

## **ADV Part 2A – Firm Brochure**

### **Merricks Capital Pty Limited**

ACN 126 528 005  
Australian Financial Services Licence 319477  
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SEC file number: 801-72326

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**This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Merricks Capital Pty Limited (“Merricks Capital”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at +61 3 8319 8111 and/or [compliance@merrickscapital.com](mailto:compliance@merrickscapital.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or by any securities authority.**

**Additional information about Merricks Capital is also available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).**

**Merricks Capital is an SEC-registered investment adviser. This registration does not imply any level of skill or training.**

**Item 2: Material Changes**

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This section is used only to discuss material changes to Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure since the last annual update of the Brochure dated 29 September 2021.

There have been no material changes to Merricks Capital's core business activities since the prior year's report.

**Item 3: Table of Contents**

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## Item 4: Advisory Business

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- (A) Merricks Capital Pty Limited (**Merricks Capital** or the **Firm**) was established in 2007 and is based in Melbourne, Australia. Merricks Capital is an independent investment manager that is registered and regulated by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (**ASIC**) and is the holder of Australian Financial Services Licence (**AFSL**) No. 319477, which permits the group to provide financial services and financial products to wholesale clients in Australia. This registration does not imply any level of skill or training. Merricks Capital is owned by Adrian Redlich and the Liberman Family who collectively own 95% of the business. During the year, Mr. Adrian Redlich's role as Chief Executive Officer changed to Executive Chair of the Firm, with the appointment of Mr. David Hackett as new Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Redlich continues to be the Firm's Chief Investment Officer.
- (B) Merricks Capital provides a wide range of investment management, portfolio management and advisory services to private investment funds and advised accounts which have individuals, businesses and institutions as investors. These services include (but are not limited to) soft commodity derivatives (for example, futures, forwards, options and swaps), real asset credit and similar debt investing.

Please see Item 8 for a detailed description of the Investment Strategy and Methods of Analysis for Merricks Capital's funds (**Funds**).

Merricks Capital may also advise and manage accounts for separate account clients on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis (**Managed Accounts**, and together with the Funds, the **Clients**).

The descriptions set forth in this Brochure of specific advisory services that Merricks Capital offers its Clients, and investment strategies pursued and investments made by the Firm on behalf of its Clients, should not be understood to limit in any way the Firm's investment activities. Merricks Capital may offer any advisory services, engage in any investment strategy and make any investment, including any not described in this Brochure, that it considers appropriate, subject to each Client's investment objectives and guidelines. The investment strategies pursued are speculative and entail substantial risks. Clients should be prepared to bear a substantial loss of capital. There can be no assurance that the investment objectives of any Client will be achieved.

- (C) In its role of managing assets for the Clients, Merricks Capital provides investment advice tailored to the investment objectives and policies of its Clients. Except as provided for in the Funds' respective investment policies (or the advisory agreement for Managed Accounts), Merricks Capital's Clients may not impose any other restrictions on investing in securities or types of securities. Aside from the above, Merricks Capital does not provide individual tailored advice to Clients and Merricks Capital generally does not provide individual tailored services.
- (D) Merricks Capital does not participate in wrap fee programs.
- (E) As of 30 June 2022, Merricks Capital had USD1,579,854,516 in net assets under management. USD1,075,461,516 of assets are managed on a discretionary basis and USD504,393,000 of assets are managed on a non-discretionary basis.

## **Item 5: Fees and Compensation**

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- (A) Merricks Capital is compensated for its advisory services by payment of a combination of management fees and performance fees. Please see Item 6 in relation to the performance fee. The management fee that a Client will pay is generally set forth in the organizational and offering documents of the Funds and in the advisory agreements with Managed Account Clients. Merricks Capital may waive, reduce or calculate differently the management fee or performance fee with respect to certain investors.
- (B) With respect to the Funds, fees are deducted from the Fund's assets. The management fee is calculated and paid monthly in arrears. The management fee is calculated monthly as  $1/12 \times$  annual management fee (management fee ranges from 1 – 2%) on the net asset value of the Client's investment.
- (C) Merricks Capital receives compensation in the form of commitment, establishment and management fees (fees paid to arrange, establish and manage credit facilities) from borrowers through its Senior Lending business. The fees may vary per deal, are mutually agreed to by all parties and documented in writing prior to each deal being executed.
- (D) Merricks Capital's clients include Funds and Managed Accounts managed by Merricks Capital. In addition to management fees, additional expenses that each respective Fund will incur include (but are not limited to) all transactional costs, including brokerage, banking, sales and purchase commissions and charges, and exchange fees, fees and charges of custodians and clearing agencies, interest and commitment fees on loans and debit balances, income taxes, withholding taxes, transfer taxes and other governmental charges and duties, any costs incurred in respect of meetings of the Directors (including its committees) and meetings, if any, of Shareholders, fees of the Funds' legal advisers and the Auditors, Directors fees, and expenses, the cost of maintaining the ownership of the Management Shares of the Funds. Please see Item 6 in relation to the performance fee which may also be payable.
- (E) None of Merricks Capital's Clients are required to pay any fees in advance.
- (F) Neither Merricks Capital nor any of its supervised persons accepts compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sales of mutual funds.

