See the Prospectuses for such contracts for a discussion of the special taxation of insurance companies with respect to the Separate Accounts, the variable annuity contracts, variable insurance policies, and the holders thereof.

The following is a summary of the principal U.S. federal income, and certain state and local, tax considerations regarding the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares in each Fund of the Trust. This summary does not address special tax rules applicable to certain classes

of investors, such as tax-exempt entities, insurance companies and financial institutions. Each prospective shareholder is urged to consult his or her own tax adviser with respect to the specific federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of investing in each Fund. The summary is based on the laws in effect on the date of this Additional Statement, which are subject to change.

## **General**

The following is only a summary of certain additional tax considerations generally affecting each Fund that are not described in the Prospectuses. The discussions below and in the Prospectuses are not intended as substitutes for careful tax planning.

The holders of variable life insurance policies or annuity contracts should not be subject to tax with respect to distributions made on, or redemptions of, Fund shares, assuming that the variable life insurance policies and annuity contracts qualify under the Code, as life insurance or annuities, respectively, and that the shareholders are treated as owners of the Fund shares. Thus, this summary does not describe the tax consequences to a holder of a life insurance policy or annuity contract as a result of the ownership of such policies or contracts. Policy or contract holders must consult the prospectuses of their respective policies or contracts for information concerning the federal income tax consequences of owning such policies or contracts. This summary also does not describe the tax consequences applicable to the owners of the Fund shares because the Fund shares will be sold only to insurance companies. Thus, purchasers of Fund shares must consult their own tax advisers regarding the federal, state, and local tax consequences of owning Portfolio shares.

Each Fund is a separate taxable entity. Each of the Funds intends to qualify for each taxable year as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code.

There are certain tax requirements that all Funds must follow in order to avoid federal taxation. In its efforts to adhere to these requirements, the Funds may have to limit their investment activities in some types of instruments. Qualification as a regulated investment company under the Code requires, among other things, that (i) a Fund derive at least 90% of its gross income for its taxable year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans and gains from the sale or other disposition of stocks or securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including but not limited to gains from options, futures, and forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies (the “90% gross income test”); and (ii) such Fund diversify its holdings so that, at the close of each quarter of its taxable year, (a) at least 50% of the market value of such Fund’s total (gross) assets is comprised of cash, cash items, U.S. Government securities, securities of other regulated investment companies and other securities limited in respect of any one issuer to an amount not greater in value than 5% of the value of such Fund’s total assets and to not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and (b) not more than 25% of the value of its total (gross) assets is invested in the securities of any one issuer (other than U.S. Government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies) or two or more issuers controlled by the Fund and engaged in the same, similar or related trades or businesses. For purposes of the 90% gross income test, income that a Fund earns from equity interests in certain entities that are not treated as corporations (e.g., partnerships or trusts) for U.S. tax purposes will generally have the same character for such Fund as in the hands of such an entity; consequently, a

Fund may be required to limit its equity investments in such entities that earn fee income, rental income, or other nonqualifying income. In addition, future Treasury regulations could provide that qualifying income under the 90% gross income test will not include gains from foreign currency transactions that are not directly related to a Fund's principal business of investing in stock or securities or options and futures with respect to stock or securities. Using foreign currency positions or entering into foreign currency options, futures and forward or swap contracts for purposes other than hedging currency risk with respect to securities in a Fund's portfolio or anticipated to be acquired may not qualify as "directly-related" under these tests.

If a Fund complies with such provisions, then in any taxable year in which such Fund distributes, in compliance with the Code's timing and other requirements, at least 90% of its "investment company taxable income" (which includes dividends, taxable interest, taxable accrued original issue discount and market discount income, income from securities lending, any net short-term capital gain in excess of net long-term capital loss, certain net realized foreign exchange gains and any other taxable income other than "net capital gain," as defined below, and is reduced by deductible expenses), and at least 90% of the excess of its gross tax-exempt interest income (if any) over certain disallowed deductions, such Fund (but not its shareholders) will be relieved of federal income tax on any income of the Fund, including long-term capital gains, distributed to shareholders. However, if a Fund retains any investment company taxable income or "net capital gain" (the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss), it will be subject to a tax at regular corporate rates on the amount retained. If the Fund retains any net capital gain, the Fund may designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gains in a notice to its shareholders who, if subject to U.S. federal income tax on long-term capital gains, (i) will be required to include in income for federal income tax purposes, as long-term capital gain, their shares of such undistributed amount, and (ii) will be entitled to credit their proportionate shares of the tax paid by the Fund against their U.S. federal income tax liabilities, if any, and to claim refunds to the extent the credit exceeds such liabilities. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax basis of shares owned by a shareholder of the Fund will be increased by the amount of undistributed net capital gain included in the shareholder's gross income and decreased by the federal income tax paid by the Fund on that amount of net capital gain. Each Fund intends to distribute for each taxable year to its shareholders all or substantially all of its investment company taxable income, net capital gain and any net tax-exempt interest. Exchange control or other foreign laws, regulations or practices may restrict repatriation of investment income, capital or the proceeds of securities sales by foreign investors such as the International Equity Fund and may therefore make it more difficult for such a Fund to satisfy the distribution requirements described above, as well as the excise tax distribution requirements described below. However, each Fund generally expects to be able to obtain sufficient cash to satisfy such requirements from new investors, the sale of securities or other sources. If for any taxable year a Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, it will be taxed on all of its investment company taxable income and net capital gain at corporate rate without any deduction for dividends paid, and its distributions to shareholders will be taxable as ordinary dividends to the extent of its current and accumulated earnings and profits.

As of December 31, 2003, the following Funds had capital loss carryforwards for U.S. federal tax purposes.

	Amount	Years of Expiration
Growth and Income Fund	\$58,199,898	2006-2011
CORE US Equity Fund	94,601,141	2008-2011
CORE Small Cap Equity Fund	—	N/A
Capital Growth Fund	30,989,036	2008-2011
Mid Cap Value Fund	—	N/A
International Equity Fund	58,839,959	2008-2011

For federal income tax purposes, each Fund is permitted to carry forward a net capital loss in any year to offset its own capital gains, if any, during the eight years following the year of the loss.

