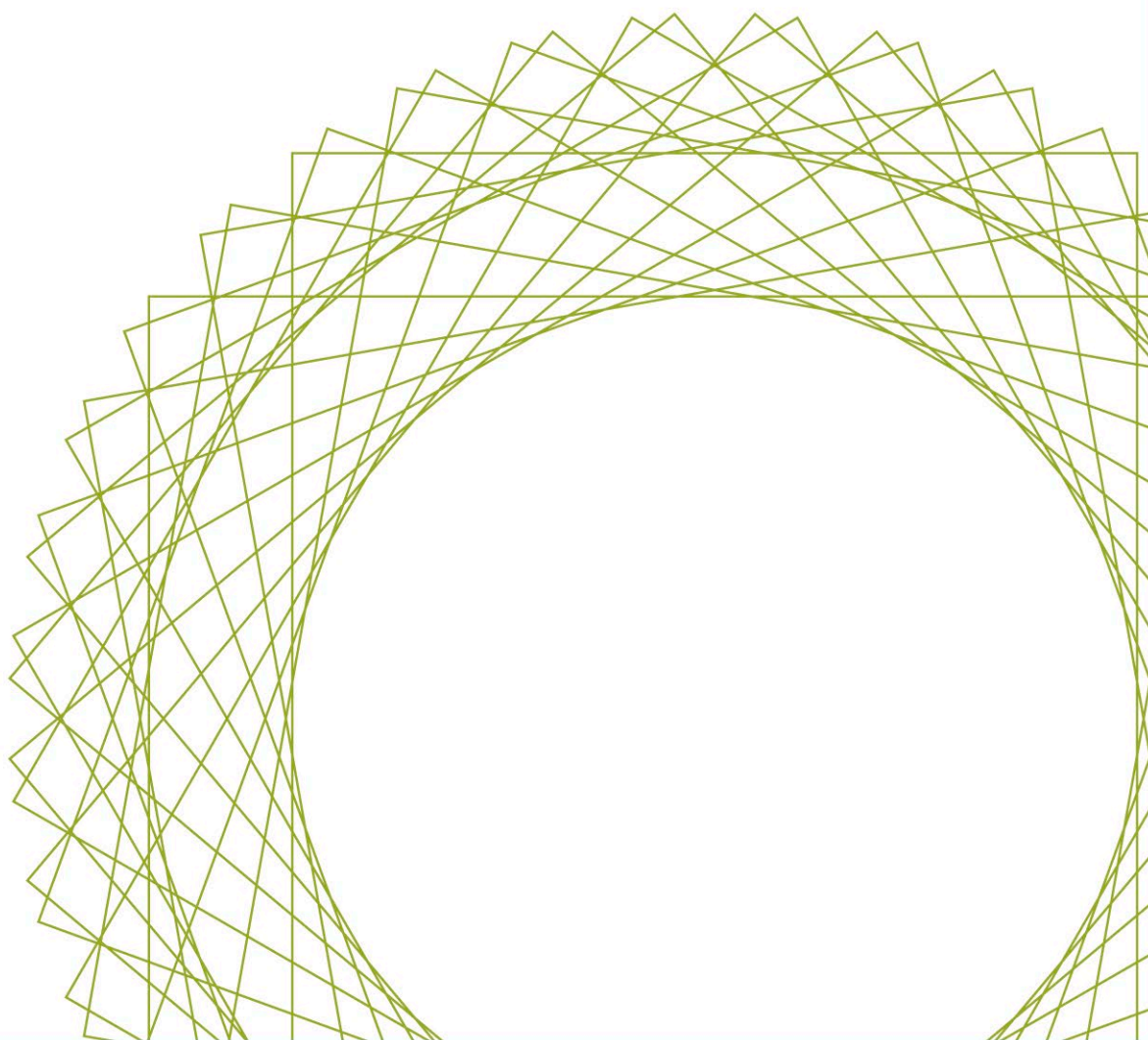


# GSA Capital Partners

- *GSA Capital Partners LLP*
- *GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP*



Form ADV II 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019





This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of GSA Capital Partners LLP and GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP (together “the Advisors”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at +44 20 7959 8850 and/or [investor.relations@gsacapital.com](mailto:investor.relations@gsacapital.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about GSA Capital Partners LLP & GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

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## **Item 2      Material Changes**

Since our last update of this Brochure, the number of partners who are natural persons within GSA Capital Partners LLP has increased to 20 with the appointment of Peter Calvert, Tom Johnston and Chris Taylor.

2019 saw the launch of the GSA Fixed Income Relative Value Fund and the closure of the GSA TFF Fund.



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## **Item 4      Advisory Business**

- A. GSA Capital Partners LLP is an investment adviser with its principal place of business in London, United Kingdom. GSA Capital Partners LLP was incorporated on 15 September 2004 and has been registered with the SEC since January 2006.

GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP registered as an investment adviser with its principal place of business in New York in June of 2017.

Such registrations do not imply a certain level of skill or training or that the SEC has endorsed our qualifications to provide the advisory services described in this brochure.

GSA Capital Partners LLP is owned by its 23 partners. Jonathan Hiscock is the principal owner and the only partner to own more than 25% of the partnership. The managing member of GSA Capital Partners LLP is GSA Capital Services Limited, a United Kingdom limited company. GSA Capital Services Limited is wholly owned by GSA Capital Limited, a Cayman Islands limited company. GSA Capital Limited is wholly owned by Jonathan Hiscock.

GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP is a Delaware domiciled Limited Partnership and is wholly owned by GSA PEV LP and GSA NYGP Ltd, both wholly owned subsidiaries of GSA Capital Partners LLP.

- B. GSA Capital Partners LLP provides investment advice and portfolio management services to private pooled investment vehicles and managed accounts, which are intended for sophisticated investors and institutional investors. This entity manages 6 main families of funds: the GSA International Funds, the GSA QMS Funds, the GSA Trend Funds, the GSA Diversified Alternatives Funds, GSA EMN Funds and GSA Fixed Income Relative Value Funds (collectively, the "Funds"). GSA Capital Partners LLP also provides investment advice and portfolio management services to managed accounts which invest in parallel alongside the GSA Trend Funds.
- C. Each family of funds consists of at least one Cayman-domiciled master fund, one Cayman-domiciled feeder fund, and in most cases there is also a US-domiciled feeder fund. GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP acts as an investment adviser to GSA Capital Partners LLP. At the time of writing it has no other direct clients.
- D. We do not provide tailored investment advisory services to individual investors.
- E. We do not participate in wrap fee programmes.
- F. 100% of the assets managed by the Advisors are managed on a discretionary basis. As of 31st December 2019 the combined net assets under management for GSA Capital Partners LLP & GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP was approximately US \$5.6 Bn.

## **Item 5      Fees and Compensation**

- A. GSA Capital Partners LLP receives a monthly management fee which is based on the percentage of a client's assets under management. This management fee is paid monthly in arrears. In addition, GSA Capital Partners LLP may receive a performance fee, or with respect to the US-domiciled funds, an affiliate may receive a performance allocation, in each case paid annually or upon the withdrawal from the fund. The performance fee is calculated according to the increase in the value per share of an investment.

GSA Capital Partners LLP or an affiliate are entitled to a performance fee or performance allocation only if the cumulative profits which we achieve for a client exceed the prior highest amount of cumulative profits achieved for such client.

In relation to the GSA International Fund family, we also receive a "Trader Pay-Out," which is calculated according to the percentage of trading profits generated by each of our trader groups.

GSA Capital Partners LLP may waive or modify the management fee and/or the performance fee for investors that are staff members or affiliates of the Adviser, relatives of such persons, and for certain large or strategic investors.



**Full details of the fees can be viewed in the relevant fund's offering memorandum.**

- B. Fees are accrued and are deducted from a fund's invested assets periodically.
- C. The funds will bear other fees and expenses in addition to the management fee and the performance fee. These are set out in the relevant fund's offering memorandum and include:
- i. Organisational, initial offering and ongoing offering fees and expenses.
  - ii. Transaction costs / broker commissions.
  - iii. Borrowing charges on securities sold short.
  - iv. Interest on borrowings, including borrowings from the prime brokers and custodians.
  - v. Issue or transfer taxes chargeable in connection with any securities transactions.
  - vi. All taxes and corporate fees payable to governments or agencies.
  - vii. Directors' fees (if any) and expenses.
  - viii. Fees and expenses (where relevant) relating to research, data, execution, risk management and related technology costs.
  - ix. Communication expenses in relation to investor services and all expenses of meetings of directors and shareholders and of preparing, printing and distributing financial and other reports, proxy forms, prospectuses and similar documents.
  - x. The cost of insurance (if any) for the benefit of the directors.
  - xi. Litigation and indemnification expenses and extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of business.
  - xii. Legal fees.
  - xiii. Accountancy fees.
  - xiv. Costs for the audit of the funds.
  - xv. Costs and expenses incurred by the Adviser and its affiliates in establishing and maintaining technology infrastructure in connection with the provision of its investment management services to the funds, including, in the case of the GSA International Master Fund Limited, the costs of employing relevant personnel.
  - xvi. Miscellaneous other minor expenses related to the operating of the funds.

Please refer to Item 12 of this Brochure for further discussion of our brokerage arrangements.

- D. We do not require our clients to pay any fees in advance for our advisory services.

