



An Introduction to the  
**MUFG Japan Small Cap  
Equity Strategy**

December 31, 2023

MUFG Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy – Small Focus Composite (Japan Small Cap Equity). All data as of 12/31/2023, unless otherwise noted. **FOR INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR USE ONLY. NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION.**



# MUFG – Our History

## **Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG) is One of the World's Leading Financial Groups**

- With roots that trace back over 360 years, MUFG has long been one of the most important companies in Japan.
- Our services include corporate banking, commercial banking, retail banking, wealth management, investment banking, capital markets, personal and corporate trust, and transaction banking.
- Headquartered in Tokyo, MUFG is a global network with 1,100 offices in more than 50 countries, 180,000 colleagues, and approximately 300 companies.
- MUFG's operating companies include MUFG Bank, Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation (MUTB), and Mitsubishi UFJ Securities Holdings (MUS).
- Through close collaboration among our group members, MUFG aims to be the world's most trusted financial group, responding to all the financial needs of our corporate, commercial and institutional clients with a flexible approach, providing best in class service and products.

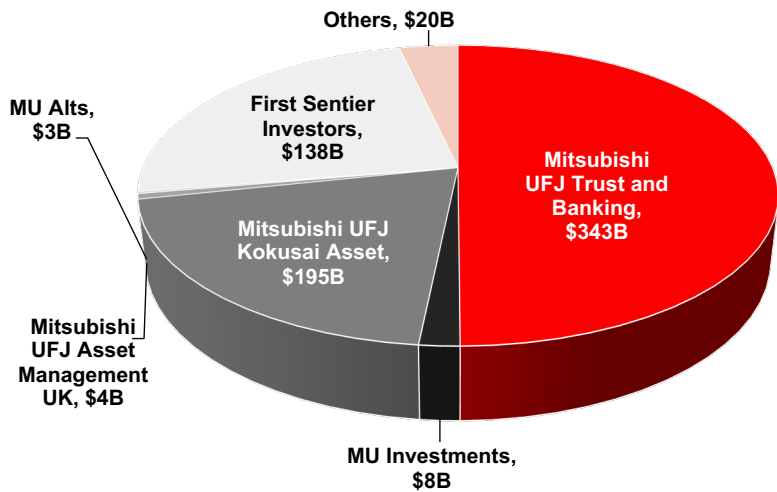
### **Take Away:**

**MUFG has approx: \$712B in AUM as of (09/30/2023)**

# MUFG – Asset Management Related Business

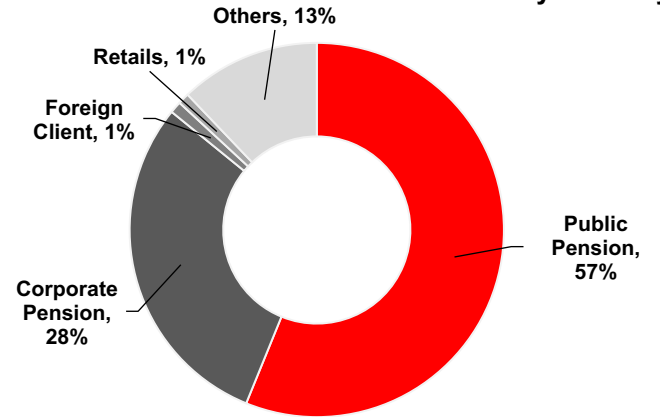
## MUFG Total AUM: USD \$741B

MUFG's asset management related business, as of September 30, 2023

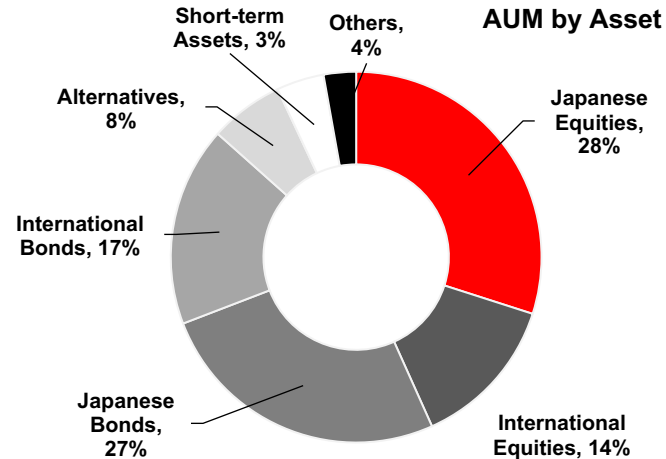


Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

## AUM by Client Type



## AUM by Asset Class



# MUFG – Our Mission, Vision and Values

## **Our Mission, Vision and Values Make Us Unique and Provide the Foundation for Our Business**

- Strive to be a foundation of strength, committed to meeting the needs of our customers, serving society, and fostering shared and sustainable growth for a better world.
- Working together to achieve our vision of becoming the world's most trusted financial group.

## **Our values reflect who we are and guide how we behave:**

### **Integrity and responsibility**

- Strive to be fair, transparent, and honest. Always act responsibly in the best interests of customers and society, building long-term stakeholder relationships and giving back to our communities.

