Performance Comparison[1]

Periods Ended 3/31/21 (%)	QTR	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	S. I.[1]
DCM Mid Cap Value (gross)	13.06	13.06	61.49	9.82	11.39	11.17	12.13
DCM Mid Cap Value (net)	12.84	12.84	60.19	8.91	10.44	10.17	11.11
Russell Midcap Value	13.05	13.05	73.76	10.70	11.60	11.05	10.21

Periods greater than 1 year are annualized
[1]DCM inception was June 30, 2008

Performance Summary

The DCM Mid Cap Value composite was up 13.06% (gross of fees) for the quarter ended March 31, 2021, compared with the Russell Midcap Value Index, up 13.05%.

Macro style factors were a benefit to the portfolio this quarter. With the 10-year yield rising in the quarter due to concerns of rising inflation, the valuation factor significantly outperformed all style factors. Rising interest rates and stretched valuations also led growth and momentum stocks to underperform in the quarter. Although low quality attributes such as high volatility, earnings variability, and leverage continued to outperform, the portfolio's overweight positioning to stocks with low valuations and underweight to momentum stocks led to market factors being positive.

However, the strategy's focus on high quality stocks remains a headwind, which has been the case for much of the past year. While the market rotated back to value stocks over the past quarter, stocks with high quality characteristics such as high returns on capital, more stable and predictable earnings streams, and low leverage continue to lag and create a headwind for the strategy.

Sector Drivers

GICS Sectors	Average Weight			Stock Level Returns		Portfolio Impact	
	Port	Bench	Active	Port	Bench	Contribution	Attribution
Materials	8.7%	7.6%	1.1%	20.5%	14.7%	170 bps	48 bps
Information Technology	8.8%	9.7%	-1.0%	14.4%	10.1%	123 bps	39 bps
Real Estate	6.5%	9.8%	-3.4%	13.0%	10.3%	83 bps	28 bps
Health Care	7.5%	7.7%	-0.2%	4.8%	2.7%	35 bps	19 bps
Financials	18.6%	15.8%	2.8%	18.5%	18.8%	343 bps	13 bps
Utilities	6.2%	7.3%	-1.1%	2.5%	3.7%	21 bps	13 bps
Communication Services	1.8%	4.5%	-2.7%	20.0%	14.9%	34 bps	4 bps
Consumer Staples	5.6%	3.8%	1.8%	7.3%	8.8%	48 bps	-8 bps
Energy	3.6%	4.1%	-0.5%	25.8%	30.4%	89 bps	-22 bps
Consumer Discretionary	9.8%	12.4%	-2.6%	15.5%	16.9%	148 bps	-23 bps
Industrials	20.5%	17.2%	3.3%	10.5%	13.7%	205 bps	-76 bps

(see disclosures)

The top performing sector relative to the benchmark was Materials. The outperformance was driven by stock selection. Steel Dynamics (STLD), a producer of steel from steel scrap, benefitted from strong commodity prices as demand remains resilient while supply has been curtailed due to the pandemic. The stock was up 38.4%. Eagle Materials (EXP), a producer of cement, gypsum wallboard, concrete, and aggregates, was up 32.6% as housing activity has driven strong demand. The company should also benefit from the Biden Administration's infrastructure plan that is expected to be passed in the near future. Polymer producer Avient (AVNT) and pressure-sensitive product company Avery Dennison (AVY) also contributed to performance, outperforming the sector and overall benchmark.

Information Technology was the second best performing sector in the quarter. Sector allocation was positive as the strategy was underweight a sector that underperformed the benchmark. The underweight was within the Semiconductor and Software & Service industry groups, which underperformed the market, while being overweight the Technology Hardware & Equipment industry group, which outperformed the overall sector and benchmark. In addition, stock selection was positive, primarily driven by strong performance in semiconductor equipment manufacturer KLA Corp (KLAC), up 27.2% for the period held. The stock was exited in the quarter after several years of growth have rendered the valuation and market cap outside the strategy's reach.

The worst performing sector relative to the benchmark was Industrials. The underperformance was driven by being overweight the sector as well as poor stock selection. Sector allocation was negative as the strategy was overweight the sub industry groups of Capital Goods and Commercial & Professional Services, which underperformed the overall sector and benchmark, while being slightly underweight industry group Transportation, which outperformed the sector and benchmark by a wide margin. The primary drivers of poor stock selection were Science Applications International (SAIC), which is discussed later in the report, and Allison Transmission (ASLN), down -4.9%. Allison is a manufacturer of transmissions for light, commercial, and military vehicles. The stock was held back on cautious forecasts for 2021 due to supply chain disruptions and municipal spending constraints.