Each Fund intends to comply with the diversification requirements imposed by Section 817(h) of the Code and the regulations thereunder. Under Code Section 817(h), a variable life insurance or annuity contract will not be treated as a life insurance policy or annuity contract, respectively, under the Code, unless the segregated asset account upon which such contract or policy is based is “adequately diversified.” A segregated asset account will be adequately diversified if it satisfies one of two alternative tests set forth in the Treasury Regulations. Specifically, the Treasury Regulations provide that, except as permitted by the “safe harbor” discussed below, as of the end of each calendar quarter (or within 30 days thereafter) no more than 55% of the segregated asset account’s total assets may be represented by any one investment, no more than 70% by any two investments, no more than 80% by any three investments and no more than 90% by any four investments. For this purpose, all securities of the same issuer are considered a single investment, and each U.S. Government agency and instrumentality is considered a separate issuer. As a safe harbor, a segregated asset account will be treated as being adequately diversified if the diversification requirements under Subchapter M are satisfied and no more than 55% of the value of the account’s total assets are cash and cash items, U.S. Government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies. In addition, a segregated asset account with respect to a variable life insurance contract is treated as adequately diversified to the extent of its investment in securities issued by the United States Treasury.

For purposes of these alternative diversification tests, a segregated asset account investing in shares of a regulated investment company will be entitled to “look through” the regulated investment company to its pro rata portion of the regulated investment company’s assets, provided that the shares of such regulated investment company are held only by insurance companies and certain fund managers (a “Closed Fund”). Each Fund will be a Closed Fund.

If the segregated asset account upon which a variable contract is based is not “adequately diversified” under the foregoing rules for each calendar quarter, then (a) the variable contract is not treated as a life insurance contract or annuity contract under the Code for all subsequent periods during which such account is not “adequately diversified” and (b) the holders of such

contract must include as ordinary income the “income on the contract” for each taxable year. Further, the income on a life insurance contract for all prior taxable years is treated as received or accrued during the taxable year of the policyholder in which the contract ceases to meet the definition of a “life insurance contract” under the Code. The “income on the contract” is, generally, the excess of (i) the sum of the increase in the net surrender value of the contract during the taxable year and the cost of the life insurance protection provided under the contract during the year, over (ii) the premiums paid under the contract during the taxable year. In addition, if a Fund did not constitute a Closed Fund, the holders of the contracts and annuities which invest in the Fund through a segregated asset account might be treated as owners of Fund shares and might be subject to tax on distributions made by the Fund.

In order to avoid a 4% federal excise tax, each Fund may be required to distribute (or be deemed to have distributed) by December 31 of each calendar year at least 98% of its taxable ordinary income for such year, at least 98% of the excess of its capital gains over its capital losses (generally computed on the basis of the one-year period ending on October 31 of such year), and all taxable ordinary income and the excess of capital gains over capital losses for the previous year that were not distributed for such year and on which the Fund paid no federal income tax. However, the excise tax does not apply to a Fund whose only shareholders during the year generally are segregated asset accounts and tax-exempt investors. For federal income tax purposes, dividends declared by a Fund in October, November or December to shareholders of record on a specified date in such a month and paid during January of the following year are taxable to such shareholders as if received on December 31 of the year declared.

Certain of the Funds will be subject to foreign taxes on their income (possibly including, in some cases, capital gains) from foreign securities. Tax conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate such taxes in some cases.

Investments in lower-rated securities may present special tax issues for a Fund to the extent actual or anticipated defaults may be more likely with respect to such securities. Tax rules are not entirely clear about issues such as when a Fund may cease to accrue interest, original issue discount, or market discount; when and to what extent deductions may be taken for bad debts or worthless securities; how payments received on obligations in default should be allocated between principal and income; and whether exchanges of debt obligations in a workout context are taxable. These and other issues will be addressed by a Fund, in the event it invests in such securities, in order to seek to eliminate or minimize any adverse tax consequences.

## **State and Local**

Each Fund may be subject to state or local taxes in jurisdictions in which such Fund may be deemed to be doing business. In addition, in those states or localities which have income tax laws, the treatment of such Fund and its shareholders under such laws may differ from their treatment under federal income tax laws, and investment in such Fund may have tax consequences for shareholders different from those of a direct investment in such Fund’s portfolio securities.



## PROXY VOTING

The Trust, on behalf of the Funds, has delegated the voting of portfolio securities to the Investment Adviser. The Investment Adviser has adopted policies and procedures (the “Policy”) for the voting of proxies on behalf of client accounts for which the Investment Adviser has voting discretion, including the Funds. Under the Policy, the Investment Adviser’s guiding principles in performing proxy voting are to make decisions that: (i) favor proposals that tend to maximize a company’s shareholder value; and (ii) are not influenced by conflicts of interest. These principles reflect the Investment Adviser’s belief that sound corporate governance will create a framework within which a company can be managed in the interests of its shareholders.

The principles and positions reflected in the Policy are designed to guide the Investment Adviser in voting proxies, and not necessarily in making investment decisions. Senior management of the Investment Adviser will periodically review the Policy to ensure that it continues to be consistent with the Investment Adviser’s guiding principles.

**Public Equity Investments.** To implement these guiding principles for investments in publicly-traded equities, the Investment Adviser follows proxy voting guidelines (the “Guidelines”) developed by Institutional Shareholder Services (“ISS”), except in certain circumstances, which are generally described below. The Guidelines embody the positions and factors the Investment Adviser generally considers important in casting proxy votes. They address a wide variety of individual topics, including, among others, shareholder voting rights, anti-takeover defenses, board structures, the election of directors, executive and director compensation, reorganizations, mergers, and various shareholder proposals.

ISS has been retained to review proxy proposals and make voting recommendations in accordance with the Guidelines. While it is the Investment Adviser’s policy generally to follow the Guidelines and recommendations from ISS, the Investment Adviser’s portfolio management teams (“Portfolio Management Teams”) retain the authority on any particular proxy vote to vote differently from the Guidelines or a related ISS recommendation, in keeping with their different investment philosophies and processes. Such decisions, however, remain subject to a review and approval process, including a determination that the decision is not influenced by any conflict of interest. In forming their views on particular matters, the Portfolio Management Teams are also permitted to consider applicable regional rules and practices, including codes of conduct and other guides, regarding proxy voting, in addition to the Guidelines and recommendations from ISS.

In addition to assisting the Investment Adviser in developing substantive proxy voting positions, ISS also updates and revises the Guidelines on a periodic basis, and the revisions are reviewed by the Investment Adviser to determine whether they are consistent with the Investment Adviser’s guiding principles. ISS also assists the Investment Adviser in the proxy voting process by providing operational, recordkeeping and reporting services.

The Investment Adviser is responsible for reviewing its relationship with ISS and for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of the various services provided by ISS. The Investment Adviser may hire other service providers to replace or supplement ISS with respect to any of the services the Investment Adviser currently receives from ISS.

The Investment Adviser has implemented procedures that are intended to prevent conflicts of interest from influencing proxy voting decisions. These procedures include the Investment Adviser's use of ISS as an independent third party, a review and approval process for individual decisions that do not follow ISS's recommendations, and the establishment of information barriers between the Investment Adviser and other businesses within The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

**Fixed Income and Private Investments.** Voting decisions with respect to fixed income securities and the securities of privately held issuers generally will be made by a Fund's managers based on their assessment of the particular transactions or other matters at issue.

