

HOW ABSOLUTE RETURN FUND

Factsheet – August 2025

Investment objective

The investment objective of the HOW Absolute Return Fund is mainly to achieve a positive absolute return over the medium term through capital growth. In order to achieve its investment objective, the fund invests in European and American equity securities and rights as well as in fixed- or variable-interest debt securities and debt securities and/or in money market instruments of issuers worldwide. The HOW Absolute Return Fund is actively managed without referencing a benchmark. The performance of the sub-fund is not coupled with any reference index, so it can make its investment decisions independently of such indices.

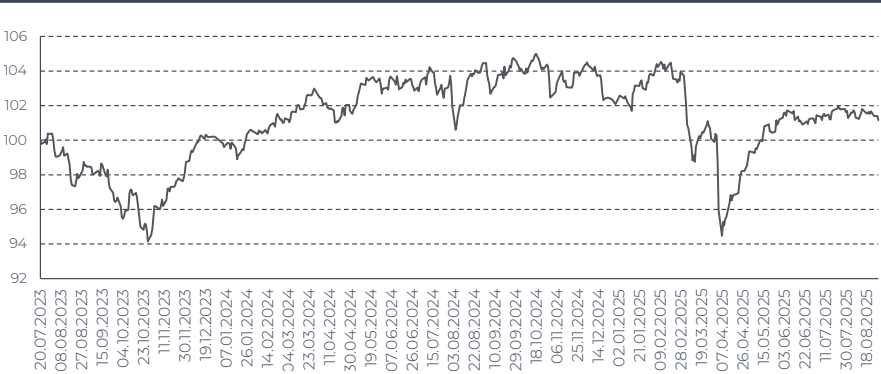
General Information

Fund name	HOW Absolute Return Fund
Share class	CHF I
ISIN	LI1278249647
Launch date	20.07.2023
Fund size	EUR 11.6mn
Last NAV	CHF 101.16
Fund type	UCITS
Investment zone	Europe and USA
Use of proceeds	Accumulation
SRI according to KID 06.05.2025	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div></div>

Fees

Issue premium	none
Redemption charge	none
Management fee	max. 1.25%
Performance fee	15%
High watermark	yes
Hurdle rate	no

Historical performance



Monthly performances

	Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2025	-1.02%	1.60%	0.13%	-3.91%	-1.36%	2.72%	0.04%	0.43%	-0.53%				
2024	2.07%	0.38%	0.51%	1.95%	-1.26%	1.28%	-0.12%	0.84%	0.69%	0.10%	-1.99%	1.49%	-1.73%
2023	0.13%							0.37%	-1.81%	-1.90%	-1.87%	3.43%	2.05%

Monthly Comment

August sustained the strong momentum seen in July across global equity markets, supported by solid corporate results and a resilient macroeconomic backdrop.

In the United States, equities advanced once again, with the S&P 500 closing the month up 2.04% and the Nasdaq Composite gaining 1.58%.

The rally was driven largely by continued strength in technology, underpinned by encouraging quarterly earnings from AI-related and cloud-focused companies. Sentiment was further bolstered by the announcement of a new trade framework with the European Union, which helped ease uncertainty on tariffs and reinforced investor confidence.

At a sector level, technology and industrials were the strongest contributors, while more defensive areas lagged. Healthcare remained under pressure from renewed political scrutiny on drug pricing, and utilities retreated as higher yields reduced the relative appeal of bond-proxy sectors.

In Europe, market performance was more muted. The STOXX Europe 600 rose 0.74%, while the EuroStoxx 50 ended the month with +0.60%.

Gains in healthcare and financials provided some support, but the broader market was held back by weakness in consumer staples and energy. Staple stocks struggled with margin pressures linked to rising input costs, while energy names tracked lower oil prices and softer demand expectations.

Fixed-income markets reflected growing investor caution, global government bond yields rose once again, pressured by slightly higher eurozone inflation hitting 2.1% in August—just above the ECB's target—and signs that monetary policy may remain tighter for longer. Amid this, corporate bonds outperformed, helped by a positive economic sentiment and narrowing credit spreads, especially within investment-grade sectors.

Volatility remained remarkably subdued on both sides of the Atlantic. The S&P 500's march to new highs was accompanied by a quietly composed investor mood, while implied volatility in Europe held steady. Markets operated in a tranquil, orderly fashion, undisturbed by headline risks.

In this environment, the HOW Absolute Return Fund – CHF I delivered a -0.53% return for August.

The main positive contributors in August included the US dollar hedge against the euro, which added value as the single currency weakened over the month, and Alphabet, which delivered another strong set of results supported by resilient advertising revenues and growth in its cloud business. Berkshire Hathaway also contributed positively, underpinned by robust earnings from its insurance operations and solid performance across its diversified portfolio. Iberdrola added to returns as the stock benefited from steady operational results and renewed investor demand for utilities with defensive balance sheets and stable cash flow.