Consumer Discretionary was the second worst performing sector in the quarter. Underperformance was driven by stock selection. While the strategy was overweight the Retailing industry group, our retail holdings significantly lagged the Retailing industry overall, which was up 25.0%. Cosmetics retailer Ulta Beauty (ULTA), which reported disappointing revenue gains, was up 7.7%, and auto and electrical parts distributor Genuine Parts (GPS) was up 16.0% falling short of the industry group. In addition, home warranty company Frontdoor (FTDR) and furniture parts maker Leggett & Platt (LEG) were up only 7.1% and 5.8% for the period held, respectively.

Top 10 Contributors/Detractors

	Top 10 Contributors	Average % Weight	Contribution
1	PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES	2.27	81 bps
2	POLARIS INC	1.74	60 bps
3	FIFTH THIRD BANCORP	1.78	58 bps
4	REGIONS FINANCIAL	2.15	58 bps
5	UMB FINANCIAL	1.83	57 bps
6	STEEL DYNAMICS	1.57	56 bps
7	EAGLE MATERIALS	1.87	53 bps
8	KLA CORP	1.34	53 bps
9	RAYMOND JAMES	1.86	50 bps
10	KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN	1.57	45 bps

	Top 10 Detractors	Average % Weight	Contribution
1	SCIENCE APPLICATIONS	1.42	-26 bps
2	SYNEOS HEALTH INC	0.91	-11 bps
3	ALLISON TRANSMISSION	1.36	-9 bps
4	PINNACLE WEST	0.53	-9 bps
5	FMC CORP	1.59	-4 bps
6	STANLEY BLACK & DECKER	0.75	-4 bps
7	BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB	0.08	-3 bps
8	SKECHERS USA	0.07	-2 bps
9	ENCOMPASS HEALTH	1.48	-1 bps
10	PULTEGROUP INC	0.07	-1 bps

Selected Contributor(s) to Performance

The largest contributing stock in the quarter was Pioneer Natural Resources (PXD), up 39.9%. The company's primary asset is in the Permian Basin where it was one of the early developers of the field. The company has a deep inventory of undeveloped drilling locations in the Midland side of the basin and is one of the lowest cost producers in the basin. The company added to its position in the Permian Basin, completing the acquisition of Parsley Energy early in the quarter. The addition of adjacent acreage should allow the company to improve its cost position through greater economies of scale. Energy was the highest returning sector in the quarter, up 30.4%, due to increased optimism that vaccination rollouts and declining rates of infection will allow demand to return to more normalized levels. We reduced our position in Pioneer Resources late in the quarter but continue to hold the stock.

Polaris Industries (PII) was the second largest contributing stock, up 40.9% for the period held. Polaris is a leading manufacturer of recreational vehicles. Approximately 51% of sales are all-terrain vehicles (ATV), side-by-sides, and snowmobiles with the newer motorcycle and boat businesses accounting for approximately 17% of sales. The company also sells higher margin parts, garments, and accessories accounting for approximately 27% of sales. In 2020, the pandemic led consumers to focus spending on outdoor recreational products to avoid restrictions on large, indoor gatherings. Polaris was a beneficiary of this trend with sales volumes increasing at double digit rates over 2019. As 2020 waned, investor concern shifted to low inventory levels, increasing costs, and the level of future sales. In the fourth quarter earnings report, Polaris exceeded expectations and provided guidance well above expectations, taking into account a moderation in sales and increased costs within the supply chain. The company reported increased market share with category sales exceeding the industry. The company expects to exit 2021 with inventory levels still 20-30% below what is considered optimal. We continue to hold the shares.

Selected Detractor(s) from Performance

The largest detracting stock in the quarter was Science Applications International (SAIC), down -15.2% for the period held. Science Applications International is a provider of enterprise IT services to the US Government. The company provides trained technology consultants that utilize existing technologies to perform projects often including logistics, supply chain management, training services, hardware design, and technical and engineering services. SAIC reported earnings late in the first quarter and provide FY22 guidance that was significantly below expectation, lowering revenue guidance approximately 6% and earnings approximately 15% lower. While the company has significant backlog booked, less than 15% is funded. Over the past year, the company has struggled converting backlog to expected sales and earnings growth. With forward government budgets expected to be lower or flat at best, we chose to exit the company in the quarter as company execution continues to disappoint, and budget prospects look challenged.

Syneos (SYNH) is a biopharmaceutical solutions company providing a suite of clinical and commercial services to customers in the pharma, biotech, and healthcare industries. The company provides product development solutions ranging from early phase clinical trials to the full commercialization of biopharmaceutical products. Syneos was added to the portfolio early in the quarter and was down -5.4% for the period held. Post-acquisition, the company reported an in-line quarter with first quarter guidance slightly below expectations. The lower expectations were driven by higher startup costs related to new trials. While the company expects to meet expectations for the year, the weak first quarter guidance led to weak stock performance in the quarter. We added to our position on price weakness and continue to hold the stock.