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

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In addition to the fee that is payable in Item 5, a performance fee of between 10% and 20% of the amount by which the net asset value of a Client's investment, (including any interim distributions past the last 'Performance Fee Period' (as defined below)), exceeds the 'High Water Mark' (as defined below), is payable to Merricks Capital. The 'High Water Mark' means the initial investment amount and the highest net asset valuation at the end of a period where a performance fee has been paid, adjusted for subsequent distributions. The Performance Fee Period is calculated as payable on either 1 July or 1 January, as applicable to the relevant Fund.

The variation of performance fee structures among Merricks Capital's Clients may create an incentive for Merricks Capital to direct the best investment ideas to, or to allocate or sequence trades in favour of, Clients that pay the highest performance fees. Merricks Capital is committed to allocating investment opportunities on a fair and equitable basis and has established policies and procedures to address the conflicts of interest described above.

## **Item 7: Types of Clients**

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Merricks Capital provides investment advice to the Funds and an Australian-domiciled managed account, and may in the future provide investment advice to other Managed Accounts (as defined) as set forth above. Beneficial owners of Managed Accounts may include institutions, pension plans, high net worth individuals and other sophisticated investors. The minimum investment that Merricks Capital accepts is AUD500,000 from investors for Australian domiciled Funds (noting that the Funds' Trustee has absolute discretion to accept lower amounts) and USD2,000,000 from investors for Cayman Islands domiciled Funds managed by Merricks Capital.

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

### **(A) Investment Strategies and Methods of Analysis**

- Soft Commodities - Special Opportunities - Investment Strategy:
  - The soft commodities special opportunities strategy focuses on single or highly concentrated trades, trading soft commodities including (but not limited to) wheat, soybeans, corn, palm oil, barley, canola, sugar and livestock. The objective of the strategy is to find outstanding, very small and limited number of investment opportunities in the soft commodities sector.
  - This strategy's trading includes (but is not limited to) exchange and option-based trading and physical trading of soft commodities. The trading strategies include (but are not limited to) calendar spreads, substitute spreads, quality spreads, basis trades, intra commodity spreads, logistics and storage spreads and directional views. Trading occurs on all markets including (but not limited to) Japan, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, Europe, Canada and the United States.
  - Merricks Capital endeavours to provide relevant disclosures to Clients that investing in securities, futures contracts, derivatives, OTC products, and physical assets involves risk of loss that Clients should be prepared to bear.
- Soft Commodities Special Opportunities - Method of Analysis - Fundamental Research and Technical Consideration:
  - All investments are based on bottom-up fundamental research. Detailed bottom-up supply and demand models are maintained for each of the major commodities in the livestock, grain and vegetable oil complex.
  - A significant portion of the investment thesis is developed from Merricks Capital's extensive involvement and experience in the physical trading and supply chain of livestock, grains and vegetable oils. Merricks Capital is in regular dialogue with key industry participants across the value-chain, including farmers, bulk handlers, physical brokers, food buyers and brokers around the world. The input from these industry sources is benchmarked against current models and market expectations (prices).
  - Technical market aspects such as prices, volatility and spreads are examined in a historical context to assess possible trading ranges and the likely thinking of other market participants.
- Merricks Capital managed a soft commodity strategy through its Cayman Islands domiciled Merricks Capital Commodities Master Fund and Merricks Capital Commodities Feeder Fund, which were established in February 2021. This was a single Client mandate with a fixed-term trading strategy that concluded in June 2022, at the request of the Client.
- The Merricks Capital Soft Commodities FOO Funds were re-activated under new names in 2019, being the Merricks Capital FOO Master Fund and Merricks Capital FOO Feeder Fund. Appropriate investors and appropriate investments have been identified for these funds. The fund literature has removed all references to the term "Soft Commodities" to reflect an expanded investment strategy which includes multiple asset classes, rather than focusing purely on soft commodities, which was the case in the past.