On the negative side, Microsoft detracted as shares eased following a period of strong performance, with investors locking in gains despite continued strength in cloud and AI-related revenues. Relx came under pressure after its strong run earlier in the year, reflecting some concerns over slower momentum in its analytics activities. Public services names also lagged as higher bond yields weighed on yield-oriented sectors, while Compass PLC declined modestly after reporting results that, while solid, failed to trigger further upside in a market already pricing in strong expectations.

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Allocation

Equity	41.27%
Bonds	53.68%
Cash	5.35%

Key Data

Highest NAV (18.10.2024)	105.00	Annualised volatility	5.80%
Lowest NAV (27.10.2023)	94.16	Max drawdown	-10.03%
% positive	53.29%	Duration	5.16
Best period	1.40%	YTM	3.54%
Worst period	-2.72%		

Top 5 equity holdings

HOW Made of Switzerland Fund	6.24%
BAE Systems PLC	2.44%
Microsoft Corp.	2.42%
Berkshire Hathaway	2.03%
Airbus	1.85%

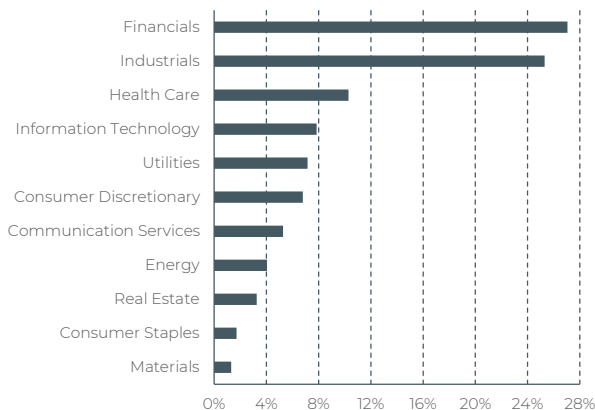
Top 5 contributors

FX FWD USD/EUR	0.41%
Alphabet	0.10%
Berkshire Hathaway	0.08%
Iberdrola SA	0.08%
Arista Networks Inc	0.08%

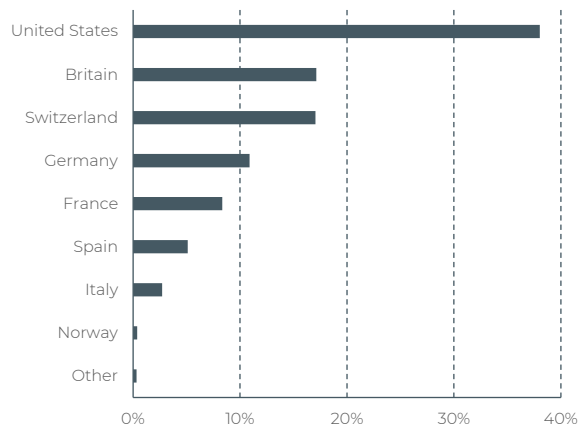
Top 5 detractors

Microsoft Corp.	-0.19%
Relx PLC	-0.12%
Public Services Enterprise	-0.10%
Compass Group PLC	-0.09%
Munchener Ruckersicherungs AG	-0.09%

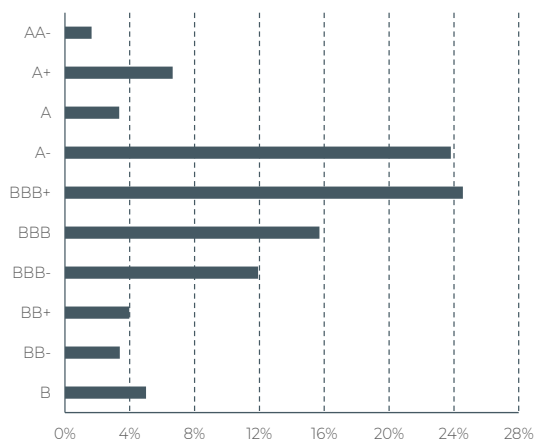
Sector breakdown (Equities)



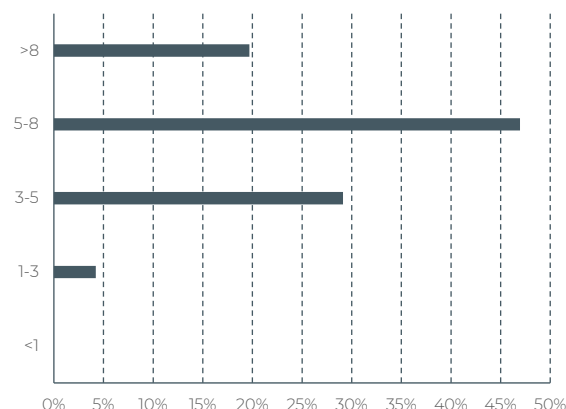
Geographic breakdown (Equities)



Ratings (Bonds)



Maturities (Bonds)



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