Mid-Cap Growth

QUARTERLY STRATEGY UPDATE

First Quarter 2018







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Review & Outlook

The Mid-Cap Growth Strategy outperformed its benchmark, the Russell Midcap* Growth Index, during the first three months of the year. Several trends from the previous quarter reversed, and we recovered most of the ground lost to the benchmark late last year. Positive stock selection across several sectors drove our relative gains, with particular success in materials, health care, consumer discretionary and financial services.

While our benchmark chalked up another money-making quarter—the 10^{th} in a row, in fact—the tone of the market changed as the benign malaise of 2017 gave way to jarring volatility. The Russell Midcap Growth Index finished in the red nearly half of the trading days in the first quarter compared to only one-third in the fourth quarter of 2017. The best and worst days in Q4 only differed by 2%. In the first quarter, that range eclipsed 6% (-3.6% to +2.5%). Only two trading sessions in the fourth quarter saw a gain or loss greater than 1%; there were 20 in the first quarter.

The spike in volatility was not the only change. The rally in cyclicals that surfaced in the second half of 2017 reversed in the first quarter. Technology and health care drove returns in our benchmark, much like in the first half of last year. This time around, however, gains were narrowly focused in software, where valuations appear stretched. In addition, small caps outpaced large caps, reversing a trend through all of 2017. This environment likely provided a gentle tailwind to our relative performance. Nonetheless, as it has since inception, stock selection drove most of our positive results. Several positions, including Edwards Lifesciences, Broadridge Financial Solutions, Mimecast, GoDaddy and Electronic Arts, contributed meaningfully to our outperformance.

Despite the erratic market year-to-date, business conditions seem stable or even improving for domestic small- to midsize companies. Consensus estimates for the Russell Midcap Growth Index call for earnings growth in the mid-20% range. We think that translates to midteens underlying gains plus the benefit of tax reform. This time last year, analysts expected mid-cap growth companies to grow earnings at a low double-digit pace. While valuations seem elevated in certain spots (e.g., high-growth tech, pharma/biotech, and health care services and tools), the Russell Midcap Growth Index overall trades in line with its long-term historical average forward P/E.

Given the tone of the market and the strategy's six-year birthday in the first quarter, we find it prudent to widen the lens. During the past six years, we produced attractive risk-adjusted returns through stock selection and downside protection, primarily by investing in companies that meet our 3G criteria—durable growth, sound governance and scalable go-to-market strategy—and by holding true to our tenets of low turnover, valuation sensitivity, high active share and prudent concentration. We strive to exploit inefficiencies that arise from short-term thinking or price momentum. We hope to then benefit from the power of compounding over a multiyear period. Over the years, our team has built a large body of knowledge of companies in the small- and mid-cap universe, allowing us to act when opportunities present themselves.

In a nutshell, this is our type of market—we welcome volatility and hope we can continue to use it to drive attractive risk-adjusted returns for our clients.

We took advantage of heightened volatility in the first quarter to build positions in HealthEquity (HQY) and Cintas (CTAS). We have followed HealthEquity, a leading administrator of health savings accounts (HSAs), for years. At one point or another, we have owned every one of its publicly traded competitors in the Small-Cap Growth Strategy. We believe HSAs are only about 25% penetrated, and that trend toward high-deductible health care plans will push double-digit account growth for years. Moreover, HealthEquity has gained share with an attractive offering, and we think that can continue. We believe HealthEquity is the best-positioned competitor to benefit from rising rates. As that became a reality, we built a position on both market and stock-specific weakness following a misinterpreted industry report that erroneously showed marketwide growth for HSAs slowing.