## OTHER INFORMATION

As described in the Prospectuses, shares of the Funds are sold and redeemed at their net asset value as next determined after receipt of the purchase or redemption order. Each purchase is confirmed to the Separate Account in a written statement of the number of shares purchased and the aggregate number of shares currently held.

Each Fund will normally redeem shares solely in cash up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of the net asset value of the Fund during any 90-day period for any one shareholder. Each Fund, however, reserves the right to pay redemptions exceeding \$250,000 or 1% of the net asset value of the Fund at the time of redemption by a distribution in kind of securities (instead of cash) from such Fund. The securities distributed in kind would be readily marketable and would be valued for this purpose using the same method employed in calculating the Fund's net asset value per share. See "Net Asset Value." If a shareholder receives redemption proceeds in kind, the shareholder should expect to incur transaction costs upon the disposition of the securities received in the redemption.

The right of a shareholder to redeem shares and the date of payment by each Fund may be suspended for more than seven days for any period during which the New York Stock Exchange is closed, other than the customary weekends or holidays, or when trading on such Exchange is restricted as determined by the SEC; or during any emergency, as determined by the SEC, as a result of which it is not reasonably practicable for such Fund to dispose of securities owned by it or fairly to determine the value of its net assets; or for such other period as the SEC may by order permit for the protection of shareholders of such Fund. (The Trust may also suspend or postpone the recordation of the transfer of shares upon the occurrence of any of the foregoing conditions.)

The Investment Adviser, Distributor and/or their affiliates may pay, out of their own assets, compensation to authorized dealers, service organizations and other financial intermediaries ("Intermediaries") in connection with the sale and distribution of shares of the Funds and/or servicing of these shares. These payments ("Additional Payments") may take the form of "due diligence" payments for an Intermediary's examination of the Funds and payments for providing extra employee training and information relating to the Funds; "listing" fees for the placement of the Funds on a dealer's list of mutual funds available for purchase by its customers; "finders" or "referral" fees for directing investors to the Funds; "marketing support" fees for providing

assistance in promoting the sale of the Funds' shares; and payments for the sale of shares and/or the maintenance of share balances. In addition, the Investment Adviser, Distributor and/or their affiliates may make Additional Payments for subaccounting, administrative and/or shareholder processing services. The Additional Payments made by the Investment Adviser, Distributor and their affiliates may be a fixed dollar amount; may be based on the number of customer accounts maintained by an Intermediary; may be based on a percentage of the value of shares sold to, or held by, customers of the Intermediary involved; or may be calculated on another basis. The Additional Payments may be different for different Intermediaries. Furthermore, the Investment Adviser, Distributor and/or their affiliates may contribute to various non-cash and cash incentive arrangements to promote the sale of shares, as well as sponsor various educational programs, sales contests and/or promotions. The Investment Adviser, Distributor and their affiliates may also pay for the travel expenses, meals, lodging and entertainment of Intermediaries and their salespersons and guests in connection with educational, sales and promotional programs, subject to applicable NASD regulations. The Distributor currently expects that such additional bonuses or incentives will not exceed 0.50% of the amount of any sales.

The Prospectuses and this Additional Statement do not contain all the information included in the Registration Statement filed with the SEC under the 1933 Act with respect to the securities offered by the Prospectuses. Certain portions of the Registration Statement have been omitted from the Prospectuses and this Additional Statement pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC. The Registration Statement including the exhibits filed therewith may be examined at the office of the SEC in Washington, D.C.

Statements contained in the Prospectuses or in this Additional Statement as to the contents of any contract or other document referred to are not necessarily complete, and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which the Prospectuses and this Additional Statement form a part, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference.

#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The audited financial statements and related report of Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors for each Fund, contained in each Fund's 2003 Annual Report are hereby incorporated by reference. The financial statements in each Fund's Annual Report have been incorporated by reference in reliance upon such report given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing. The financial highlights included in each Fund's Annual Report for periods ending on or before December 31, 1999 were audited by the Funds' former independent auditors. No other parts of any Annual Report are incorporated by reference herein. Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained upon request and without charge by calling Goldman, Sachs & Co. toll free at the telephone number on the back cover of each Fund's Prospectus.

## APPENDIX A

### DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES RATINGS

#### Short-Term Credit Ratings

A Standard & Poor's short-term issue credit rating is a current opinion of the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation having an original maturity of no more than 365 days. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Standard & Poor's for short-term issues:

"A-1" — Obligations are rated in the highest category and indicate that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong.

"A-2" — Obligations are somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

"A-3" — Obligations exhibit adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

"B" — Obligations have significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

"C" — Obligations are currently vulnerable to nonpayment and are dependent upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

"D" — Obligations are in payment default. The "D" rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made during such grace period. The "D" rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action if payments on an obligation are jeopardized.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Risks — Country risk considerations are a standard part of Standard & Poor's analysis for credit ratings on any issuer or issue. Currency of repayment is a key factor in this analysis. An obligor's capacity to repay foreign currency obligations may be lower than its capacity to repay obligations in its local currency due to the sovereign government's own relatively lower capacity to repay external versus domestic debt. These sovereign risk considerations are incorporated in the debt ratings assigned to specific issues. Foreign currency issuer ratings are also distinguished from local currency issuer ratings to identify those instances where sovereign risks make them different for the same issuer.

Moody's short-term ratings are opinions of the ability of issuers to honor short-term financial obligations. These obligations have an original maturity not exceeding thirteen months, unless explicitly noted. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Moody's for short-term obligations:

"P-1" — Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

"P-2" — Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

"P-3" — Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

"NP" — Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch") short-term ratings apply to time horizons of less than 12 months for most obligations, or up to three years for U.S. public finance securities, and thus place greater emphasis on the liquidity necessary to meet financial commitments in a timely manner. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Fitch for short-term obligations:

"F1" — Securities possess the highest credit quality. This designation indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments and may have an added "+" to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

"F2" — Securities possess good credit quality. This designation indicates a satisfactory capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, but the margin of safety is not as great as in the case of the higher ratings.

"F3" — Securities possess fair credit quality. This designation indicates that the capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate; however, near-term adverse changes could result in a reduction to non-investment grade.

"B" — Securities possess speculative credit quality. This designation indicates minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus vulnerability to near-term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

"C" — Securities possess high default risk. Default is a real possibility. This designation indicates a capacity for meeting financial commitments which is solely reliant upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.

"D" — Securities are in actual or imminent payment default.

The following summarizes the ratings used by Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited (“DBRS”) for commercial paper and short-term debt:

R-1 Prime Credit Quality

R-2 Adequate Credit Quality

R-3 Speculative

All three DBRS rating categories for short-term debt use “high”, “middle” or “low” as subset grades to designate the relative standing of the credit within a particular rating category. The following comments provide separate definitions for the three grades in the Prime Credit Quality area.