- Senior Lending - Investment Strategy:
  - The Firm's senior lending strategy looks to establish a pool of hard asset (being property and agriculture) investments in the senior lending space, that is diversified across location, type and structure. Given the regulatory shift in bank capital requirements and lending practices the strategy enables senior lending opportunities in the Australian property markets.
  - Merricks Capital's senior lending property investment team comprises experienced property investors, analysts, developers and builders in Australia and New Zealand with expertise across the entire investment spectrum – covering development and design, project management and delivery, construction, sales, banking and finance as well as legal and risk management.
  - The Firm's senior lending agriculture investment team comprises experienced agriculture and agribusiness investors, analysts, financial structuring and risk management experts in Australia and New Zealand with expertise across the entire investment spectrum – covering growth finance, acquisition funding, infrastructure development, refinancing, balance sheet capitalisation and bridge funding in dairy, horticulture, protein, cropping, forestry, food processing, cotton fibre, infrastructure and supply chain finance.
  - In addition to its internal origination capability, Merricks Capital has long standing relationships with a diverse range of loan originators in Australia and New Zealand, which provides a stable pipeline across a range of deals to assess and select for investment.
  - Merricks Capital endeavours to provide relevant disclosures to Clients that investing in hard asset investment strategies involves risk of loss that Clients should be prepared to bear.
  - In 2020, Merricks Capital reissued the offering documents for the Merricks Capital Partners Fund, Merricks Capital FOO Master Fund and Merricks Capital FOO Feeder Fund with amendments to the investment guidelines to include a hedging strategy that is designed to mitigate any future portfolio losses that may potentially arise as a result of adverse market conditions (for example, downturn in Australian property markets).
  - In August 2021, Merricks Capital issued supplementary offering documents for the Merricks Capital FOO Master Fund and Merricks Capital FOO Feeder Fund to incorporate relevant provisions pertaining to a credit facility secured against uncalled fund investor commitments, which had been approved by both funds' investors.
  - In 2022, Merricks Capital issued an offer document for a new Australia-domiciled Merricks Capital Partners Feeder Fund, targeting Australian wholesale clients through two Australian institutional wealth management platform clients.
  - In 2022, Merricks Capital approved an offer document for a new Australia-domiciled Merricks Capital Multi Strategy Credit Fund, targeting Australian wholesale clients; Merricks Capital has not yet commenced any capital raising or operating activities for this fund as at the date of this Firm Brochure.

- Senior Lending - Method of Analysis - Fundamental Research and Technical Consideration:
  - All senior lending deals undergo a complex and thorough due diligence process to ensure that all elements of the investment opportunity are known and understood.
  - The due diligence process involves a comprehensive and detailed review of all aspects of the investment opportunity with focus around the sponsor's background, skill and financial strength, status of the underlying hard assets used as collateral, including plans and permits, and detailed valuations determined by a range of factors including but not limited to location, desirability and investor interest.
  - Once the investment opportunity has been approved and executed, the focus of the process moves to monitoring and reporting to ensure that the investment performs as expected.
- Merricks Capital previously reported (in 2020) that it had liquidated and ceased its equities strategy, which was previously managed under a single-client discretionary managed account. Whilst Merricks Capital does not have any short-term aspirations to re-engage in the management of equities, it may do so if there are compelling strategic drivers and the appropriate investors and investment strategy are identified.
- Merricks Capital previously reported (in 2021) that it had withdrawn its offer document for the Merricks Capital Meat and Livestock Fund as a result of the Trustee and Investment Manager's decision to terminate the fund's investment strategy, liquidate the fund's investments, redeem investors' holdings and wind-up the fund's activities. While the Firm does not have any short-term aspirations to re-engage in the management of a meat and livestock soft commodity trading strategy, it may do so if there are compelling strategic drivers and the appropriate investors and investment strategy are identified.

## **(B) Material Risks**

- ***Transaction costs***
  - The soft commodity strategies involve frequent trading of securities, futures contracts, derivatives, OTC products, and physical assets and the brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes, can affect the investment performance.
- ***Speculative Nature of Certain Investments***
  - Certain investments by the Clients may be regarded as speculative in nature and involve increased levels of investment risk. An inherent part of a strategy may be to identify securities which are undervalued (or, in the case of short positions, overvalued) by the marketplace. Success of such strategy necessarily depends upon the market eventually recognizing such value in the price of the securities, which may not necessarily occur.
- ***Special Assets***
  - Clients may invest in assets that are special in nature, including but not limited to assets that are illiquid, subject to seasonal variations in value, restricted on sale or not susceptible to valuation prior to disposition or maturity. Assets purchased for purposes of the Clients' 'soft commodity' strategy may, for example, fall into this category. These factors may affect their value.