Current Positioning

Currently, the portfolio's largest overweight sectors relative to the benchmark are the Consumer Staples and Financials sectors. The largest underweight sectors relative to the benchmark are the Real Estate and Communication Services sectors. The most weight was added in the Consumer Staples, Consumer Discretionary, and Utilities sectors while Industrials, Information Technology, and Financials decreased the most in weight.

As valuations have become more stretched and with uncertainty in the implied growth rates remaining, we have trimmed positions in some of our wider range of outcome stocks and rotated to those with higher profitability and narrower ranges of outcomes. After lagging for much of the past year, stocks with high quality characteristics, primarily high profitability, look very attractive, while those with low quality characteristics, primarily high volatility, look stretched. Below are charts of the Bloomberg factor indexes highlighting the divergences in performance discussed above.

Bloomberg US Pure Volatility Index
The chart highlights the significant outperformance of the volatility factor. The volatility has been supported by loose monetary policy and low interest rates.

Bloomberg US Pure Profitability Index
The chart highlights the significant underperformance of the profitability factor. Thus, stocks with high returns and profit margins have been ignored while stocks with zero or no earnings continue to outperform.

Bloomberg US Pure Value Index
The chart highlights the significant underperformance of the value factor since 2017. Only in the past quarter has the performance improved on concerns of rising inflation as well as the decline in Coronavirus infection rates.

Disclosures

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The Mid Cap Value style uses value oriented equities, the majority of which have a market capitalization between $2 billion and $20 billion at purchase. These are fully invested equity styles which range from 90%-100% equity, and the number of holdings typically ranges between 40 and 60. The remainder of the portfolios is typically invested in short term U.S. Treasury Bills or other cash equivalents.

Future performance based on prior results should not be assumed. The Russell Midcap Index is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index and includes approximately 800 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell Midcap represents approximately 31% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 1000 companies.

The Russell Midcap Value Index measures the performance of those Russell Midcap Index companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. Members of the Russell Midcap Value Index are also members of the Russell 1000 Value Index. These stock indexes assume reinvestment of dividends and capital gains, and assume no management, custody, transaction or other expenses. Russell statistics used in this presentation were obtained from Russell Investments (www.russell.com).

Performance represents all fully discretionary commission accounts for the respective strategy. A complete list and description of DCM's composites and additional information regarding the calculation and reporting of returns is available upon request. To obtain a GIPS report and/or the firm's list of composite descriptions please contact us at 1.913.944.4452.

The securities discussed do not represent an account's entire portfolio and in the aggregate may represent only a small percentage of an account's portfolio holdings. It should not be assumed that any of the securities' transactions or holdings discussed were or will prove to be profitable, or that the investment recommendations or decisions we make in the future will be profitable or will equal the investment performance of the securities discussed herein. The contributors/detractors listed do not represent all securities purchased or sold for our clients. To obtain a list showing the contribution of each holding that contributed to overall performance during the period and the calculation methodology, please call 1.913.944.4452. The detailed sector attribution table is specific to the policy portfolio for the strategy. Individual account results may vary.

Gross performance figures do not reflect payment of investment advisory fees, but do reflect deduction of brokerage commissions and trading expenses. Net of fee performance reflects the deduction of advisory fees, brokerage commissions, trading and other expenses. Net results reflect the deduction of a model fee equivalent to the highest applicable advisory fee 0.80%. The net compounded effect of the deduction of fees over time will be affected by the amount of the fee, the time period, and investment performance. Management fee schedules are available on Form ADV Part 2A.

Performance presents results with all dividend and interest income reinvested and is stated in U.S. Dollar terms. Leverage is not used in any portfolio in these composites.

A performance examination has been performed on performance results from 7/1/08 through 12/31/19. A firm-wide verification was performed for the periods 7/1/08 through 12/31/19. Data subsequent to 12/31/20 represents preliminary performance results.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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ABOUT DEAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC

Dean Capital Management, LLC ("DCM") is an employee-owned registered investment advisor founded in March 2008. Located in Overland Park, Kansas, DCM is a long-only, fundamental U.S. Value equity manager. DCM manages portfolios across the capitalization spectrum for institutional clients, financial intermediaries and advisors.

DCM is majority-owned by the founding principals, who also comprise the investment team. Additionally, all investment professionals maintain significant personal investments in DCM managed products, further aligning the investment team with our clients.