“R-1 (high)” - Short-term debt rated “R-1 (high)” is of the highest credit quality, and indicates an entity which possesses unquestioned ability to repay current liabilities as they fall due. Entities rated in this category normally maintain strong liquidity positions, conservative debt levels and profitability which is both stable and above average. Companies achieving an “R-1 (high)” rating are normally leaders in structurally sound industry segments with proven track records, sustainable positive future results and no substantial qualifying negative factors. Given the extremely tough definition which DBRS has established for an “R-1 (high)”, few entities are strong enough to achieve this rating.

“R-1 (middle)” — Short-term debt rated “R-1 (middle)” is of superior credit quality and, in most cases, ratings in this category differ from “R-1 (high)” credits to only a small degree. Given the extremely tough definition which DBRS has for the “R-1 (high)” category, entities rated “R-1 (middle)” are also considered strong credits which typically exemplify above average strength in key areas of consideration for debt protection.

“R-1 (low)” — Short-term debt rated “R-1 (low)” is of satisfactory credit quality. The overall strength and outlook for key liquidity, debt and profitability ratios is not normally as favorable as with higher rating categories, but these considerations are still respectable. Any qualifying negative factors which exist are considered manageable, and the entity is normally of sufficient size to have some influence in its industry.

“R-2 (high)”, “R-2 (middle)”, “R-2 (low)” - Short-term debt rated “R-2” is of adequate credit quality and within the three subset grades, debt protection ranges from having reasonable ability for timely repayment to a level which is considered only just adequate. The liquidity and debt ratios of entities in the “R-2” classification are not as strong as those in the “R-1” category, and the past and future trend may suggest some risk of maintaining the strength of key ratios in these areas. Alternative sources of liquidity support are considered satisfactory; however, even the strongest liquidity support will not improve the commercial paper rating of the issuer. The size of the entity may restrict its flexibility, and its relative position in the industry is not typically as strong as an “R-1 credit”. Profitability trends, past and future, may be less favorable, earnings not as stable, and there are often negative qualifying factors present which could also make the entity more vulnerable to adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

“R-3 (high)”, “R-3 (middle)”, “R-3 (low)” — Short-term debt rated “R-3” is speculative, and within the three subset grades, the capacity for timely payment ranges from mildly speculative to doubtful. “R-3” credits tend to have weak liquidity and debt ratios, and the future trend of these ratios

is also unclear. Due to its speculative nature, companies with “R-3” ratings would normally have very limited access to alternative sources of liquidity. Earnings would typically be very unstable, and the level of overall profitability of the entity is also likely to be low. The industry environment may be weak, and strong negative qualifying factors are also likely to be present.

### **Long-Term Credit Ratings**

The following summarizes the ratings used by Standard & Poor’s for long-term issues:

“AAA” — An obligation rated “AAA” has the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor’s. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

“AA” — An obligation rated “AA” differs from the highest rated obligations only in small degree. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

“A” — An obligation rated “A” is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

“BBB” — An obligation rated “BBB” exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

Obligations rated “BB,” “B,” “CCC,” “CC” are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. “BB” indicates the least degree of speculation and “CC” the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

“BB” — An obligation rated “BB” is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial or economic conditions which could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“B” — An obligation rated “B” is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated “BB,” but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor’s capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“CCC” — An obligation rated “CCC” is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“CC” — An obligation rated “CC” is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment.

“C” — The “C” rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed or similar action has been taken, but payments on this obligation are being continued.

“D” — An obligation rated “D” is in payment default. The “D” rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless Standard & Poor’s believes that such payment will be made during such grace period. The “D” rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action if payments on an obligation are jeopardized.

- PLUS (+) OR MINUS (-) — The ratings from “AA” through “CCC” may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

The following summarizes the ratings used by Moody’s for long-term debt:

“Aaa” – Obligations rated “Aaa” are judged to be of the highest quality, with minimal credit risk.

“Aa” – Obligations rated “Aa” are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

“A” – Obligations rated “A” are considered upper-medium-grade and are subject to low credit risk.

“Baa” – Obligations rated “Baa” are subject to moderate credit risk. They are considered medium-grade and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

“Ba” – Obligations rated “Ba” are judged to have speculative elements and are subject to substantial credit risk.

“B” – Obligations rated “B” are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

“Caa” – Obligations rated “Caa” are judged to be of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

“Ca” — Obligations rated “Ca” are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

“C” – Obligations rated “C” are the lowest rated class of bonds and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: Moody’s applies numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 in each generic rating classification from “Aa” through “Caa.” The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

The following summarizes long-term ratings used by Fitch:

“AAA” — Securities considered to be investment grade and of the highest credit quality. These ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk and are assigned only in case of exceptionally



strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

“AA” — Securities considered to be investment grade and of very high credit quality. These ratings denote a very low expectation of credit risk and indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

“A” — Securities considered to be investment grade and of high credit quality. These ratings denote a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

“BBB” — Securities considered to be investment grade and of good credit quality. These ratings denote that there is currently a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in circumstances and in economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity. This is the lowest investment grade category.

“BB” — Securities considered to be speculative. These ratings indicate that there is a possibility of credit risk developing, particularly as the result of adverse economic change over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met. Securities rated in this category are not investment grade.

“B” — Securities considered to be highly speculative. These ratings indicate that significant credit risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.

“CCC,” “CC” and “C” — Securities have high default risk. Default is a real possibility, and capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favorable business or economic developments. “CC” ratings indicate that default of some kind appears probable, and “C” ratings signal imminent default.

“DDD,” “DD” and “D” — Securities are in default. The ratings of obligations in these categories are based on their prospects for achieving partial or full recovery in a reorganization or liquidation of the obligor.

Entities rated in this category have defaulted on some or all of their obligations. Entities rated “DDD” have the highest prospect for resumption of performance or continued operation with or without a formal reorganization process. Entities rated “DD” and “D” are generally undergoing a formal reorganization or liquidation process; those rated “DD” are likely to satisfy a higher portion of their outstanding obligations, while entities rated “D” have a poor prospect for repaying all obligations.

PLUS (+) or MINUS (-) may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the “AAA” long-term rating category or to categories below “CCC”.

The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS for long-term debt:

**“AAA”** — Bonds rated “AAA” are of the highest credit quality, with exceptionally strong protection for the timely repayment of principal and interest. Earnings are considered stable, the structure of the industry in which the entity operates is strong, and the outlook for future profitability is favorable. There are few qualifying factors present which would detract from the performance of the entity, the strength of liquidity and coverage ratios is unquestioned and the entity has established a creditable track record of superior performance. Given the extremely tough definition which DBRS has established for this category, few entities are able to achieve a AAA rating.

