# Nuance Concentrated Value Composite Perspectives ( ) NUC



November 30, 2018

## **Description of the Product**

The Nuance Concentrated Value Composite is a classic value investment product investing primarily in the equity or equity-linked securities of United States based companies. The product will typically maintain 15-35 positions in the securities of companies that, in the opinion of the Nuance Investments Team, have leading and sustainable market share positions, above average financial strength, and are trading at prices materially below our internally derived view of intrinsic value. The product's primary benchmark is the Russell 3000 Value Index. Clients may also compare the product to the S&P 500 Index.

#### Portfolio Managers



Scott Moore, CFA President & CIO 27 Years of Experience

Chad Baumler, CFA Vice President 11 Years of Experience

#### Risk-Adjusted Returns Rankings<sup>1</sup>

### **1ST PERCENTILE**

Lipper Category: Multi-Cap Value SI Rank in Cat: 4 of 221

Morningstar Category: Large Value SI Rank in Cat: 8 of 942

Morningstar Category: Mid-Cap Value SI Rank in Cat: 2 of 312

## **Longer Term Performance Update**

Since Inception Return: The return since inception (11/13/2008) through 11/30/2018 is 15.3 percent (annualized and net of fees) versus the Russell 3000 Value Index and S&P 500 Index, which have returned 12.2 percent and 14.1 percent respectively. We are pleased with this level of outperformance over time.

Risk-Adjusted Returns: Our Sharpe Ratio since inception through 11/30/2018 is 1.2 (net of fees) versus Russell 3000 Value Index at 0.8 and the S&P 500 Index at 1.0.

Peer Group Returns through 9/30/2018: Comparing our product to peers displays positive results over time. On a total return basis, since 11/30/08, we ranked 53 out of 942 peer group members (6th percentile) in the Morningstar Large Cap Value universe, 90 out of 312 (29th percentile) in the Morningstar Mid-Cap Value universe, and 32 out of 221 (15th percentile) in the Lipper Multi-Cap Value universe.

Peer Group Risk-Adjusted Return through 9/30/2018: On a risk-adjusted return basis, since 11/30/2008, (measured by the Sharpe Ratio) we ranked 8 out of 942 peer group members (1st percentile) in the Morningstar Large Cap Value universe, 2 out of 312 (1st percentile) in the Morningstar Mid-Cap Value universe, and 4 out of 221 (1st percentile) in the Lipper Multi-Cap Value universe.

Peer Group Analysis 11/30/2008 - 9/30/2018	Since Inception APR <sup>1</sup>	Standard Deviation (A) <sup>1</sup>	Sharpe Ratio (A)1
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (Gross)	15.9	12.1	1.3
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (Net)	15.2	12.1	1.2
Lipper Multi-Cap Value Funds Peer Group (Median)	13.0	14.6	0.9
Peer Group Percentile and Ranking	15th (32 of 221)	6th (14 of 221)	1st (4 of 221)
Morningstar Large Value Peer Group (Median)	12.7	13.9	0.9
Peer Group Percentile and Ranking	6th (53 of 942)	14th (129 of 942)	1st (8 of 942)
Morningstar Mid-Cap Value Peer Group (Median)	14.4	15.2	0.9
Peer Group Percentile and Ranking	29th (90 of 312)	1st (2 of 312)	1st (2 of 312)

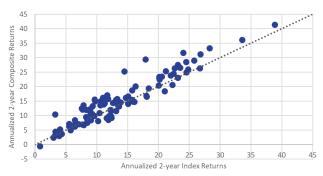
Performance 11/13/2008 - 11/30/2018	APR*	TR*	Standard Deviation*	Sharpe Ratio	10 Years	7 Years	5 Years	3 Years	1 Year	2018 YTD
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (Gross)	16.0	345.8	12.2	1.3	15.7	13.2	8.7	9.8	2.0	1.6
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (Net)	15.3	319.2	12.1	1.2	15.0	12.5	7.9	9.0	1.2	0.9
Russell 3000 Value Index	12.2	219.1	14.3	0.8	12.5	12.9	8.5	9.8	2.6	1.3
S&P 500 Index	14.1	275.0	13.2	1.0	14.3	14.4	11.1	12.1	6.3	5.1