- ***Liquidity***

- Under certain conditions liquidity of a market or security may be restricted, thus affecting the performance of Client accounts and/or an investor's ability to redeem participating shares. Lack of liquidity or market depth can affect the valuation of a Client's assets and/or an investor's ability to redeem participating shares as it looks to realize securities at quoted prices.

- ***Economic Conditions***

- Changes in economic conditions, including, for example, interest rates, inflation rates, employment conditions, competition, technological developments, political and diplomatic events and trends, and tax laws can affect substantially and adversely the business and prospects of the Clients. None of these conditions is within the control of Merricks Capital and no assurances can be given that Merricks Capital will anticipate these developments.

- ***International Investing***

- Some of the trades executed for Clients may take place on foreign exchanges including (but not limited to) United States, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, France, United Kingdom, and Malaysia. Additional risks of international investing include political or economic instability in the country of issue, the possible introduction of new laws, and the possible imposition of exchange controls or other laws or restrictions.

- ***Risk of Government Intervention***

- The prices of instruments in which the Clients may trade or invest are subject to certain risks arising from government regulation of or intervention in the relevant capital markets, through regulation of their local markets, restrictions on investments by foreigners or limits on flows of investment funds or risk of government expropriation of assets of the companies in which the Clients hold interests. Such regulation or intervention could adversely affect an investment's performance.

- ***Short Selling***

- Some of Merricks Capital's investment strategies may include taking short positions against the market or specific market sectors. These are typically implemented through put options and similar derivative instruments which provide upside when there are declines in market values of the underlying assets. These investment activities are for hedging purposes only, rather than speculative in nature.
- Merricks Capital does not engage in either covered or naked short selling of securities.
- Taking short positions creates the risk of losing an amount greater than the initial investment and can also involve borrowing and other costs which can reduce profits or create losses positions.

- **Market Risk**

- Any investment made in a specific group of securities is exposed to the universal risks of the securities market. However, there can be no guarantee that losses equivalent to or greater than the overall market will not be incurred as a result of investing in such securities.

- **Foreign Exchange Risk**

- It may not be possible, or practicable to hedge successfully against currency risk exposure in all circumstances. Further, exchange rate fluctuations and the costs of the currency hedging arrangements utilized in respect of each class of shares denominated in currencies other than USD may prejudicially affect the net asset value per participating share of such classes even where investment performance in respect of those classes are positive.
- Client assets may be invested in securities and other investments denominated in currencies other than USD (usually Australian Dollar and occasionally New Zealand Dollar). The value of such investments may be affected favourably or unfavourably by fluctuations in exchange currencies. Transactions undertaken to hedge adverse currency exchange movements may also involve the risk that a counterparty to any transaction may default on its obligation thereunder. While Merricks Capital will endeavour only to enter into transactions with counterparties who are reputable financial institutions, there is still a risk that a counterparty may default on its obligations.
- In addition, prospective investors whose assets and liabilities are primarily denominated in currencies other than the operational currency should take into account the potential risk of loss arising from fluctuations in the rate of exchange between the operational currency and such other currencies.

- **Leverage**

- Merricks Capital's Clients may leverage their capital because it is believed that the use of leverage may enable the Clients to achieve a higher rate of return. Accordingly, the Clients may pledge their securities in order to borrow additional funds for investment purposes. The Clients may also leverage their investment return with short sales. The amount of borrowings which the Clients may have outstanding at any time may be substantial in relation to their capital. Leverage can magnify both the gains and losses and investors may experience increased volatility in the value of their investments.

- **Foreign Taxation**

- Merricks Capital's Clients trade in markets located in many jurisdictions around the world with different tax regimes some which may subject Clients to withholding or other taxation, which may impact the Clients' returns. It is possible that the taxing authorities of certain jurisdictions, including Australia, will not agree with the tax positions taken by the Clients and will successfully assert a tax liability (plus interest and possibly penalties) against the Clients.