**“AA”** — Bonds rated “AA” are of superior credit quality, and protection of interest and principal is considered high. In many cases, they differ from bonds rated AAA only to a small degree. Given the extremely tough definition which DBRS has for the AAA category, entities rated AA are also considered to be strong credits which typically exemplify above-average strength in key areas of consideration and are unlikely to be significantly affected by reasonably foreseeable events.

**“A”** — Bonds rated “A” are of satisfactory credit quality. Protection of interest and principal is still substantial, but the degree of strength is less than with AA rated entities. While a respectable rating, entities in the “A” category are considered to be more susceptible to adverse economic conditions and have greater cyclical tendencies than higher rated companies.

**“BBB”** — Bonds rated “BBB” are of adequate credit quality. Protection of interest and principal is considered adequate, but the entity is more susceptible to adverse changes in financial and economic conditions, or there may be other adversities present which reduce the strength of the entity and its rated securities.

**“BB”** - Bonds rated “BB” are defined to be speculative, where the degree of protection afforded interest and principal is uncertain, particularly during periods of economic recession. Entities in the BB area typically have limited access to capital markets and additional liquidity support and, in many cases, small size or lack of competitive strength may be additional negative considerations.

**“B”** — Bonds rated “B” are highly speculative and there is a reasonably high level of uncertainty which exists as to the ability of the entity to pay interest and principal on a continuing basis in the future, especially in periods of economic recession or industry adversity.

**“CCC” / “CC” / “C”** — Bonds rated in any of these categories are very highly speculative and are in danger of default of interest and principal. The degree of adverse elements present is more severe than bonds rated “B”. Bonds rated below “B” often have characteristics which, if not remedied, may lead to default. In practice, there is little difference between the “C” to “CCC” categories, with “CC” and “C” normally used to lower ranking debt of companies where the senior debt is rated in the “CCC” to “B” range.

**“D”** - This category indicates bonds in default of either interest or principal.

(“high,” “low”) grades are used to indicate the relative standing of a credit within a particular rating category. The lack of one of these designations indicates a rating which is essentially in the middle of the category. Note that “high” and “low” grades are not used for the AAA category.

## **Municipal Note Ratings**

A Standard & Poor's note rating reflects the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to notes due in three years or less. The following summarizes the ratings used by Standard & Poor's for municipal notes:

“SP-1” — The issuers of these municipal notes exhibit a strong capacity to pay principal and interest. Those issues determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service are given a plus (+) designation.

“SP-2” — The issuers of these municipal notes exhibit a satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

“SP-3” — The issuers of these municipal notes exhibit speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

Moody's uses three rating categories for short-term municipal obligations that are considered investment grade. These ratings are designated as Municipal Investment Grade (MIG) and are divided into three levels – MIG 1 through MIG 3. In addition, those short-term obligations that are of speculative quality are designated SG, or speculative grade. MIG ratings expire at the maturity of the obligation. The following summarized the ratings by Moody's for these short-term obligations:

“MIG-1” — This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

“MIG-2” — This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

“MIG-3” — This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.

“SG” — This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

In the case of variable rate demand obligations (VRDOs), a two-component rating is assigned; a long or short-term debt rating and a demand obligation rating. The first element represents Moody's evaluation of the degree of risk associated with scheduled principal and interest payments. The second element represents Moody's evaluation of the degree of risk associated with the ability to receive purchase price upon demand (“demand feature”), using a variation of the MIG rating scale, the Variable Municipal Investment Grade or VMIG rating.

When either the long- or short-term aspect of a VRDO is not rated, that piece is designated NR, e.g., Aaa/NR or NR/VMIG 1.

VMIG rating expirations are a function of each issue's specific structural or credit features.

“VMIG-1” – This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“VMIG-2” – This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“VMIG-3” — This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“SG” – This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may supported by a liquidity provider that does not have an investment grade short-term rating or may lack the structural and/or legal protections necessary to ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

Fitch uses the same ratings for municipal securities as described above for other short-term credit ratings.

### **About Credit Ratings**

A Standard & Poor’s issue credit rating is a current opinion of the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation. The issue credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold a financial obligation. Credit ratings may be changed, suspended or withdrawn.

Moody’s credit ratings must be construed solely as statements of opinion and not recommendations to purchase, sell or hold any securities.

Fitch credit ratings are an opinion on the ability of an entity or of a securities issue to meet financial commitments on a timely basis. Fitch credit ratings are used by investors as indications of the likelihood of getting their money back in accordance with the terms on which they invested. However, Fitch credit ratings are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold any security. Ratings may be changed or withdrawn.

DBRS credit ratings are not buy, hold or sell recommendations, but rather the result of qualitative and quantitative analysis focusing solely on the credit quality of the issuer and its underlying obligations.

## APPENDIX B

### BUSINESS PRINCIPLES OF GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.

Goldman Sachs is noted for its Business Principles, which guide all of the firm's activities and serve as the basis for its distinguished reputation among investors worldwide.

**Our client's interests always come first.** Our experience shows that if we serve our clients well, our own success will follow.

**Our assets are our people, capital and reputation.** If any of these is ever diminished, the last is the most difficult to restore. We are dedicated to complying fully with the letter and spirit of the laws, rules and ethical principles that govern us. Our continued success depends upon unswerving adherence to this standard.

**We take great pride in the professional quality of our work.** We have an uncompromising determination to achieve excellence in everything we undertake. Though we may be involved in a wide variety and heavy volume of activity, we would, if it came to a choice, rather be best than biggest.

**We stress creativity and imagination in everything we do.** While recognizing that the old way may still be the best way, we constantly strive to find a better solution to a client's problems. We pride ourselves on having pioneered many of the practices and techniques that have become standard in the industry.

**We make an unusual effort to identify and recruit the very best person for every job.** Although our activities are measured in billions of dollars, we select our people one by one. In a service business, we know that without the best people, we cannot be the best firm.

**We offer our people the opportunity to move ahead more rapidly than is possible at most other places.** We have yet to find limits to the responsibility that our best people are able to assume. Advancement depends solely on ability, performance and contribution to the Firm's success, without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or any other impermissible criterion or circumstance.

**We stress teamwork in everything we do.** While individual creativity is always encouraged, we have found that team effort often produces the best results. We have no room for those who put their personal interests ahead of the interests of the Firm and its clients.

**The dedication of our people to the Firm and the intense effort they give their jobs are greater than one finds in most other organizations.** We think that this is an important part of our success.

**Our profits are a key to our success.** They replenish our capital and attract and keep our best people. It is our practice to share our profits generously with all who helped create them. Profitability is crucial to our future.