\*Since Inception

#### Shorter Term Performance Update (Two Year and Year-to-Date)

Rolling 2-Y	'ear Perioc	ls Cu	Current 2-Year Period as of 11/30/2018					
11/30/2008 - 11/30/2018	Periods the I	5	Composite (%) Net of Fees <sup>1</sup>	Russell 3000 Value Index (%)				
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite	63 / 97	64.9%	6.7	8.5				





Your team at Nuance cautions clients regarding the use of short-term performance as a tool to make investment decisions. That said, if a client wants to consider our short-term performance, we recommend emphasizing two-year rolling periods since our inception. Our normal discussion of short-term performance will center on two-year performance, but we will also note calendar year to date results as is our tradition.

For the period ending November 30, 2018, the Nuance Concentrated Value Composite two year rolling return is 6.7 percent (net of fees) versus the Russell 3000 Value Index and S&P 500 Index which have returned 8.5 percent and 14.3 percent respectively. Overall, we have outperformed in 63 out of the available 97 two-year periods as shown in the chart labeled Rolling 2-Year Return Periods.

Year-to-date, the Nuance Concentrated Value Composite has returned 0.9 percent (net of fees) versus the Russell 3000 Value Index and the S&P 500 Index, which have returned 1.3 percent and 5.1 percent respectively.

Calendar Year Performance as of 11/30/2018	11/13/08 - 12/31/08	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 YTD
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (Gross)	4.5	42.2	18.8	6.9	18.4	35.3	8.9	(1.3)	20.5	12.1	1.6
Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (Net)	4.5	41.7	18.1	6.3	17.8	34.5	8.1	(2.0)	19.7	11.3	0.9
Russell 3000 Value Index	0.4	19.8	16.3	(0.1)	17.6	32.7	12.7	(4.1)	18.4	13.2	1.3
S&P 500 Index	(0.5)	26.5	15.1	2.1	16.0	32.4	13.7	1.4	12.0	21.8	5.1

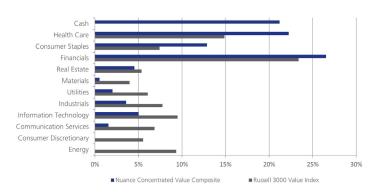
#### Composition of the Portfolio as of 11/30/2018

Portfolio Characteristics <sup>2</sup>	Nuance Concentrated Value Composite	Russell 3000 Value Index
Weighted Average Market Cap	58.0b	121.6b
Median Market Cap	19.1b	1.6b
Price to Earnings (internal and ttm)*	16.4x	18.5x
Dividend Yield	1.6%	2.6%
Return on Equity	14.3%	14.4%
Return on Assets	5.9%	5.5%
Active Share vs Russell 3000 Value	94.0%	-
Upside/Downside Capture Ratio vs Russell 3000 Value	86.9% / 60.2%	-
Number of Securities	31	2,092

<sup>\*</sup>Based on Nuance internal estimates and benchmarked against the above noted Russell index.

We continue to be pleased with the overall composition of the portfolio. Remember that we are seeking investment opportunities in leading business franchises with better than average valuation support. Using the adjacent table, you can see that the portfolio has a Price to Earnings ratio of 16.4x versus the Russell 3000 Value Index of 18.5x. We are achieving this ratio with a portfolio of companies that have a return on assets of 5.9 percent versus the Russell 3000 Value Index of 5.5 percent. This dichotomy of above average companies selling at below average multiples has the opportunity for outperformance over the long-term, in our opinion.

## Sector Weights and Portfolio Positioning as of 11/30/2018



Our largest weight in the portfolio remains the Financial sector where a combination of low interest rates and a higher than average catastrophe year has created some significant opportunities, in our view. Specifically, we are finding opportunities within the Life & Health and Property and Casualty Insurance sub-industry. We are still overweight the Healthcare and Consumer Staples sectors as we continue to find select leaders with what we believe are better risk-rewards than other market opportunities. We remain underweight the Energy sector where we believe the sector is facing a multi-year period of competitive transition. Lastly, we remain underweight the Industrial, Utility, Consumer Discretionary and Communication Services sectors primarily due to valuation concerns.