## **Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management**

GSA Capital Partners LLP or an affiliate receive performance-based fees or performance-based allocations from all of the investment pools which we manage. These performance-based fees and allocations may create an incentive for us to make investments that are more speculative and/or subject to greater risk than if no performance-based fees or allocations were payable or allocable to us or our affiliate. In addition, the performance based fees and allocations may be based, in whole or in part, on unrealized gains which may never be realized. The performance-based fees and allocations may result in fees payable and allocations allocable to us and our affiliates that are greater than fees paid to other managers for similar services.



The GSA International Fund family pays a 'Trader Pay-Out,' which is a fee based on a percentage of trading profits generated by each of the Adviser's trader groups. The Trader Pay-Out is negotiated by the Adviser separately with each of the Adviser's trader groups. Please refer to the GSA International Fund offering memorandum for a complete description of the Trader Pay-Out and how it is calculated.

In addition, the investment personnel of GSA Capital Partners LLP or GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP may be compensated on a basis that includes a performance-based component.

## Item 7 Types of Clients

GSA Capital Partners LLP's clients consist of the funds and managed accounts which we manage.

The minimum investment conditions for each of the funds vary and are disclosed in the relevant offering memoranda.

## Item 8 Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

- A. We employ systematic trading programmes which trade across a range of time horizons and which include statistical arbitrage, market neutral, high frequency and long-term strategies. We also employ discretionary trading strategies in both equity and fixed income markets.

The Advisors use a wide range of information sources, including a number of third party data feeds.

In addition, we operate a systematic alpha capture strategy, employing quantitative methods to extract alpha from sell side trading ideas and a limited amount of discretionary trading which is executed systematically.

Any person making an investment in one of our funds must be able to bear the risks involved and must meet the relevant fund's suitability requirements. Our investment strategies involve a substantial risk of loss and are only suitable for experienced investors who have an appropriate understanding of alternative investments. No assurances can be given that any of our funds' investment objectives will be achieved.

- B. The material risks involved in connection with an investment in our funds include:

- i. The investment strategies for our funds are speculative and involve a substantial degree of risk.
- ii. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.
- iii. The performance of our funds is highly dependent on us and our judgment.
- iv. Our trading involves substantial leverage.
- v. Growing competition may limit available opportunities.
- vi. The performance of our funds may be volatile.
- vii. The markets in which we trade may be illiquid and subject to trading limitations.
- viii. Our hedging transactions may not be successful or we may choose not to engage in hedging transactions.
- ix. We may expand, revise or alter our trading strategies without prior approval by, or notice to, investors.
- x. Redemptions may be made only infrequently and only if an investor provides prior written notice of its desire to redeem well in advance of the intended redemption date.
- xi. There is no secondary market for the interests in our funds and none is expected to develop.



- xii. There are restrictions on transferring interests in one of our funds.
- xiii. The fees and expenses of our funds are significant. Trading profits must be greater than such fees and expenses to avoid loss of capital.
- xiv. Our funds are not required to provide periodic pricing or valuation information to investors with respect to their individual investments.
- xv. Our funds are not subject to the same regulatory requirements as U.S. mutual funds.
- xvi. Trades executed on behalf of our funds will take place on non-U.S. and U.S markets.
- xvii. Our portfolios may be concentrated in a limited number of positions from time to time.
- xviii. Our portfolio turnover rate may be high entailing significant brokerage commissions and related transaction fees.
- xix. Governmental intervention may affect the prices of the instruments we trade.
- xx. A futures commission merchant's bankruptcy could adversely affect our funds and investors.
- xxi. Changes in law may alter, either prospectively or retroactively, the tax considerations or risk factors of an investment in our funds.
- xxii. Our funds may be subject to conflicts of interest.

## **Item 9      Disciplinary Information**

### **Chicago Mercantile Exchange**

On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014, The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) considered the GSA International Master Fund had breached CME rules 534 and 576 between January and March 2014 by matching certain Mexican Peso futures trades against itself through a single exchange identifying code.

The CME found that the GSA International Master Fund employed two automated trading strategies that occasionally placed opposing orders on its Globex platform, should have known that these orders would match with resting orders on the other side of the market, and did not employ functionality to minimise matching nor monitored its trading adequately in this regard. The CME acknowledged these trades were incidental to the fund's trading activity, caused no price or volume aberrations, and that the fund did not benefit from the trades. The fund paid a fine of \$130,000 to settle the dispute without admitting or denying liability.

### **Finansinspektionen (Swedish Financial Regulator)**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015, GSA Capital Partners LLP received a SEK60,000 (approximately \$6,540) late filing fine from the Finansinspektionen in relation to the late filing (by three days) of short holding notifications relating to short positions held by GSA in two Swedish stocks.

## **Item 10      Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

- A. Neither we nor any of our management personnel are currently registered, or have a registration application pending, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.
- B. GSA Capital Partners LLP is a member of the National Futures Association and are registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission as a commodity pool operator and a commodity trading adviser.