**We consider our size an asset that we try hard to preserve.** We want to be big enough to undertake the largest project that any of our clients could contemplate, yet small enough to maintain the

loyalty, the intimacy and the esprit de corps that we all treasure and that contribute greatly to our success.

**We constantly strive to anticipate the rapidly changing needs of our clients and to develop new services to meet those needs.** We know that the world of finance will not stand still and that complacency can lead to extinction.

**We regularly receive confidential information as part of our normal client relationships.** To breach a confidence or to use confidential information improperly or carelessly would be unthinkable.

**Our business is highly competitive, and we aggressively seek to expand our client relationships.** However, we must always be fair to competitors and must never denigrate other firms.

**Integrity and honesty are the heart of our business.** We expect our people to maintain high ethical standards in everything they do, both in their work for the firm and in their personal lives.

## **GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.'S INVESTMENT BANKING AND SECURITIES ACTIVITIES**

Goldman Sachs is a leading financial services firm traditionally known on Wall Street and around the world for its institutional and private client services.

With fifty offices worldwide Goldman Sachs employs over 20,000 professionals focused on opportunities in major markets.

The number one underwriter of all international equity issues from 1989-2001.\*

The number one lead manager of U.S. common stock offerings from 1989-2001.\*

The number one lead manager for initial public offerings (IPOs) worldwide from 1989-2001.\*

\* ***Source: Security Data Corporation. Common stock ranking excludes REITs, Investment Trusts and Rights. Ranking based on dollar volume issued.***

## **GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.'S HISTORY OF EXCELLENCE**

- 1869    Marcus Goldman opens Goldman Sachs for business
- 1890    Dow Jones Industrial Average first published
- 1896    Goldman, Sachs & Co. joins New York Stock Exchange
- 1906    Goldman, Sachs & Co. takes Sears Roebuck & Co. public (at 97 years, the firm's longest-standing client relationship)  
Dow Jones Industrial Average tops 100
- 1925    Goldman, Sachs & Co. finances Warner Brothers, producer of the first talking film
- 1956    Goldman, Sachs & Co. co-manages Ford's public offering, the largest to date
- 1970    Goldman, Sachs & Co. opens London office
- 1972    Dow Jones Industrial Average breaks 1000
- 1986    Goldman, Sachs & Co. takes Microsoft public
- 1988    Goldman Sachs Asset Management is formally established
- 1991    Goldman, Sachs & Co. provides advisory services for the largest privatization in the region of the sale of Telefonos de Mexico
- 1995    Goldman Sachs Asset Management introduces Global Tactical Asset Allocation Program  
Dow Jones Industrial Average breaks 5000
- 1996    Goldman, Sachs & Co. takes Deutsche Telekom public  
Dow Jones Industrial Average breaks 6000
- 1997    Goldman Sachs Asset Management increases assets under management by 100% over 1996  
Dow Jones Industrial Average breaks 7000



- 1998 Goldman Sachs Asset Management reaches \$195.5 billion in assets under management  
Dow Jones Industrial Average breaks 9000
- 1999 Goldman Sachs becomes a public company  
Goldman Sachs Asset Management launches the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund; becomes the year's second most successful new fund launch
- 2000 Goldman Sachs CORE<sup>SM</sup> Tax-Managed Equity Fund launches  
Goldman Sachs Asset Management has total assets under management of \$298.5 billion
- 2001 Goldman Sachs Asset Management reaches \$100 billion in money market assets  
Goldman Sachs Asset Management has total assets under management of \$306 billion  
Goldman Sachs acquires Spear, Leeds and Kellogg
- 2002 Advises and services the wealth management needs of 45% of the Forbes 400\*
- 2003 Goldman Sachs acquires The Ayco Company, L.P., one of the oldest and largest financial planning firms in the United States  
Goldman Sachs combines its Australian operations with Australian securities firm JBWere, one of the most respected and oldest (having been founded in 1840) financial institutions in the region, to form Goldman Sachs JBWere

\* Source: Forbes.com September 2002

## PART C — OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 23 Exhibits

- (a) (1) Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated September 16, 1997 is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (1) of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) on September 18, 1997 (Accession No. 0000950130-97-004157) (the Initial Registration Statement”).
- (2) Amendment No. 1 dated October 21, 1997 to Agreement and Declaration of Trust is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(2) of Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on December 23, 1997 (Accession No. 0000950130-97-005710) (“Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1”).
- (3) Amendment No. 2 dated January 22, 1999 to Agreement and Declaration of Trust is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(3) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on February 26, 1999 (Accession No. 0000950130-99-001075) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 2”).
- (4) Amendment No. 3 dated April 28, 1999 to Agreement and Declaration of Trust is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(4) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 3 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on January 31, 2000 (Accession No. 0000950130-00-000305) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 3”).
- (5) Amendment No. 4 dated February 3, 2000 to Agreement and Declaration of Trust is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(5) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 4 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on April 13, 2000 (Accession No. 0000950130-00-002070) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 4”).
- (6) Amendment No. 5 dated August 1, 2000 to Agreement and Declaration of Trust is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(6) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 5 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on April 13, 2001 (Accession No. 0000950109-01-500531) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 5”).

- (7) Amendment No. 6 dated April 25, 2001 to Agreement and Declaration of Trust is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(7) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 6 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on April 29, 2002 (Accession No. 0000950123-02-004328) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 6”).
- (8) Amendment No. 7 dated August 1, 2002 to the Agreement and Declaration of Trust is filed is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (a)(8) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 7 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on April 15, 2003 (Accession No. 0000950123-03-004261) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 7”).
- (b)
  - (1) By-Laws of Registrant dated September 16, 1997 are incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (2) of the Initial Registration Statement.
  - (2) Amendment No. 1 dated August 1, 2002 to the By-Laws is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (b)(2) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 7.
  - (3) Amended and Restated By-Laws dated October 30, 2002 are incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (b)(3) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 7.
- (c) Article II, Section 10, Article IV, Section 4, Article V, Article VI, Article VII, Article IX, Section 8, Section 9, and Section 12 of the Registrant’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit (a) (1) and Article III of the Registrant’s Amended and Restated By-Laws incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit (b)(3).
- (d)
  - (1) Management Agreement among Registrant, Goldman Sachs Asset Management and Goldman Sachs Asset Management International on behalf of the Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Large Cap Growth, CORE Small Cap Equity, Mid Cap Equity, Capital Growth, International Equity, Global Income and High Yield Funds is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (5) of Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.