We constructed a meaningful position in Cintas, the leading domestic uniform rental company, when the stock dipped with the market in early February. Cintas has gained share in a large, underpenetrated market for years by offering a superior service and a better product set. After completing our due diligence—which consisted of visiting management and speaking to customers, competitors and former employees—we concluded that the firm's earnings growth could remain "stronger for longer" thanks to a steady shift to hygiene products, which carry higher gross margins and lower incremental capital requirements when compared to its mainstay uniform rental operations. Moreover, Cintas bought competitor G&K and will soon offer its broader product portfolio to those customers. If Cintas can grow hygiene products from 3% of G&K's sales closer to its current average in the teens, we believe it could unlock even more value from the acquisition than many expect.

As always, we remain committed to achieving attractive risk-adjusted returns over a full market cycle by owning a diversified portfolio of companies that we believe could one day grow much larger. We are grateful for your support and look forward to updating you at the conclusion of the second quarter.

COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE (%)

	COMPOSITE GROSS OF FEES	COMPOSITE NET OF FEES	RUSSELL MIDCAP® GROWTH INDEX®
3 MOS.	4.75	4.61	2.17
1YR.	19.51	18.77	19.74
3 YR.	12.82	12.05	9.17
5 YR.	15.41	14.61	13.31
ITD (02/29/2012)	16.11	15.33	13.43

The composite performance shown above reflects the Brown Advisory Mid-Cap Growth Composite, managed by Brown Advisory Institutional. Brown Advisory Institutional is a division of Brown Advisory LLC, and Brown Advisor Institutional is a GIPS compliant firm. Please see the end of this for a GIPS compliant presentation.

REP. ACCOUNT CHARACTERISTICS

	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCT.	RUSSELL 2000 [®] GROWTH INDEX INDEX
Weighted Avg. Market Cap.	\$14.17 B	\$16.36 B
Weighted Median Market Cap.	\$10.40 B	\$14.07 B
P/E Ratio (FY2 Est.)	21.5x	18.1x
Active Share	86.3%	

REP. ACCOUNT TOP 10 PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

SECURITY	% PORTFOLIO
Waste Connections Inc	3.9
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	2.6
Edwards Lifesciences Corp.	2.6
Marriott International, Inc.	2.6
Catalent, Inc.	2.6
Cotiviti Holdings, Inc.	2.6
Ball Corp.	2.5
Ecolab, Inc.	2.5
Cogent Communications Group, Inc.	2.3
TransUnion	2.3
TOTAL	26.5

Sector Diversification

The Mid-Cap Growth Strategy employs a bottom-up, fundamental approach. Thus, our sector weights result from our opportunity set and research effort. Over the long run, stock selection drives our results. Nonetheless, we believe this analysis helps describe when the strategy's returns might experience a headwind or a tailwind relative to its benchmark over short periods.

- The strategy is underweight consumer discretionary, with less exposure to retail and apparel companies.
- While we have no direct investments in energy, the strategy is exposed to oil price fluctuations through fuel card operators Fleetcor and WEX (in financial services).
- The strategy is overweight financial services. Within the sector, it leans toward consumer financials and data services companies, and away from REITs, insurance companies and brokerage firms. We do not believe the strategy expresses a bet for, or against, rising interest rates.
- Health care represents our largest overweight, with broad exposure to services, devices and pharma/biotech.
- We are underweight materials and processing. Within the sector, our holdings tilt larger-cap and less cyclical.
- According to our internal classifications, producer durables is nearly in line with the benchmark. Waste Connections, unassigned by Russell Global, is listed within producer durables in our internal classification.
- Technology is an underweight, though not by as much as it seems. Internally, we reclassify **Genpact** from producer durables to the technology sector. Within technology, we have a tilt away from high-multiple stocks.
- Internet provider **Cogent** is our only position in utilities.