#### Stocks We Added to Your Portfolio (November 2018):

**Alphabet Inc. (GOOGL):** GOOGL runs the world's leading digital advertising platform. They utilize their dominant market share position in desktop search and mobile search along with leading web browser, personal email client, video platform, mobile operating system and mapping software to target and place ads. Digital advertising is taking significant share from legacy advertising platforms and at less than 40% penetration, has plenty of room to continue taking share. They have more than \$100B in net cash or \$150/share. It's a high return on capital business that is under-earning on interest income from their large cash position. The stock has underperformed on regulatory concerns, which we believe are manageable. This has provided an attractive entry point at 20x our normal earnings, several turns cheaper than GOOGL's historical valuation and the valuation being ascribed to our list of leading business franchises today.

**SJW Group (SJW):** We entered SJW by utilizing a secondary offering of common shares, the proceeds of which will allow them to purchase Connecticut Water Services Inc. (CTWS). Combined, the two will form the 2nd largest public water utility in the country by many measures. We believe the two are also under-earning their potential based on lower allowed returns on equity due to long term interest rates as well as the potential for some modest synergies. With normal earnings in the neighborhood of \$2.70 versus low to mid \$2.00's today, compared to our secondary price achieved in the mid \$50's, this valuation is modestly attractive, and we will start with an entry like weight for this high-quality water utility combination.

#### Stocks We Eliminated from Your Portfolio (November 2018):

**Abbott Laboratories (ABT):** After a period of significant outperformance, we exited our position in ABT as it exceeded our internal view of fair value. We continue to like ABT's portfolio of products and market share positions and will look to re-enter at a more favorable price in the future.

K2M Group Holdings, Inc. (KTWO): KTWO was acquired by Stryker Corp (SYK) on 11/12/2018 for \$27.50/sh cash.

**The Proctor & Gamble Company (PG):** Procter & Gamble is the largest producer of household and personal care products in the world. We exited the position after recent outperformance in the stock, as we found more attractive risk/reward opportunities elsewhere.

**United Parcel Service, Inc. (UPS):** UPS is a leading ground and air parcel transportation and delivery company. Due to increasing competitive pressures in the parcel delivery space, we decided to exit our position in favor of better risk/reward opportunities.

#### Nuance Perspectives from President & CIO, Scott Moore, CFA

Dear Clients,

Year to date, your Nuance Concentrated Value Composite is up 0.91 percent (through 11/30/2018 and net of fees) versus the Russell 3000 Value Index up 1.33 percent and the S&P 500 Index up 5.10 percent. Most importantly to us, since our inception on 11/13/2008, the Nuance Concentrated Value Composite is up 15.32 percent (annualized and net of fees) versus the Russell 3000 Value Index up 12.24 percent and the S&P 500 Index up 14.05 percent.

A flattish year through 11/30 is masking the return of volatility to the marketplace as well as a return to some form of rational thinking regarding valuations in general. Since the market peak on 9/20/2018 through 11/30/2018, your Nuance Concentrated Value Composite performance is up 0.28 percent versus the Russell 3000 Value Index down (4.22) percent and the S&P 500 Index down (5.45) percent. Still not yet a 10% market correction overall, but some of the concerns we have shared in our writings during 2018 appear to be coming to fruition. Broadly expensive valuations, cyclical over-earnings, and extended levels of debt are just a few of the issues that we have written about throughout the year. We welcome the heightened volatility as that has typically been a period when attractive opportunities for our clients show up.