### **Professionalism and teamwork**

- Respect the diversity of our fellow workers and foster a strong spirit of teamwork. Expect the highest levels of professionalism.

### **Challenge ourselves to grow**

- Adopt a global perspective to anticipate trends and opportunities for growth. Create and sustain a responsive and dynamic workplace, where everyone can focus on providing outstanding customer service and embrace new challenges.

# Our Team's Experience and Expertise

## Leverage Our Small Cap/Micro-Cap Experience

- 20 years of experience analyzing and investing in Japanese Small Cap/Micro-Cap companies.
- Dedicated, “on-the-ground” research team in continuous contact with many companies in the category – 1,000 per year on average.
- Experience-based holistic understanding of the Japanese economy, Japanese companies and industry supply chains.
- Proprietary Small Cap/Micro-Cap research and industry supply chain analysis.
- Focus on strategic growth opportunities – companies in early stages of growth, those taking advantage of market inefficiencies, strong M&A candidates.

This material is intended as a broad overview of the Portfolio Manager's style and investment process and is subject to change without notice. See additional disclosures at the end of this document, which are an important part of this presentation. No downside protection or upside participation can be guaranteed. All data as of 12/31/2023, unless otherwise noted.

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# The Small Cap Equity Market

- 1 Japanese Equity Markets are dominated by Small Cap/Micro-Cap companies – 3000 out of 3500 listed companies.
- 2 Historically, Small Cap/Micro-Cap stocks outperform Large Cap Stocks – nimble companies with a competitive edge can thrive even in mature markets, especially when backed by structural or cyclical growth factors.
- 3 But Small Cap/Micro-Cap markets tend to be inefficient – companies are under-researched and under-followed by sell-side analysts at major brokerage and advisory firms.

## Take Away:

The MUFG Japan Small Cap Equity team currently manages approximately \$1B USD\*

\*Including \$62.4 Million (USD) as of 12/31/2023 in the Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy – Small Cap Focus Composite. This material is intended as a broad overview of the Portfolio Manager's style and investment process and is subject to change without notice. See additional disclosures at the end of this document, which are an important part of this presentation. No downside protection or upside participation can be guaranteed. All data as of 06/30/2023, unless otherwise noted.