RUSSELL GLOBAL SECTORS	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCOUNT (%)	RUSSELL MIDCAP® GROWTH INDEX (%)	DIFFERENCE (%)		GROWTH OUNT (%)
	Q1 '18	Q1'18	Q1'18	Q4'17	Q1'17
Consumer Discretionary	14.82	17.47	-2.65	15.25	21.02
Consumer Staples	4.15	4.19	-0.03	3.12	6.04
Energy		2.34	-2.34		
Financial Services	19.05	17.74	1.31	18.80	19.70
Health Care	17.36	12.39	4.97	15.97	16.92
Materials & Processing	6.69	7.44	-0.75	6.66	5.27
Producer Durables	15.91	16.53	-0.62	13.62	10.92
Technology	15.67	21.65	-5.97	18.42	14.61
Utilities	2.39	0.26	2.13	1.88	1.77
Unassigned	3.96		3.96	6.29	3.75

Quarterly Attribution Detail by Sector

- Positive selection effects in most sectors drove our outperformance during the first quarter, with particular success in materials, health care and financial services.
- Our relative gains in the materials sector are best explained by our conservative tilt. We are underweight cyclicals, and they lagged in the first quarter. In fact, machinery, chemicals and energy equipment and services were the three worst-performing subsectors in the benchmark during the period.
- A number of holdings, including Edwards Lifesciences, HealthEquity, Agios and Cotiviti, drove outperformance in the health care sector in the first quarter.

RUSSELL GLOBAL SECTORS	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCOUNT		RUSSELL MIDCAI	RUSSELL MIDCAP® GROWTH INDEX		ATTRIBUTION ANALYSIS		
	AVERAGE WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	AVERAGE WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	ALLOCATION EFFECT (%)	SELECTION AND INTERACTION EFFECT (%)	TOTAL EFFECT (%)	
Consumer Discretionary	15.68	0.31	17.97	-2.31	0.12	0.42	0.53	
Consumer Staples	3.53	2.17	4.09	2.33	0.04	0.05	0.09	
Energy			2.38	-6.85	0.23		0.23	
Financial Services	18.35	7.01	17.29	3.94	0.01	0.55	0.56	
Health Care	16.98	8.84	12.51	6.04	0.17	0.44	0.61	
Materials & Processing	6.59	4.14	7.73	-6.39	0.12	0.69	0.81	
Producer Durables	14.73	2.96	16.44	1.53	0.04	0.18	0.22	
Technology	18.08	7.08	21.33	7.50	-0.07	-0.11	-0.18	
Utilities	2.17	-3.09	0.26	-4.32	-0.11	0.03	-0.08	
Unassigned	3.88	1.33	0.01	-3.19	-0.12	0.10	-0.02	
Total	100.00	4.97	100.00	2.18	0.44	2.35	2.79	

Quarterly Contribution to Return

- Edwards Lifesciences' share price snapped back in the first quarter after domestic transcatheter heart valve revenue growth accelerated.
- Broadridge Financial Solutions again posted solid results, with particular strength in its proxy and securities processing businesses.
- Email security provider Mimecast benefited from the technology sector's outperformance in the first quarter, as well as strong fundamentals.
- GoDaddy's domain and business applications segments continue to drive surprisingly high and consistent growth.
- Electronic Arts delivered commendable results driven by strength in its FIFA video game franchise (especially within FIFA Ultimate Team and associated "live services") and a steady shift to full-game digital downloads. This helped dissipate fears of weak sales of its new Star Wars game.
- Despite posting commendable fourth-quarter results, trade war chatter and Uber's autonomous vehicle accident in Arizona pressured Aptiv's share price. We believe Aptiv's backlog in electronics and advanced driver assist technologies could drive above-market growth through content gains for years. We view success in autonomous vehicles as a "call option" that is not critical to investment success in our three- to five-year time horizon.
- Welbilt shares fell during the quarter after the company's fourth-quarter sales missed consensus numbers. We believe its fundamentals are improving and added to our position on weakness.
- Expectations for Woodward's power end market declined considerably over the last six months, led lower by the firm's main customer—General Electric. An expense timing issue also put its upward margin progression in doubt. The power issues appear secular, but we expect the expense timing issue to reverse.
- Although Liberty Formula One's share price fell during the quarter, we believe the long-term business fundamentals are still in place and added to our position on weakness.
- Cavium's share price fell 5% after rising meaningfully in November of 2017 on news that Marvell will acquire the company.