Please visit our <u>website</u> for more information about our team, our process and value investing. Follow us on <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>Twitter!</u> You may also receive information via traditional mail or <u>email</u>. Call us at 816-743-7080. Click <u>here</u> for historical Concentrated Value Perspectives.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

Scott A. Moore, CFA

#### **GIPS Disclosures**

	Gross of Fees Return	Net of Fees Return	Benchmark Return (RAV Index)	Benchmark Return (SPX Index)	Composite Dispersion (Full Period)	Number of Separate Accounts (End of Period)	Total Composite Assets (End of Period)	Total Firm Assets (End of Period)	% of Non-Fee paying accounts	3 Year Annualized Standard Deviation (Composite Gross)	3 Year Annualized Standard Deviation (RAV Index)
YTD 2008 (11/13/08-12/31/08)	4.5	4.5	0.4	(0.5)	N/A	7	\$9,126,951	\$18,657,997	4.6%	-	-
2009	42.2	41.7	19.8	26.5	1.2	79	\$87,342,803	\$137,943,058	0.6%	-	-
2010	18.8	18.1	16.3	15.1	0.3	145	\$119,543,453	\$181,201,036	0.5%	-	-
2011	6.9	6.3	(0.1)	2.1	0.5	181	\$96,831,359	\$152,976,943	1.1%	16.1	21.3
2012	18.4	17.8	17.6	16.0	0.2	259	\$154,693,966	\$214,936,666	1.0%	13.1	16.0
2013	35.3	34.5	32.7	32.4	0.7	411	\$418,085,862	\$507,569,897	0.4%	12.2	13.1
2014	8.9	8.1	12.7	13.7	0.2	581	\$886,246,169	\$1,071,186,382	0.2%	10.4	9.5
2015	(1.3)	(2.0)	(4.1)	1.4	0.2	607	\$715,577,980	\$913,545,839	0.1%	11.4	10.9
2016	20.5	19.7	18.4	12.0	0.1	694	\$937,752,729	\$1,466,221,847	0.1%	11.1	11.1
2017	12.1	11.3	13.2	21.8	0.1	726	\$1,011,853,027	\$1,784,338,191	0.0%	10.1	10.5
YTD 2018 (11/30/2018)	1.6	0.9	1.3	5.1	N/A	597	\$809,510,126	\$1,963,820,844	0.0%	9.0	9.6

#### Compliance Statement

Nuance claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS® standards. Nuance has been independently verified for the periods 11/03/08 – 3/31/2018 by Absolute Performance Verification. 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. Nuance is an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The firm maintains a complete list and description of composites, which is available upon request. Results are based on fully discretionary separate accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance returns and assets. Performance results are presented both net and gross of management fees and include the reinvestment of income. Both gross and net of fee returns are reduced by Rctual investment advisory fees and other expenses that may be incurred in the management of the account. The firm does not currently assess any Performace Based Fees. From the inception of each composite until 12/31/10, Time Weighted Return was compounded on a daily basis.

Dispersion is calculated from gross of fee returns using an equal-weighted standard deviation methodology. Only those accounts included for the full calculation period are part of the dispersion calculation. The 3-year Ex-post annualized standard deviation value is calculated using 36 consecutive monthly gross of fee returns to the end calculation period. Prior to January 1, 2017 dispersion was calculated using an asset-weighted methodology. The calculation methodology was updated based on a new performance system dispersion calculation. Nuance has adopted the following Significant Cash Flow Policy. An account will be removed from a composite if a client has given specific instructions that prevent full investment of the cash flow(s) in a timely manner (defined as 5 business days or greater), or if a single cash flow is equal or greater than 10 percent of the total account value based on the beginning of month market value. If these circumstances exist, the account will be removed from the composite and added back to the composite on the first day of the following

Our Core offerings are the Nuance Mid Cap Value Strategy, the Nuance Concentrated Value Strategy and the Nuance Concentrated Value Long-Short Strategy. More information regarding Composite descriptions and policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request by contacting client.services@nuanceinvestments.com or 816-743-7080.