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# Investment Philosophy

## Seeking Overlooked Value in Under Researched Categories

**Inefficiency: *Small cap equity market is inefficient, where many attractive companies are overlooked by investors***

- Lack of sell-side coverage

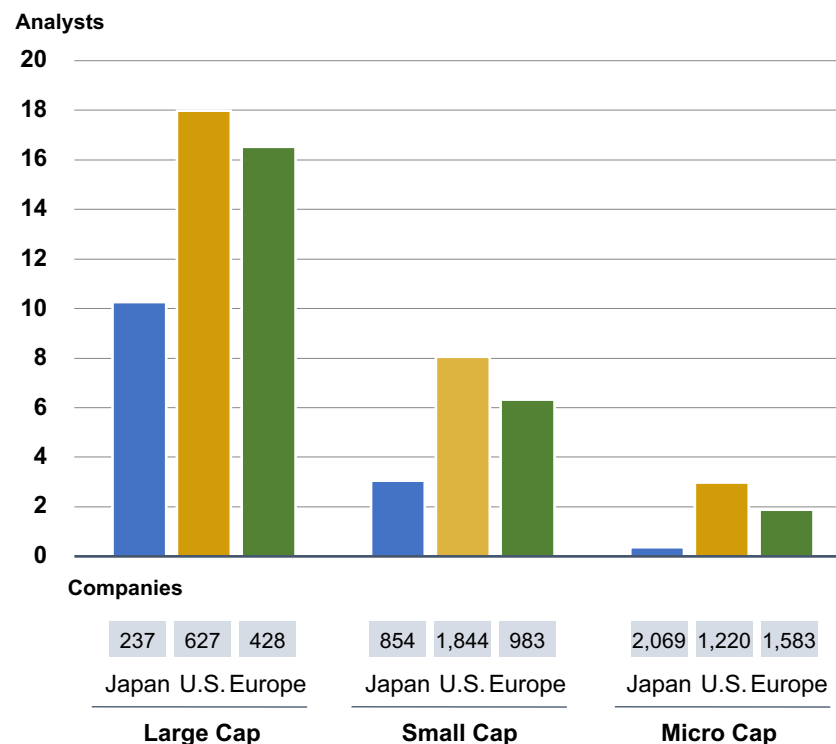
**Opportunities: *Supply chain analysis provides opportunities for investment in high-growth companies***

- Major source of investment ideas

**Competitiveness: *Companies with competitive advantages achieve solid earnings growth even in mature markets***

- Main source of alpha generation. We seek to initiate investments in companies before their competitive advantages and growth potential are recognized by the broader market.

### Number of Covering Analysts by Size in Major Region



(Source) MUFG: Trust Bank, from MSCI, FactSet. Note: Universes are companies in MSCI USA Index, MSCI Europe Index and MSCI Japan Index; data as of Jun. 2023.

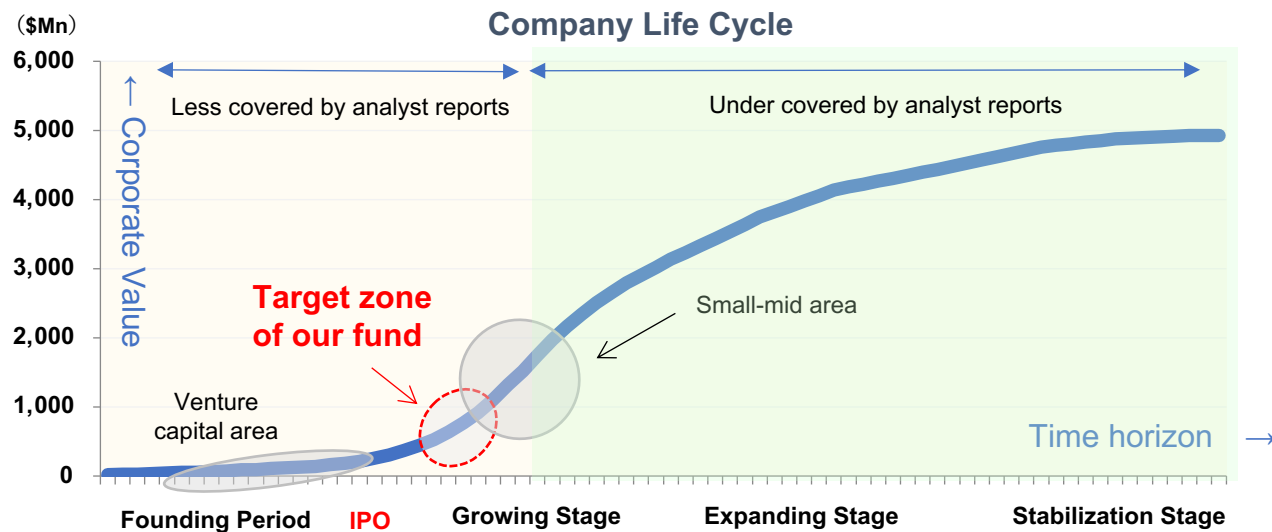
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# Investment Philosophy

## The Small and Mid Cap investment team seeks to identify:

- Pioneering, market creating, innovative companies with long-term growth potential, attractive valuations and improving corporate governance
- Sustainable secular growth stories: ideally those which are shielded from economic cyclicality. Short-term cyclical themes that may grow in the early stage of an economic recovery; i.e., Financials and Real Estate are also considered
- Companies with limited to no sell-side coverage; thus, market inefficiencies can be exploited and 'hidden gems' uncovered