- **Risk Management**

- Merricks Capital applies a risk management approach that it believes is appropriate for its Clients and its operating and investing activities. The application of any risk

management approach involves numerous judgments and qualitative assessments. No risk management system is fail-safe, and no assurance can be given that the Clients' risk control framework will achieve its objectives. From time to time, without notice to the participating shareholders, Merricks Capital may modify or change the Clients' risk management system and procedures as it deems appropriate to respond to changes in its governance and risk management landscape.

- ***Margin Risk***

- When financial instruments are traded on a leveraged basis, the financial instrument can be purchased by depositing only a percentage of the instrument's face value and borrowing the remainder (margin). As a result, a relatively small adverse price movement in a financial instrument's value may result in immediate and substantial losses to the investor. Like other leveraged investments, any purchase or sale of a financial instrument on margin may result in losses in excess of the amount invested. The interest expense and other costs incurred in connection with such borrowing may not be recovered by appreciation in the investments purchased. In addition, the Clients may be subject to additional risks, including the possibility of a "margin call", pursuant to which the Clients must either deposit additional funds with the broker or suffer mandatory liquidation of the pledged securities to compensate for the decline in value. In the event of a sudden, precipitous drop in the value of the Clients' assets, the Clients might not be able to liquidate assets quickly enough to pay off their margin debt. Such an event would adversely affect the Clients' investment.

- ***Counterparty Risk***

- Counterparty risk is the risk of loss caused by another party defaulting on its financial obligations either because they become insolvent or cannot otherwise meet their obligations to the Clients. A party defaulting on its obligations could subject the Clients to substantial losses because the Clients will still be required to fulfil their obligations on any transactions which were to have substantially offset other contracts.

- ***Limited Diversification***

- Merricks Capital intends to seek to diversify the Clients' investments as it deems appropriate and consistent with the Clients' investment objective. If the Clients' investment portfolio is concentrated in a small number of investments, the portfolio will be subject to a greater level of volatility. Also, the use of a single investment manager applying generally similar trading programs could mean lack of diversification and, consequentially, higher risk.
- The soft commodity strategies invest in different soft commodities. However, these strategies are typically concentrated towards a small number of investments, and therefore will be subject to limited diversification. These strategies have a high level of correlation with each investment, which may result in a significant level of volatility.

- ***Derivative Instruments***

- Merricks Capital Funds invest in derivative instruments including swaps which seek to modify or replicate the investment performance of securities, commodities, currencies, interest rates, indices or markets on a leveraged or unleveraged basis.

Other risks related to the use of derivative instruments include, but are not limited to:

- *Tracking* - When used for hedging purposes, an imperfect or variable degree of correlation between price movements of the derivative instrument and the underlying investment sought to be hedged may prevent the Clients from achieving the intended hedging effect or expose the Clients to the risk of loss.
- *Liquidity* - Derivative instruments, especially when traded in large amounts, may not be liquid in all circumstances, so that in volatile markets the Clients may not be able to close out a position without incurring a loss. In addition, daily limits on price fluctuations and speculative position limits on exchanges on which Clients may conduct their transactions in derivative instruments may prevent prompt liquidation of positions, subjecting the Clients to the potential of greater losses.
- *Leverage* – Trading in derivative instruments can result in large amounts of leverage. Thus, the leverage offered by trading in derivative instruments will magnify the gains and losses experienced by the Clients and could cause the net asset value of the Clients' accounts to be subject to wider fluctuations than would be the case if the Clients did not use the leverage feature in derivative instruments.
- *Over-the-Counter Trading* – Derivative instruments that may be purchased or sold by the Clients may include instruments not traded on an exchange. The risk of non-performance by the obligor on such an instrument may be greater and the ease with which the Clients can dispose of or enter into closing transactions with respect to such an instrument may be less than in the case of an exchange traded instrument. In addition, significant disparities may exist between “bid” and “ask” prices for derivative instruments that are not traded on an exchange. Derivative instruments not traded on exchanges are also not subject to the same type of government regulation as exchange traded instruments, and many of the protections afforded to participants in a regulated environment may not be available in connection with such transactions.

- ***Project Risk***

- The Senior Lending Strategy may invest in construction or development related projects. There is the risk that any one or more investments might not provide the expected returns and any individual project might have cost over runs, contractor delays, unforeseen capital expenses, construction or development delays, environmental issues, purchaser default and industrial relation disputes.

- ***Dividend or Distribution Risk***

- The payment of dividends or distributions by the Clients is contingent on the amount and timing of income they receive from their investments. No guarantee can be given concerning the future earnings of the Clients, the earnings or capital appreciation of the Client's investment portfolios or the return of Client's monies invested.