## **Important Disclosures**

Nuance Investments, LLC (the "Firm") is a Registered Investment Advisor. The Firm's Nuance Concentrated Value Composite (the "Composite of actual accounts invested in the Nuance Concentrated Value investment strategy. The inception date for the Composite is 11/13/2008. The Composite includes all accounts that have invested in the strategy; including accounts no longer managed by the Firm and are presented in US Dollars. The Primary Benchmark for the Composite is the Russell 3000 Value Index measures the performance of the broad value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 3000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The Secondary Benchmark for the Composite is the S&P 500 Index TR. The S&P 500 Index TR is a market-value weighted index representing the performance of 500 widely held publicly traded large-capitalization stocks. Individuals cannot invest directly in any index. These indices are used for comparison purposes only and are not meant to be indicative of a portfolio's performance, asset composition, or volatility. The performance of the Composite may differ markedly from that of compared indices due to varying degrees of diversification and/or other facts. Return calculations for all indices are provided by Bloomberg. A full schedule of fees for all Firm products is available upon request. The collection of fees has a compounding effect on the total rate of return net of investment management fees. Net of fee performance is presented after all actual investment management fees and trading expenses.

All material presented is compiled from sources believed to be reliable and current, but accuracy cannot be guaranteed. The information contained herein should not be construed as personalized investment advice and should not be considered as a solicitation to buy or sell any security or engage in a particular investment strategy. Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal.

(1) Rankings and peer groups created internally using data from Zephyr Style Advisor. Risk-Adjusted Return (Sharpe Ratio), Standard Deviation and return calculations for the Composite and indices provided by Zephyr Style Advisor. The Composites have been compared to various peer groups defined by investment style. Subsets of the Morningstar Large Value Peer Group, the Morningstar Mid Cap Value Peer Group with performance history since inception have been presented as investment styles for the Nuance Concentrated Value Composite. Subsets of the the Morningstar Mid Cap Value Peer Group with performance history since inception have been presented as investment strategies with similar investment strategies with similar investment styles for the Nuance Mid Cap Value Composite. For peer group comparisons all Returns, Standard Deviation and Sharpe Ratio calculations, including those of the Composite were calculated by Zephyr Style Advisor based upon strategies with monthly return data from December 2008 to present. Zephyr reports on month end returns only. For the purposes of peer group comparisons Since Inception returns are shown beginning 11/30/2008. The Sharpe Ratio is a calculation of a product's risk-adjusted performance over time. The Ratio is calculated by taking a product's annualized excess return over a risk-free rate (The Firm uses the Citigroup 3-Month Treasury Bill as the risk-free rate) and dividing by its annualized standard deviation calculated using monthly returns.

(2) Index statistics are provided by Russell. Characteristics calculations use holdings at market close on the stated date, including cash & cash equivalents. The following Composite characteristics are calculated using Bloomberg: Median Market Cap (midpoint of market capitalization of the stocks in the portfolio), Dividend Yield (annual dividends relative to share price), Return on Equity (net income divided by shareholder equity), Return on Assets (net income divided by average total assets). The PIE Statistics are a Nuance internal calculation. The dollar-weighted harmonic mean of individual company PIE ratios is used. This approach first considers holdings' E/P, which are then summed on a dollar-weighted basis across the entire portfolio to achieve a portfolio E/P ratio. Finally, the inverse of this ratio is taken to arrive at the Portfolio P/E ratio. Active share, as calculated by Morningstar Direct, is a statistic the measures a strategy's holdings relative to the holdings of the appropriate benchmark. Standard deviation is a measure of volatility showing the average deviations of a return series from its mean. The upside capture ratio is an indication of a manager's ability to curtail losses in periods of index weakness. Results are gross of fees for the period since inception through present. Both upside/downside ratios and standard deviation are calculated using Style Advisor.

Portfolio holdings and sector allocations are subjected to change and are not a recommendation to buy or sell any security. As of 11/30/2018 portfolio weights of names discussed are as follows: Abbott Laboratories (ABT) 0.00%, Connecticut Water Service, Inc. (CTWS) 0.00%, Alphabet Inc. (GOOGL) 1.54%, K2M Group Holdings Co. (KTWO) 0.00%, Procter & Gamble Corp. (PG) 0.00%, SJW Group Corp. (SJW) 2.01%, Stryker Corp. (SYK) 0.00%, and United Parcel Service Inc. (UPS) 0.00%.

Past Performance is not a guarantee of future results. Any investment contains risk including the risk of total loss. There is no guarantee that an investment with the strategy will meet its investment objectives. Please request a copy of the Firm's Full General Disclosures for more information.