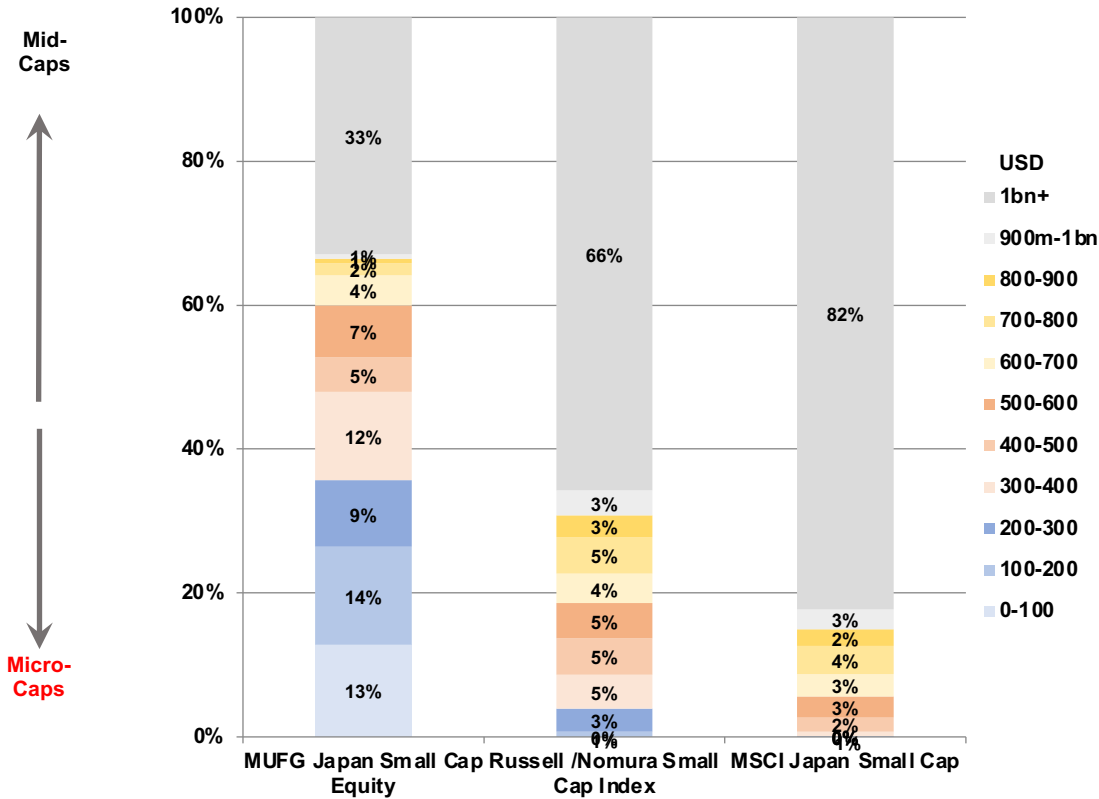
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# Investment Strategy – Early-Stage Entry

## Portfolio Composition by Market Cap

Japan Small Cap Equity vs. Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index and MSCI Japan Small Cap\*



Market Cap (USD mil)	MUFG	RNS	MSCI JPSC
Weighted Average	881.0	1,573.0	2,402.9
Median	263.9	649.9	1,107.2
Max.	4,726.5	5,639.5	8,596.7
Min.	32.1	105.7	206.7
# of Stocks	123	1099	863