- (2) Amended Annex A to Management Agreement among Registrant, Goldman Sachs Asset Management and Goldman Sachs Asset Management International on behalf of the Growth and Income, CORE U.S. Equity, CORE Large Cap Growth, CORE Small Cap Equity, Mid Cap Equity, Capital Growth, International Equity, Global Income, High Yield, CORE Large Cap Value, CORE International Equity, Short Duration Government and Internet Tollkeeper Funds is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (d)(2) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 5.
- (3) Assumption Agreement dated April 26, 2003 between Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. is filed herewith.
- (e) Amended and Restated Distribution Agreement between Registrant and Goldman, Sachs & Co. dated February 3, 2000 is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (e) of Post- Effective Amendment No. 5.
- (f) Not Applicable.
- (g)
  - (1) Custodian Agreement between Registrant and State Street Bank and Trust Company dated December 31, 1997 is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (8) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 of the Registration Statement on Form N-1A (No. 333-35883 and 811-08361) filed with the Commission on November 18, 1998 (Accession No. 0000950130-98-005579) (“Post-Effective Amendment No. 1”).
  - (2) Letter Agreement relating to Custodian Agreement between Registrant and State Street Bank and Trust Company, dated January 21, 2000 (Internet Tollkeeper Fund) is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (g)(4) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 5.
  - (3) Amendment dated July 2, 2001 to the Custodian Contract dated December 31, 1997 between Registrant and State Street Bank and Trust Company is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (g)(3) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 6.
  - (4) Amendment dated August 1, 2001 to the Custodian Contract dated December 31, 1997 between Registrant and State Street Bank and Trust Company is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (g)(4) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 7.
- (h)
  - (1) Transfer Agency Agreement between Registrant and Goldman, Sachs & Co. dated October 21, 1997 is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (9)(a) of Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.

- (2) Letter Agreement relating to Transfer Agency Agreement between Registrant and Goldman, Sachs & Co. (Internet Tollkeeper Fund) is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (h)(4) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 5.
- (3) Form of Participation Agreement is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit (9)(b) of Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
- (4) Amendment dated August 1, 2002 to the Transfer Agency Agreement dated October 21, 1997 between Registrant and Goldman, Sachs & Co. is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (h)(4) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 7.
- (i) (1) Opinion and consent of counsel relating to the Goldman Sachs Growth and Income, Goldman Sachs CORE U.S. Equity, Goldman Sachs CORE Large Cap Growth, Goldman Sachs CORE Small Cap Equity, Goldman Sachs Capital Growth, Goldman Sachs Mid Cap Equity, Goldman Sachs International Equity, Goldman Sachs Global Income and Goldman Sachs High Yield Funds is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (10)(a) of Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
- (2) Opinion and consent of counsel relating to the Goldman Sachs CORE Large Cap Value Fund, Goldman Sachs CORE International Equity Fund, Goldman Sachs Short Duration Government Fund, Goldman Sachs Conservative Strategy Portfolio, Goldman Sachs Balanced Strategy Portfolio, Goldman Sachs Growth and Income Strategy Portfolio, Goldman Sachs Growth Strategy Portfolio and Goldman Sachs Aggressive Growth Strategy Portfolio is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (i)(2) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 2.
- (3) Opinion and consent of counsel relating to the Goldman Sachs Internet Tollkeeper Fund is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (i)(3) of Post-Effective Amendment No. 5.
- (j) (1) Consent of Ernst & Young LLP is filed herewith.
- (k) Not Applicable.
- (l) Purchase Agreement between Registrant and The Goldman Sachs Group, L.P. dated December 12, 1997 is incorporated herein by reference to exhibit (13) of Pre-Effective Amendment No 1.
- (m) Not Applicable.
- (n) None.

- (o) Not Applicable.
  
- (p)
  - (1) Code of Ethics — Goldman Sachs Trust and Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust, dated April 23, 1997, as amended April 23, 2003 is filed herewith.
  - (2) Code of Ethics – Goldman, Sachs & Co., Goldman Sachs Asset Management L.P. and Goldman Sachs Asset Management International, effective January 23, 1991, as revised April 24, 2003 is filed herewith.
  
- (q)
  - (1) Powers of Attorney of Messrs. Bakhru, Grip, Perlowski, Ford, McNulty, Shuch, Smart, Springer and Strubel and Mmes. McPherson are incorporated herein by reference to Post-Effective Amendment No. 1.
  - (2) Power of Attorney for Patrick T. Harker is incorporated herein by reference to Post-Effective Amendment No. 5.
  - (3) Powers of Attorney dated August 2, 2001 on behalf of Gary Black, Wilma J. Smelcer and Kaysie P. Uniacke are incorporated herein by reference to Post-Effective Amendment No. 6.
  - (4) Power of Attorney dated March 26, 2003 on behalf of James McNamara is incorporated herein by reference to Post-Effective Amendment No. 7.
  - (5) Power of Attorney dated October 30, 2003 on behalf of John P. Coblentz, Jr. is filed herewith.

Item 24 Persons Controlled By or Under Common Control with Registrant

Not applicable.

## Item 25 Indemnification

Article IV of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust of Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust, a Delaware business trust (incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 23(a)(1) hereto), provides for indemnification of the Trustees and officers of the Trust, subject to certain limitations.

The Management Agreement provides that the applicable Investment Adviser will not be liable for any error of judgement or mistake of law or for any loss suffered by a Fund, except a loss resulting from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of the Investment Adviser or from reckless disregard by the Investment Adviser of its obligations and duties under the Management Agreement. The Management Agreement is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 23(d)(1).

Section 9 of the Amended and Restated Distribution Agreement between the Registrant and Goldman, Sachs & Co. (incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 23(e)) and Section 7 of the Transfer Agency Agreement between the Registrant and Goldman, Sachs & Co. (incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 23(h)(1)) provide that the Registrant will indemnify Goldman, Sachs & Co. against certain liabilities.

Mutual fund and trustees and officers liability policies purchased jointly by the Registrant, Goldman Sachs Trust, Trust for Credit Unions and The Commerce Funds insure such persons and their respective trustees, partners, officers and employees, subject to the policies' coverage limits and exclusions and varying deductibles, against loss resulting from claims by reason of any act, error, omission, misstatement, misleading statement, neglect or breach of duty.

Item 26 Business and Other Connections of Investment Adviser

Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P. (“GSAM LP”) and Goldman Sachs Asset Management International (“GSAMI”) are wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and serve as investment advisers to the Registrant. Set forth below are the names, businesses and business addresses of certain managing directors of GSAM LP and GSAMI who are engaged in any other business, profession, vocation or employment of a substantial nature.