Portfolio Activity

- While we changed a number of small positions in the portfolio during the first quarter, dollar turnover remained within historical norms.
- We bought shares of Aptiv after it split from Delphi Technologies. We think the firm's backlog and expertise in advanced driver assist systems will drive abovemarket growth for several years.
- We built a position in **Bank United**, which operates in Florida and New York. Bank United was an existing Small-Cap Growth holding.
- We built a position in Cintas, the leading uniform rental company in the U.S. We believe Cintas will continue to grow revenue and margins by cross-selling hygiene products into its large customer base. We think it will do the same with recently acquired accounts from G&K.
- We bought shares of Calavo (an avocado broker), HealthEquity (an HSA administrator) and Welbilt (a maker of commercial kitchen equipment) concurrently in both Small-Cap Growth and Mid-Cap Growth during the quarter.
- We sold shares of MACOM Technology Solutions, TripAdvisor and Chipotle due to fundamental concerns.
- We exited **ANSYS** due to valuation.
- Cisco completed its acquisition of **BroadSoft** in the first quarter.
- We sold small positions in Acxiom, Crown Castle, ESCO, Maximus and PriceSmart to fund other opportunities.

	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCOUNT TOP FIVE CONTRIBUTORS									
TICKER	NAME	AVG. WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	CONTRIBUTION TO RETURN (%)						
EW	Edwards Lifesciences Corporation	2.49	23.79	0.52						
BR	Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	2.45	21.51	0.49						
MIME	Mimecast Limited	1.81	23.58	0.39						
GDDY	GoDaddy, Inc. Class A	1.41	22.16	0.28						
EA	Electronic Arts Inc.	2.01	15.40	0.28						
	MID-CAP GROW BOTTOM FIV	TH REP. ACCO E CONTRIBUTO								
APTV	Aptiv PLC	1.37	-8.96	-0.20						
WBT	Welbilt Inc	0.70	-15.91	-0.16						
WWD	WWD Woodward, Inc.		-6.20	-0.15						
FWONA	Liberty Media FWONA Corporation Series A Liberty Formula One		-10.48	-0.12						
CAVM	Cavium, Inc.	2.48	-5.31	-0.10						

MID-CAP GROWTH REP.ACCOUNT							
	PORTFOLIO ACTIVI						
ADDITIONS		SECTOR					
APTV	Aptiv PLC	Consumer Discretionary					
BKU	BankUnited, Inc.	Financials					
ВАН	Booz Allen Hamilton Holding Corporation Class A	Information Technology					
CVGW	Calavo Growers, Inc.	Consumer Staples					
CTAS	Cintas Corporation	Industrials					
HQY	HealthEquity Inc	Health Care					
WBT	Welbilt Inc	Industrials					
DELETIONS		SECTOR					
ACXM	Acxiom Corporation	Information Technology					
ANSS	ANSYS, Inc.	Information Technology					
BSFT	BroadSoft, Inc.	Information Technology					
CMG	Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary					
CCI	Crown Castle International Corp	Real Estate					
ESE	ESCO Technologies Inc.	Industrials					
MTSI	MACOM Technology Solutions Holdings, Inc.	Information Technology					
MMS	MAXIMUS, Inc.	Information Technology					
PSMT	PriceSmart, Inc.	Consumer Staples					
TRIP	TripAdvisor, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary					