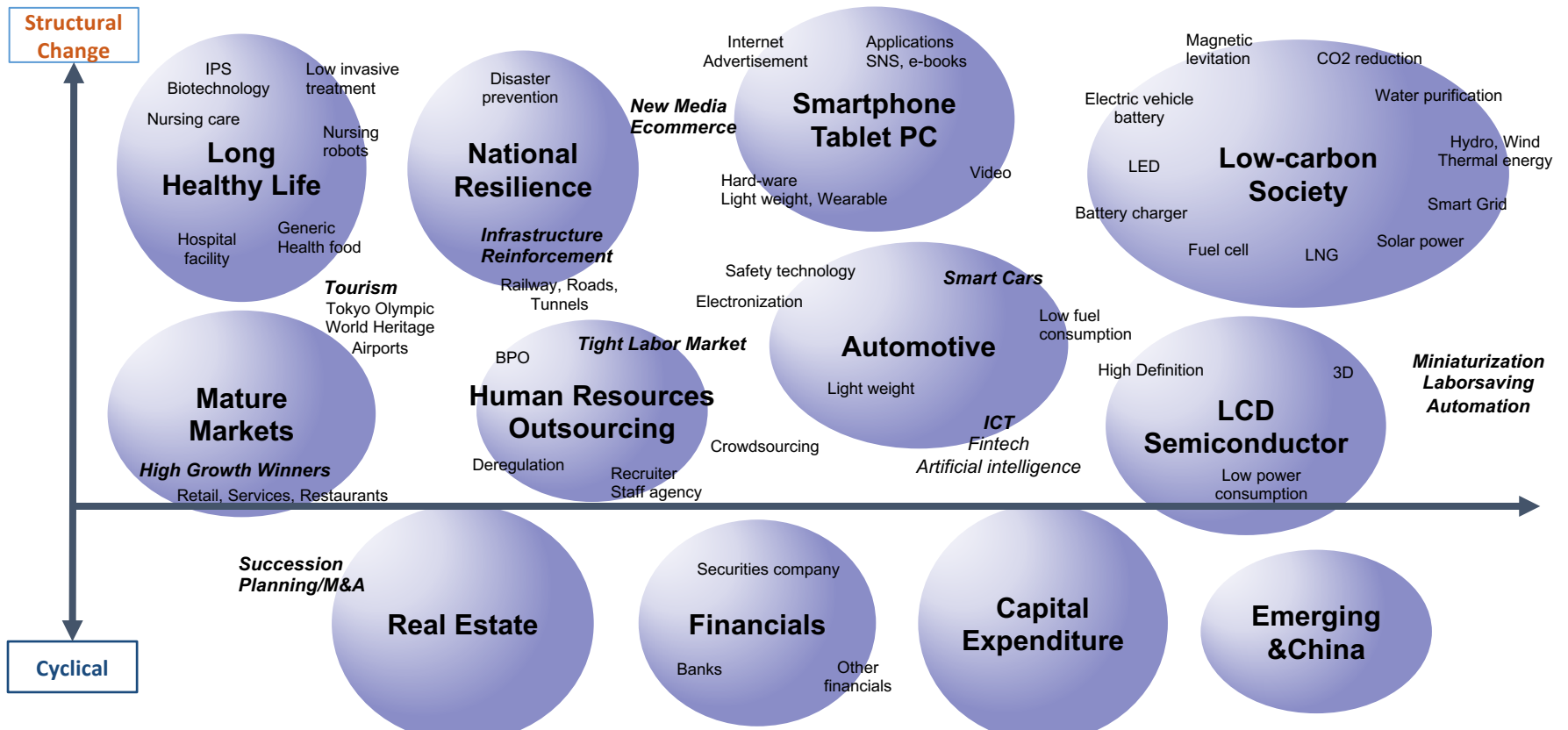
\*Based on representative portfolio. Total portfolio composition may not add up to 100% because of rounding. This material is intended as a broad overview of the Portfolio Manager's style and investment process and is subject to change without notice. See additional disclosures at the end of this document, which are an important part of this presentation. No downside protection or upside participation can be guaranteed. All data as of 12/31/2023, unless otherwise noted.

# Investment Strategy – Investment Themes

We employ a “thematic approach” to efficiently identify attractive small-cap stocks.

- The investment team focuses on companies with pioneering business models and long-term growth potential through economic cycles at reasonable valuations.