<b>Name and Position with the Investment Advisers</b>	<b>Name and Address of Other Company</b>	<b>Connection with Other Company</b>
Henry M. Paulson, Jr. Managing Director- GSAM LP	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director
	Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	Managing Director
Robert J. Hurst Managing Director- GSAM LP	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	Vice Chairman and Director
	Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	Managing Director
Lloyd C. Blankfein Managing Director- GSAM LP	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	President, Chief Operating Officer and Director
	Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	Managing Director



Name and Position with the Investment Advisers	Name and Address of Other Company	Connection with Other Company
David W. Blood Managing Director- GSAM LP Director- GSAMI	Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	Managing Director Co-Head (Asset Management Group)

## Item 27 Principal Underwriter

(a) Goldman, Sachs & Co. or an affiliate or a division thereof currently serves as distributor of the units of Trust for Credit Unions, for shares of Goldman Sachs Trust and for shares of Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust. Goldman, Sachs & Co. or a division thereof currently serves as administrator and distributor of the units or shares of The Commerce Funds.

(b) Set forth below is certain information pertaining to the Managing Directors of Goldman, Sachs & Co., the Registrant's principal underwriter, who are members of the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.'s Management Committee. None of the members of the management committee holds a position or office with the Registrant.

### **GOLDMAN SACHS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

<b>Name and Principal Business Address</b>	<b>Position with Goldman, Sachs &amp; Co.</b>
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Lloyd C. Blankfein (1)	Managing Director
Alan M. Cohen (5)	Managing Director
Gary D. Cohn (1)	Managing Director
Christopher A. Cole (1)	Managing Director
J. Michael Evans (5)	Managing Director
Edward C. Forst (1)	Managing Director
Richard A. Friedman (1)	Managing Director
Richard J. Gnodde (8)	Managing Director
Suzanne M. Nora Johnson (5)	Managing Director
Robert S. Kaplan (1)	Managing Director
Scott B. Kapnick (3)	Managing Director
Kevin W. Kennedy (1)	Managing Director
Peter S. Kraus (5)	Managing Director
Masanori Mochida (6)	Managing Director
Thomas K. Montag (5)	Managing Director
Gregory K. Palm (1)	General Counsel and Managing Director
Henry M. Paulson, Jr. (1)	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
John F.W. Rogers (1)	Managing Director
Eric S. Schwartz (5)	Managing Director
Michael S. Sherwood (7)	Managing Director
David M. Solomon (5)	Managing Director
Esta Stecher (5)	General Counsel and Managing Director
David A. Viniar (4)	Managing Director
John S. Weinberg (1)	Managing Director
Peter A. Weinberg (3)	Managing Director
Jon Winkelried (3)	Managing Director

- (1) 85 Broad Street, New York, NY 10004
  - (2) 32 Old Slip, New York, NY 10005
  - (3) Peterborough Court, 133 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2BB, England
  - (4) 10 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10005
  - (5) One New York Plaza, New York, NY 10004
  - (6) 12-32, Akasaka I-chome, Minato-Ku, Tokyo 107-6006, Japan
  - (7) River Court, 120 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2QQ, England
  - (8) Cheung Kong Center, 68<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2 Queens Road Central, Hong Kong, China
- (c) Not Applicable.

#### Item 28 Location of Accounts and Records

The Declaration of Trust, By-laws and minute books of the Registrant and certain investment adviser records are in the physical possession of GSAM LP, 32 Old Slip, New York, New York 10005. All other accounts, books and other documents required to be maintained under Section 31(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and the Rules promulgated thereunder are in the physical possession of State Street Bank and Trust Company, P.O. Box 1713, Boston, Massachusetts 02105 except for certain transfer agency and underwriting records which are maintained by Goldman, Sachs & Co., 4900 Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

#### Item 29 Management Services

Not Applicable.

#### Item 30 Undertakings

Not Applicable.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Registrant certifies that it meets all of the requirements for effectiveness of this Post-Effective Amendment No. 8 under Rule 485(b) under the Securities Act of 1933 and has duly caused this Post-Effective Amendment No. 8 to its Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, duly authorized, in the City of New York, and State of New York, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, 2004.

GOLDMAN SACHS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST  
Registrant

By: /s/ Howard B. Surloff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Howard B. Surloff  
Secretary

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Post-Effective Amendment No. 8 to Registrant's Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
*Kaysie P. Uniacke	President (Chief Executive Officer) and Trustee	April 15, 2004
Kaysie P. Uniacke		
*John M. Perlowski	Treasurer (Principal Accounting Officer and Principal Financial Officer)	April 15, 2004
John M. Perlowski		
*Mary Patterson McPherson	Trustee	April 15, 2004
Mary Patterson McPherson		
*Ashok N. Bakhru	Chairman and Trustee	April 15, 2004
Ashok N. Bakhru		
*Alan A. Shuch	Trustee	April 15, 2004
Alan A. Shuch		
*Wilma J. Smelcer	Trustee	April 15, 2004
Wilma J. Smelcer		
*Richard P. Strubel	Trustee	April 15, 2004
Richard P. Strubel		
*Patrick T. Harker	Trustee	April 15, 2004
Patrick T. Harker		

Name	Title	Date
*Gary D. Black	Trustee	April 15, 2004
Gary D. Black		
*James McNamara	Trustee	April 15, 2004
James McNamara		
**John P. Coblentz, Jr.	Trustee	April 15, 2004
John P. Coblentz, Jr.		
By:/s/ Howard B. Surloff		
Howard B. Surloff, Attorney-In-Fact		

\*Pursuant to a power of attorney previously filed.

\*\*Pursuant to a power of attorney filed herewith.

## CERTIFICATE

The undersigned Secretary for Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust") hereby certifies that the Board of Trustees of the Trust duly adopted the following resolution at a meeting of the Board held on April 23, 2003.

**RESOLVED**, that the Trustees and Officers of the Trusts who may be required to execute any amendments to the Trust's Registration Statement be, and each hereby is, authorized to execute a power of attorney appointing Gary Black, James A. Fitzpatrick, Christopher Keller, James McNamara, John W. Perlowski, and Howard B. Surloff jointly and severally, their attorneys-in-fact, each with power of substitution, for said Trustees and Officers in any and all capacities to sign the Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Company Act of 1940 of the Trusts and any and all amendments to such Registration Statement, and to file the same, with exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Trustees and Officers hereby ratifying and confirming all that each of said attorneys-in-fact, or his or her substitute or substitutes, may do or caused to be done by virtue hereof.

Dated: April 15, 2004

/s/ Howard B. Surloff

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Howard B. Surloff,  
Secretary

## EXHIBIT INDEX

- (d)(3) Assumption Agreement dated April 26, 2003 between Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Goldman Sachs Asset Management, L.P.
- (j)(1) Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
- (p)(1) Code of Ethics – Goldman Sachs Trust and Goldman Sachs Variable Insurance Trust, dated April 23, 1997, as amended April 23, 2003.
- (p)(2) Code of Ethics – Goldman, Sachs & Co., Goldman Sachs Asset Management L.P., and Goldman Sachs Asset Management International, effective January 23, 1991, as revised April 24, 2003.
- (q)(5) Power of Attorney dated October 30, 2003 on behalf of John P. Coblentz, Jr.