GICS Sector Diversification

SECTOR	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCOUNT (%)	RUSSELL MIDCAP® GROWTH INDEX (%)	DIFFERENCE (%)	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCOUNT (%)		
	Q1 '18	Q1 '18	Q1 '18	Q4 '17	Q1 '17	
Consumer Discretionary	11.81	16.77	-4.96	11.81	15.89	
Consumer Staples	5.01	4.19	0.82	4.95	7.73	
Energy		2.34	-2.34			
Financials	3.48	7.49	-4.01	2.61	1.82	
Health Care	17.32	13.32	4.00	15.97	16.92	
Industrials	21.44	17.20	4.24	19.19	19.44	
Information Technology	30.21	29.53	0.68	34.32	29.56	
Materials	5.08	5.78	-0.70	5.02	2.82	
Real Estate	1.95	3.13	-1.18	2.83	2.92	
Telecommunication Services	3.71	0.20	3.51	3.30	2.90	
Utilities		0.06	-0.06			

GICS Quarterly Attribution Detail by Sector

SECTOR	MID-CAP GROWTH REP. ACCOUNT		RUSSELL MIDCAP® GROWTH INDEX		ATTRIBUTION ANALYSIS		
	AVERAGE WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	AVERAGE WEIGHT (%)	RETURN (%)	ALLOCATION EFFECT (%)	SELECTION AND INTERACTION EFFECT (%)	TOTAL EFFECT (%)
Consumer Discretionary	12.11	-0.24	17.18	-1.48	0.21	0.15	0.35
Consumer Staples	4.90	4.95	4.09	2.20	0.02	0.13	0.15
Energy			2.38	-6.85	0.23		0.23
Financials	2.60	0.56	7.31	4.67	-0.10	-0.08	-0.18
Health Care	16.95	8.82	13.49	5.42	0.11	0.54	0.65
Industrials	20.21	3.28	17.07	0.91	-0.01	0.44	0.43
Information Technology	32.38	7.55	29.11	6.85	0.24	0.12	0.36
Materials	4.94	3.89	6.06	-7.37	0.13	0.56	0.69
Real Estate	2.34	2.37	3.06	-4.15	0.01	0.21	0.22
Telecommunication Services	3.57	-1.59	0.21	-6.53	-0.29	0.18	-0.11
Utilities			0.05	7.32	0.01		0.01
Total 100.00 4.97		4.97	100.00	2.17	0.56	2.24	2.80

Mid-Cap Growth Equity Composite

Year	Composite Total Gross Returns (%)	Composite Total Net Returns (%)	Benchmark Returns (%)	Composite 3-Yr Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	Benchmark 3-Yr Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	Portfolios in Composite at End of Year	Composite Dispersion (%)	Composite Assets (\$USD Millions)	GIPS Firm Assets (\$USD Millions)*
2017	23.9	23.1	25.3	9.8	10.9	Five or Fewer	N/A	48	33,155
2016	9.3	8.6	7.3	11	12.2	Five or Fewer	N/A	2	30,417
2015	7.1	6.3	-0.2	10.7	11.3	Five or Fewer	N/A	1	43,746
2014	8.8	8	11.9	N/A	N/A	Five or Fewer	N/A	2	44,772
2013	38.3	37.3	35.7	N/A	N/A	Five or Fewer	N/A	1	40,739
2012**	8.5	8	3.4	N/A	N/A	Five or Fewer	N/A	1	26,794

^{**}Return is for period May 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

Brown Advisory claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Brown Advisory has been independently verified for the periods from January 1, 1993 through December 31, 2016. The Verification reports are available upon request. Verification assesses whether (1) the firm has complied with all the composite construction requirements of the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis and (2) the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation. GIPS® is a registered trademark owned by CFA Institute.