## Investment Theme Overview

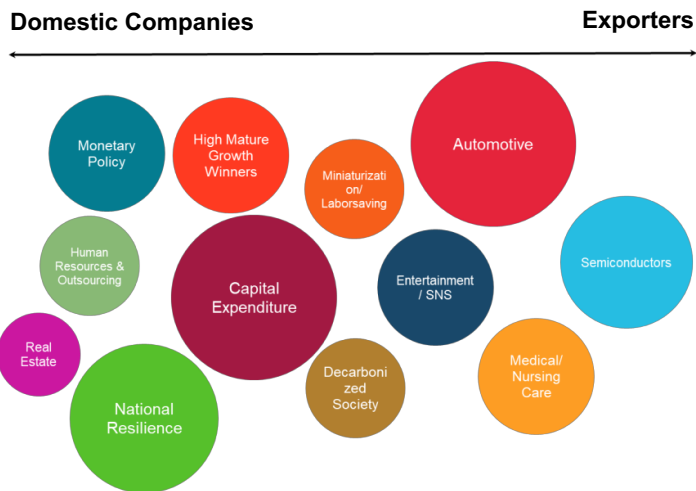


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# Investment Strategy – Theme Weight

## Weight of Investment Themes

- The portfolio invests across **18 different themes**. Sub-themes are then utilized to diversify our holdings within a theme.
- The team **does not set a cap or floor on each theme** when constructing the portfolio, as the **allocation decision is a consequence of our bottom-up stock selection**.
- However, theme weights are monitored frequently to ensure the portfolio is truly diversified and to protect against correlated thematic risks.
- We do not intend to take additional risks against the benchmark in the domestic-overseas exposure and consider the domestic-overseas exposure neutral.

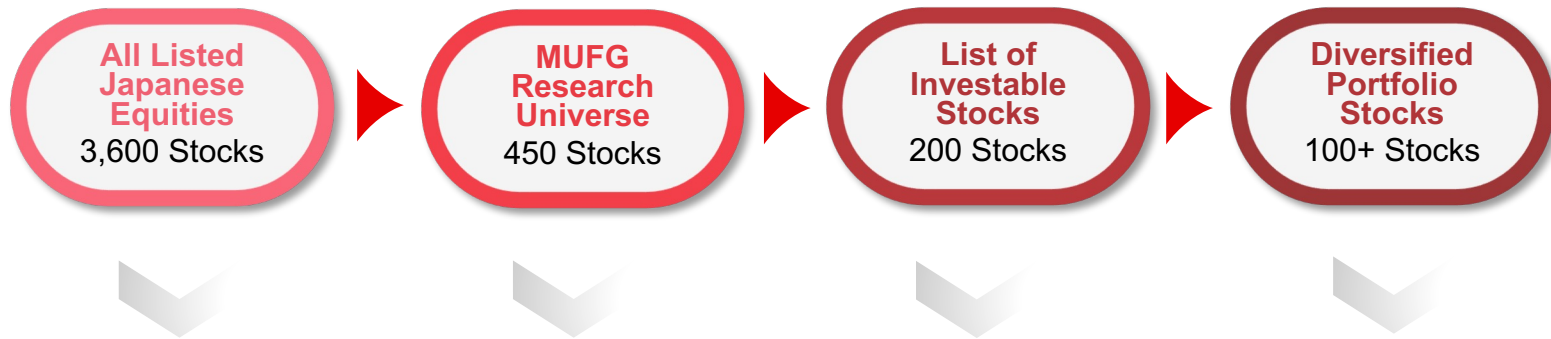


2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Medical/Nursing Care	Medical/Nursing Care	Medical/Nursing Care	Automotive	Capital Expenditure	Automotive
National Resilience	National Resilience	Entertainment/SNS	Semiconductors	Automotive	Capital Expenditure
High Mature Growth Winners	High Mature Growth Winners	Semiconductors	Capital Expenditure	National Resilience	National Resilience
Semiconductors	Automotive	National Resilience	Entertainment/SNS	Medical/Nursing Care	Semiconductors
Capital Expenditure	Semiconductors	Automotive	National Resilience	Semiconductors	High Mature Growth Winners
47.4%	47.7%	45.8%	48.4%	45.2%	45.1%

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# Investment Process – Stock Selection