- **Inter-Creditor Arrangement Risk (applicable to Senior Lending only)**

- An inter-creditor agreement is an agreement between two or more creditors agree in advance how their competing interests in their common borrower will be dealt with. An inter-creditor agreement usually determines the relative rights of multiple creditors and establishes priorities in payments in the event of a default or a breach by the borrower. In essence it establishes a set of pre-agreed rules regarding the various lien positions and the rights and liabilities of each creditor and its impact on the other creditors. The specifics of an inter-creditor agreement will vary from transaction to transaction. For example, an inter-creditor agreement might provide that only the senior lender has the right to commence proceedings or act in the event of default. Accordingly, the Clients' ability to take action on any default may be limited to the terms of the inter-creditors agreement. Clients may at times not have the right to rectify defaults and act against the borrower when the borrower is in default or breach as these will rights held by the senior lender who may exercise their rights, from time to time, to the detriment of the respective Client.

**(C) Particular types of securities and material risks**

- Futures Contracts – The soft commodities strategies will often invest in futures contracts. A futures contract is a standardized exchanged based contract between two parties to buy or sell in the future a specified asset (e.g. wheat), at an agreed price. The contract standardization includes quantity, quality, and delivery point. The material risks are that the futures contracts typically have an interim partial settlement which may require the posting of margin if there is a price movement against the holder, prior to the settlement date. Further a futures contract is a derivative contract and dislocation between the value of the underlying asset and the futures contract may occur.
- Physical Soft Commodities - The soft commodities strategies will often invest in physical soft commodities such as wheat, barley, corn, soy oil and canola oil. The material risks that the holder of physical soft commodities has are the volatility of the commodity, the liquidity of the commodity, and the perishable nature of the commodity.
- Derivatives – The soft commodities strategies will often invest in derivatives. A derivative is a contract that derives its value from the performance of an underlying security, such as an asset, index or interest rate. Common derivative types are futures, forwards, swaps and options. The material risks involving derivatives is the dislocation between the value of the underlying asset and the derivative contract.
- OTC Products – The soft commodities strategies will at times invest in over the counter (OTC) products. OTC products are typically traded directly between two parties without going through an exchange, such as variance swaps and currency options. The material risks to the holder of an OTC product are liquidity risks due to the non-standardized nature of the contracts, and counterparty risk in the event of default.
- The Senior Lending strategies may also invest in derivatives and OTC products, as outlined above, to hedge against adverse exchange rate movements or general property market conditions that may be adversely impacted by macro-economic variables, such as interest rates, inflation, credit spreads, sentiment and geo-political pressures.

**Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

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Merricks Capital is obligated to disclose any legal or disciplinary event that would be material to a Client's or prospective Client's evaluation of our advisory business. Merricks Capital does not have any material legal, financial or disciplinary items to report.



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

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- (A) Neither Merricks Capital nor any management persons are registered or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.
- (B) Merricks Capital is registered as a commodity pool operator and certain management persons are registered as Principals and/or associated persons respectively. Merricks Capital is also a member of the National Futures Association.
- (C) Merricks Capital or its management persons do not have any relationships or arrangements with related persons that would be material to the advisory business of the Firm or to its Clients.
- (D) Merricks Capital does not select or recommend other investment advisers for its Clients. Accordingly, the Firm does not receive any such fees or compensation from other investment advisers.

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

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- (A) Merricks Capital has adopted a Code of Ethics pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1, for all employees and supervised persons of the firm describing the Firm's high standard of business conduct and fiduciary duty to its Clients. The Code of Ethics sets out the standards of conduct expected of all staff and addresses conflicts that arise from personal trading and includes provisions in relation to the general ethical principles, pre-approval and reporting personal securities trading (including initial public offerings and private placements), reporting ethical violations and violations of the Code of Ethics, distribution of the Code of Ethics and review and enforcement. The Code of Ethics is designed to protect Clients by deterring misconduct, educating supervised persons regarding expectations and laws governing their conduct, and reminding them that they are in a position of trust and must act with complete propriety at all times, protect Merricks Capital's reputation and guard against violation of the securities laws. The Code of Ethics also establishes procedures for supervised persons to follow so that the Firm may determine whether they are complying with ethical principles. Merricks Capital will provide a copy of the Code of Ethics to any Client or prospective Client upon request.
- (B) Neither Merricks Capital nor a related person recommends to Clients to buy or sell for Client accounts, securities in which the Firm or any related person has a material interest in.
- (C, D) All employees of Merricks Capital must at all times ensure that they in no way compete with the Clients or take inappropriate advantage of information or opportunities which they come by in the course of their duties. Generally, Merricks Capital does not permit any investments to be made on Merricks Capital's own behalf or by any related person in any securities that Merricks Capital is either recommending or investing in for Clients. In the rare circumstance where permission is granted, such permission will firstly have to adhere to Merricks Capital's Code of Ethics and secondly, to avoid the creation of any conflicts of interests, can only occur once Merricks Capital has ceased its intended buying or selling (as the case maybe) and does not have an immediate view to trade further in the relevant security.