- C. GSA Capital Partners (Hong Kong) Limited (an affiliate of GSA Capital Partners LLP) is authorised by the Hong Kong Securities & Futures Commission with a type 1 licence (Dealing in Securities).
- D. GSA General Partner Limited, a Cayman-domiciled entity which acts as the general partner of our US-domiciled funds, is under common control with us. The fact that our affiliate serves as general partner of our funds creates an incentive for it to select us as the fund's trading advisor thereby increasing the compensation payable to us.
- E. We do not recommend or select other investment advisers for our clients.

## Item 11 Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

- A. The Advisors have adopted a Code of Ethics (the "Code") that obliges us and our personnel to put the interests of the funds before our own interests. All our personnel are also required to comply with all applicable law, regulatory Rules and Regulations as well as internal processes and procedures. Investors or prospective investors may obtain a copy of the Code by contacting our investor relations team by email at [investor.relations@gsacapital.com](mailto:investor.relations@gsacapital.com) or by telephone at +44 (20) 7959 8800.
- B. Neither we nor a related person recommends to clients, buys or sells for client accounts, securities in which we or any related person has a material financial interest.
- C. We, our employees and/or our partners may hold investments in the funds.

Incidental investments may be made from time to time by our partners and/or employees in securities which may also be traded by the funds, but all such personal account trading must be carried out in accordance with our Personal Account Dealing policy, the key points of which are outlined below.

It is integral to our culture that our interests and our clients' interests are to be as far as possible the same and conflicts of interest are avoided where possible. Our Personal Account Dealing policy is applicable to all staff and connected persons,

In accordance with our procedures, the prior consent of the Chief Compliance Officer or a designated member of senior management must be sought before any personal account trades are made in any applicable securities. Once the approved trades have been executed, a copy of the contract note, trade confirmation, or account statement must be forwarded to our compliance department, who undertake ongoing monitoring of all personal account trading activity.

- D. Please see section C above regarding how we address conflicts that arise out of our personnel trading activities.

## Item 12 Brokerage Practices

- A. As investment manager, we have the authority to determine which broker-dealers are used for trade execution for the funds.

Trading counterparty selection criteria include:

- i. Trading capability, including connectivity and latency.
- ii. Technology.
- iii. Commission rates.
- iv. Geographic location / local market knowledge.
- v. Reputation.

An internal process must be followed when opening a new brokerage account, which involves senior management review and sign off from the directors of the relevant fund.



- B. In selecting brokers, we do not consider whether we or a related person has received client referrals from such broker-dealer.
- C. In order to seek best execution for the investment pools which we manage, orders may be aggregated. Pre-trade aggregation and post-trade allocation of executed orders occurs by means of an automated process, using a mathematical algorithm.

It is a regulatory requirement that the allocation process is prompt, with no preference given to any one party and that the order is allocated at the price paid for the investment.

By undertaking trade aggregation, we are able to reduce transaction costs for the funds.

## Item 13 Review of Accounts

The funds' portfolios are reviewed by the Adviser on an ongoing basis by the relevant portfolio managers.

Investors in our funds receive the following reports:

- i. Weekly estimates of the relevant fund(s)' Net Asset Value provided by us.
- ii. Monthly estimates of the relevant fund(s)' Net Asset Value provided by us.
- iii. Monthly newsletters for the fund(s) provided by us.
- iv. Monthly risk reports for the fund(s) provided by us.
- v. Monthly NAV transparency reports for the fund(s) provided by the fund's administrator.
- vi. Monthly statement of account provided by the fund's qualified custodian.
- vii. Annual audited financial statements.

## Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

- A. We do not receive an economic benefit from any third parties in return for providing investment advice or other services to our funds.
- B. Neither we nor any related person directly or indirectly compensates any person who is not a GSA Capital Partners LLP supervised person for client referrals.

## Item 15 Custody

The qualified custodians of our funds send investors in such funds monthly statements.

GSA Capital Partners LLP complies with the Custody Rule by ensuring that our funds are fully audited by an independent, unaffiliated auditor and we deliver audited financial statements to all of the funds' investors.

## Item 16 Investment Discretion

We have discretionary management authority on behalf of our funds. The investment process is entirely quantitative and process driven and we do not accept investment instructions or limitations on our investment authority from individual investors.

Prior to assuming full discretion in managing assets, we enter into an investment management agreement or other agreement that sets forth the scope of our discretion.



## **Item 17      Voting Client Securities**

The Advisors do not engage in proxy voting.

## **Item 18      Financial Information**

Neither GSA Capital Partners nor GSA Capital Partners (New York) LP has ever filed for bankruptcy and is not aware of any financial condition that is expected to affect its ability to manage client accounts.