<p><b>Quantitative Screening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criteria: Market-cap, credit risk, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualitative Screening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criteria: Investment theme, earnings growth, profitability, etc.</li> <li>Investment theme: Generated through an investment committee and ongoing dialogue/debate.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Company Interviews</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investment candidates: Selected based on conviction for earnings growth over economic cycles.</li> <li>Fund manager/Analyst: Responsible for stock selection with his/her own theme coverage.</li> <li>Over 1,000 company interviews a year.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Stock Selection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term structural growth themes: To achieve higher return rate.</li> <li>Short-term cyclical themes: To grow in an early stage of economic recovery (i.e., Financials/Real Estate).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Final Stock Selection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100-130 stocks</li> <li>+/- 20 investment themes: With numerous sub-themes for diversification.</li> <li>Stock weightings: Fund manager's conviction level.</li> <li>Daily return/attribution analysis: Conducted on each theme/sub-theme determining the validity.</li> </ul>
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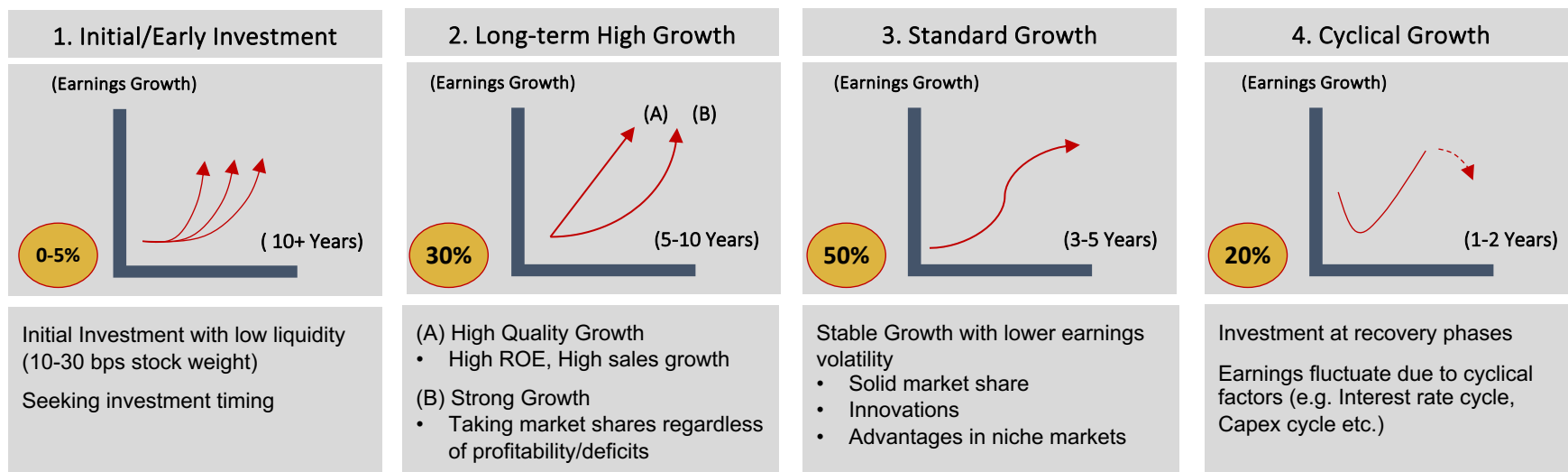
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# Investment Process – Our Approach to Valuations

- We look at valuation metrics in consideration to growth stage/speed, business model, theme, and sector
- Investment team sets and reviews a target price for each holding stock.
- Valuation metrics; PSR, PER, PBR, ROE, Payout Ratio, Dividend Yield etc.

## Classification by earnings growth pattern



*Focus more on Valuation*

*Focus more on Earnings Growth*

# Investment Process – Sell Discipline

## A stock holding is typically trimmed/sold when:

- The company is unable to adapt to macroeconomic/industry forces.
- The company repeatedly underperforms expectations and there is no specific reason why this will change.
- The long-term earning potential is recognized by other investors:
  - The company is upgraded from JASDAQ/Mothers/TSE2 to the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE1).
  - Sell-side coverage is initiated that stretches the valuations.