As Merricks Capital manages many different Clients, many Clients will trade in the same securities and positions at the same time. In all such cases as far as is practical, the Firm seeks to ensure that net average prices (for both purchases and sales) apply to all Clients. It is the policy of the Firm to allocate investment opportunities among all Clients fairly, to the extent practical and in accordance with each Client's applicable investment strategies, over a period of time. As described above, Merricks Capital allocates investment opportunities among the Clients equitably, consistent with its allocation policies.

## **Item 12: Brokerage Practices**

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### **(A) Selection of broker-dealers**

#### **(1) Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits**

- (a) Generally, for any investment that is easily traded Merricks Capital will seek to conduct the trade in the manner in which the least amount of commission will be payable which is normally via direct market access. If a position is illiquid or hard to trade, Merricks Capital will select a broker-dealer according to the ability of the broker-dealer to execute the trade and the commission that will be payable. The Firm may receive research from broker-dealers and the provision of such research from broker-dealers to Merricks Capital is a benefit, as Merricks Capital does not have to produce or pay for the research. Merricks Capital's primary source of research is from its own bottom-up fundamental processes.
- (b) Merricks Capital may enter into "soft dollar arrangements" under which commissions or other compensation generated by the Clients' transactions are used to obtain products and services provided to the Firm but which can reasonably be expected to benefit the Clients and which may contribute to an improvement in the Clients' performance.
- (c) Merricks Capital has determined that its use of soft dollars will be for research and brokerage products and services that it believes meet the requirements of the safe harbor provisions of Section 28(e) of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Section 28(e)"), and the SEC interpretations thereof. This includes research and brokerage products and services paid for with soft dollars where we determine in good faith that the amount of commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the services provided, viewed in terms of either that particular transaction or our overall responsibilities to the Client. Merricks Capital monitors its use of soft dollars so that it will come within the safe harbor provisions Section 28(e).
- (d) Merricks Capital acknowledges that the provision of research from broker-dealers can create the perception that the Firm has an incentive to select a broker-dealer based on it having received the research. However, portfolio transactions for the Clients will be allocated to brokers on the basis of best execution and in consideration of a broker's ability to effect the transactions, its facilities, reliability and financial responsibility and the provision or payment by the broker of the costs of research and research-related services which are of benefit to Merricks Capital and its Clients. Accordingly, the commission rates (or dealer mark-ups and markdowns arising in connection with riskless principal transactions) charged to the Clients by brokers in the foregoing circumstances may be higher than those charged by other brokers who may not offer such services.
- (e) Also, consistent with Section 28(e), research products or services obtained with "soft dollars" generated by one or more Clients may be used by Merricks Capital to service one or more other Clients, including Clients that may not have paid for the soft dollar benefits. The Firm does not seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to the Clients in proportion to the soft dollar credits the Clients generate. Where a product or service obtained with soft dollars provides both research and non-research assistance to Merricks Capital (i.e., a "mixed use" item), the Firm will make a good faith allocation of the cost which may be paid

for with soft dollars. In making good faith allocations of costs between administrative benefits and research and brokerage services, a conflict of interest may exist by reason of the Firm's allocation of the costs of such benefits and services between those that primarily benefit Merricks Capital and those that primarily benefit the Clients.

- (f) Merricks Capital does not pay for any administrative products or services with Client brokerage. Research which the Firm receives may be paid from commissions received from broker-dealers.
- (g) Within the last fiscal year, Merricks Capital or its related persons acquired research and research-related services and services with respect to trading, operations, and technology with Client brokerage commissions (or mark-ups or markdowns).

(2) Brokerage for Clients Referrals

Whether or not a broker-dealer refers Clients to Merricks Capital is not a consideration when determining which broker-dealers to engage.