- 1. *For the purpose of complying with the GIPS standards, the firm is defined as Brown Advisory Institutional, the Institutional and Balanced Institutional asset management divisions of Brown Advisory. As of July 1, 2016, the firm was redefined to exclude the Brown Advisory Private Client division, due to an evolution of the three distinct business lines.
- 2. The Mid Cap Growth Composite is comprised of all discretionary accounts with no material investment restrictions, which invest primarily in the common stock of U.S. medium market capitalization companies. The strategy seeks capital appreciation by managing a concentrated portfolio of companies that offer long-term growth potential. There is not a minimum account market value required for composite inclusion. Prior to September 12016 the composite was named Mid Cap Composite, there was no change in investment strategy.
- This composite was created in 2014.
- 4. The benchmark is the Russell Mid Cap Growth Total Return Index. The Russell Midcap Growth Total Return Index measures the performance of the mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell Midcap Index companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Russell Midcap Growth Total Return Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer of the mid-cap growth market. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true mid-cap growth market. The Russell Mid Cap Growth Total Return Index and Russell® are trademarks/service marks of the London Stock Exchange Group companies An investor cannot invest directly into an index. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of the independent verifiers.
- 5. The dispersion of annual returns is measured by the equal weighted standard deviation of portfolio returns. The composite dispersion is not applicable (N/A) for periods where there were five or fewer accounts in the composite for the entire period.
- 6. Gross-of-fees performance returns are presented before management fees but after all trading commissions, and gross of foreign withholding taxes (if applicable). Net-of-fee performance returns reflect the deduction of actual management fees and all trading commissions. Other expenses can reduce returns to investors. The standard management fee schedule is as follows: 0.90% on the first \$25 million; 0.80% on the next \$25 million; 0.70% on the next \$50 million; and 0.60% on the balance over \$100 million. Further information regarding investment advisory fees is described in Part II A of the firm's form ADV. Actual fees paid by accounts in the composite may differ from the current fee schedule.
- 7. The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the composite (using gross returns) and the benchmark for the 36-month period ended on December 31. The 3 year annualized standard deviation is not presented as of December 31. 2014, and prior, because 36 monthly returns for the composite were not available (NA.)
- deviation is not presented as of December 31, 2014, and prior, because 36 monthly returns for the composite were not available (NA.)

 8. Valuations and performance returns are computed and stated in U.S. Dollars. All returns reflect the reinvestment of income and other earnings.
- 9. A complete list of composite descriptions, policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request.
- 10. Past performance does not indicate future results
- 11. This piece is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a research report, a recommendation or suggestion to engage in or refrain from a particular course of action or to make or hold a particular investment or pursue a particular investment strategy, including whether or not to buy, sell or hold any of the securities mentioned, including any mutual fund managed by Brown Advisory.

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 $Please \, see \, composite \, disclosure \, statement \, above \, for \, additional \, information.$

Terms and Definitions For Representative Account Calculations

All financial statistics and ratios are calculated using information from FactSet as of the report date unless otherwise noted. **Market Capitalization** refers to the aggregate value of a company's publicly traded stock. Statistics are calculated as follows: **Weighted Average**: the average of each holding's market cap, weighted by its relative position size in the portfolio (in such a weighting scheme, larger positions have a greater influence on the calculation); **Weighted Median**: the value at which half the portfolio's market capitalization weight falls above and half falls below. **Price-Earnings Ratio** (**P/E Ratio**) is the ratio of the share of a company's stock compared to its per-share earnings. **Py1** calculations presented use FY2 earnings estimates; FY1 estimates refer to the next unreported fiscal year, and FY2 estimates refer to the fiscal year following FY1. **Active Share** is calculated by taking the sum of the absolute value of the differences of the weight of each holding in the manager's portfolio versus the weight of each holding in the benchmark index and dividing by two. The **Average Weight** of a position or sector refers to the daily average for the period covered in this report of a stock's value as a percentage of the portfolio. The **Total Return** of an equity security is the sum of the return from price movement and the return due to dividend payments or other sources of income. The portfolio and benchmark returns provided reflect the sum of the returns of the equity holdings in the portfolio and the benchmark, respectively. The returns exclude cash. All of the above ratios for a portfolio are expressed as a weighted harmonic average. **Allocation Effect** measures the impact of the decision to allocate assets differently than those in the benchmark. The relevant ratios of each portfolio holding, EXCEPT for P/E ratios, which are expressed as a weighted harmonic average. **Allocation Effect** measures the impact of the decision to allocate assets differently than those in the benchmark. Interacti