(3) Directed Brokerage

- (a) Merricks Capital does not routinely recommend, request or require that a Client direct the Firm to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer. Whilst Merricks Capital makes the decisions for which broker-dealer the Funds and accounts that the Firm manages will trade with; Merricks Capital is not an affiliate of nor does it have an economic relationship that creates a material conflict of interest with any broker-dealer. As stated in Item 12(A)(1)(a) above, Merricks Capital will seek to conduct the trade in the manner in which the least amount of commission will be payable which is normally via direct market access. If a position is illiquid or hard to trade Merricks Capital will select a broker-dealer according to the ability of the broker-dealer to execute the trade and the commission that will be payable.
- (b) None of Merricks Capital's Clients are permitted to direct brokerage.

**(B) Aggregation of the sale and purchase of securities**

Merricks Capital generally buys all securities, futures, physical commodities, bonds and all other investments for Clients on an aggregated basis, thereby ensuring that all Clients get the best pricing and an average price based on an equitable pro rata basis.

### **Item 13: Review of Accounts**

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- (A) Merricks Capital reviews Client accounts on a regular basis (at least monthly). The review includes a review of all positions to ensure that all trading is within the stated investment mandate. The review is conducted by Merricks Capital's operations team and senior management team, depending on the investment product.
- (B) Monthly Client net asset value positions and financial statements are reviewed by senior management and incorporated into the formal monthly management reporting process.
- (C) In addition to the above review, where applicable, a full reconciliation is undertaken at the end of each month between Merricks Capital's records and that of its custodians and external fund administrator. Please see Item 15 for further information.
- (D) For the Funds which are managed by Merricks Capital each month the administrator of the Fund calculates the monthly NAV of the Fund which is then provided to the investors. In addition to this Merricks Capital provides a monthly Newsletter report to each Client. Please refer to Item 15 Custody, below.

**Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

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Neither Merricks Capital nor any of its employees receives any economic benefit (including sales awards or other prizes) for providing investment advisory or other services to Clients from any person who is not a Client.

## **Item 15: Custody**

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Merricks Capital may be deemed to have custody of the Funds because it has the authority to obtain Client funds or securities, for example, by deducting management fees from a Fund's account or otherwise withdrawing funds from a Fund's account.

However, offshore advisers registered with the SEC are not subject to Rule 206(4)-2 under the Advisers Act (the "Custody Rule"), with respect to offshore funds pursuant to SEC guidance. As such, Merricks Capital is not subject to the Custody Rule with respect to the Funds.

Merricks Capital has undertaken certain procedures with respect to custody, including that each of the Funds is subject to an annual audit by an independent public accountant, and Merricks Capital distributes audited financial statements with respect to each Fund to investors in such Fund annually.

Where applicable, Merricks Capital typically engages external, third-party master custodians (such as Perpetual Corporate Trust Limited or Global Loan Agency Services (GLAS) Limited) to safeguard Clients' monies.

It is anticipated that Merricks Capital shall not have custody of the Managed Accounts' assets and securities. Where applicable, Managed Account clients receive at least quarterly account statements from the qualified custodian.

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**Item 16: Investment Discretion**

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Merricks Capital accepts discretionary authority to manage accounts. The limitations (if any) which are imposed on the Firm are set out in the investment memorandum of the Fund that the Client is investing in (or the advisory agreement with respect to a Managed Account). Discretionary authority to manage accounts is conferred upon Merricks Capital through an investment management agreement with the Client.



## **Item 17: Voting Client Securities**

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In accordance with Merricks Capital's voting policy, the Firm retains the right to vote in all circumstances, where applicable and relevant. Pursuant to Merricks Capital's policy, the Firm is required to vote in all resolutions relating to a security where Merricks Capital accounts control 5% or more of the issued capital of the security. Where Merricks Capital accounts do not control 5% or more of the issued capital the Firm has the discretion to decide whether to vote or not and in most such circumstance Merricks Capital will not vote. In accordance with the above, a Client may contact Merricks Capital to direct the vote on a specific proposal relating to a security held in the Client's account and such request will only apply to that account. Any vote which may be determined to present a conflict of interest between Merricks Capital and its Clients, the Firm will request the Clients to direct it with respect to that particular vote. Merricks Capital retains a record of its proxy voting which is available upon request. Clients may contact the Firm for a copy of its proxy voting policies.

**Item 18: Financial Information**

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- (A) Merricks Capital does not require or solicit any prepayment of Client fees.
- (B) There is no financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair Merricks Capital's ability to meet contractual commitments to Clients.
- (C) Merricks Capital has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time.

**Item 19: Requirements for State-Registered Advisers**

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This Item is not applicable to Merricks Capital as it is not a State-Registered Adviser.