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# Historical Performance – Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy-Small Focus Composite

## Consistent Excess Return: Our Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy-Small Focus Composite has Outperformed the Market Through the Life of the Strategy

Return (USD) % as of 12/31/2023	1 Mon*	3 Mon*	6 Mon*	YTD*	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	7 Yr	10 Yr	Since Incept.
Japan Small Cap Equity Gross**	6.67	8.08	5.90	14.53	14.53	-0.44	9.17	10.35	11.60	9.50
Japan Small Cap Equity Net***	6.61	7.87	5.51	13.68	13.68	-1.18	8.36	9.54	10.77	8.69
Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index	5.87	8.71	9.93	15.57	15.57	-0.28	4.14	4.49	5.37	4.07
Excess Return (Net – Russell/Nomura)	0.73	-0.84	-4.42	-1.88	-1.88	-0.90	4.22	5.04	5.41	4.62
Ex-Return (Gross - RNS)	0.80	-0.64	-4.02	-1.04	-1.04	-0.16	5.03	5.86	6.23	5.43

Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation, Bloomberg

\* Returns for periods under one year are not annualized.

\*\* Gross returns are presented before management and custodial fees, but after all trading expenses, and reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other income.

\*\*\*Net returns are net of investment management fees in effect for the respective time period and are derived using the maximum highest published rate.

+Composite inception date: October 1, 2005

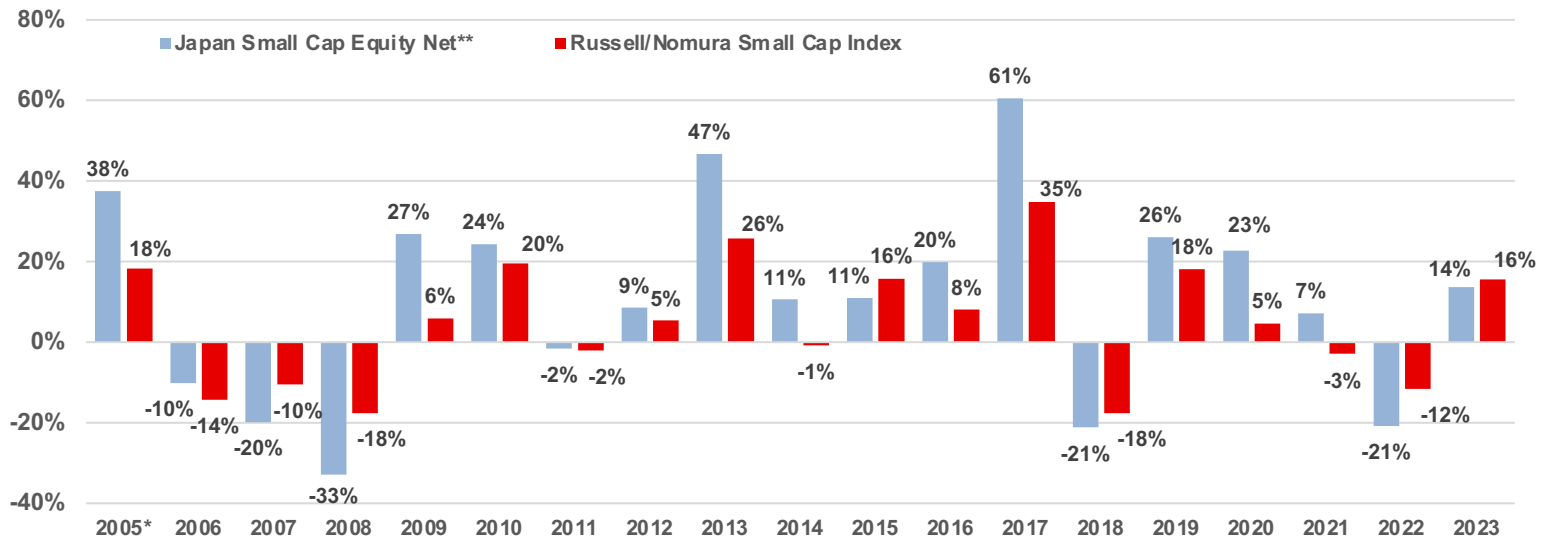
Please see the GIPS Compliant Presentation in the Appendix for more information on the Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy – Small Focus composite. All data as of 12/31/2023, unless otherwise noted. **This represents past performance which is not indicative of future results.** As with all investments, loss is possible. See Additional Disclosures at the end of this document, which are an important part of this presentation.

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# Historical Performance – Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy-Small Focus Composite

## Annual Total Returns vs Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index



\*2005 represents 10/1/2005 - 12/31/2005.

\*\*Net returns are net of investment management fees in effect for the respective period and are derived using the maximum highest published rate.

Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation, Bloomberg

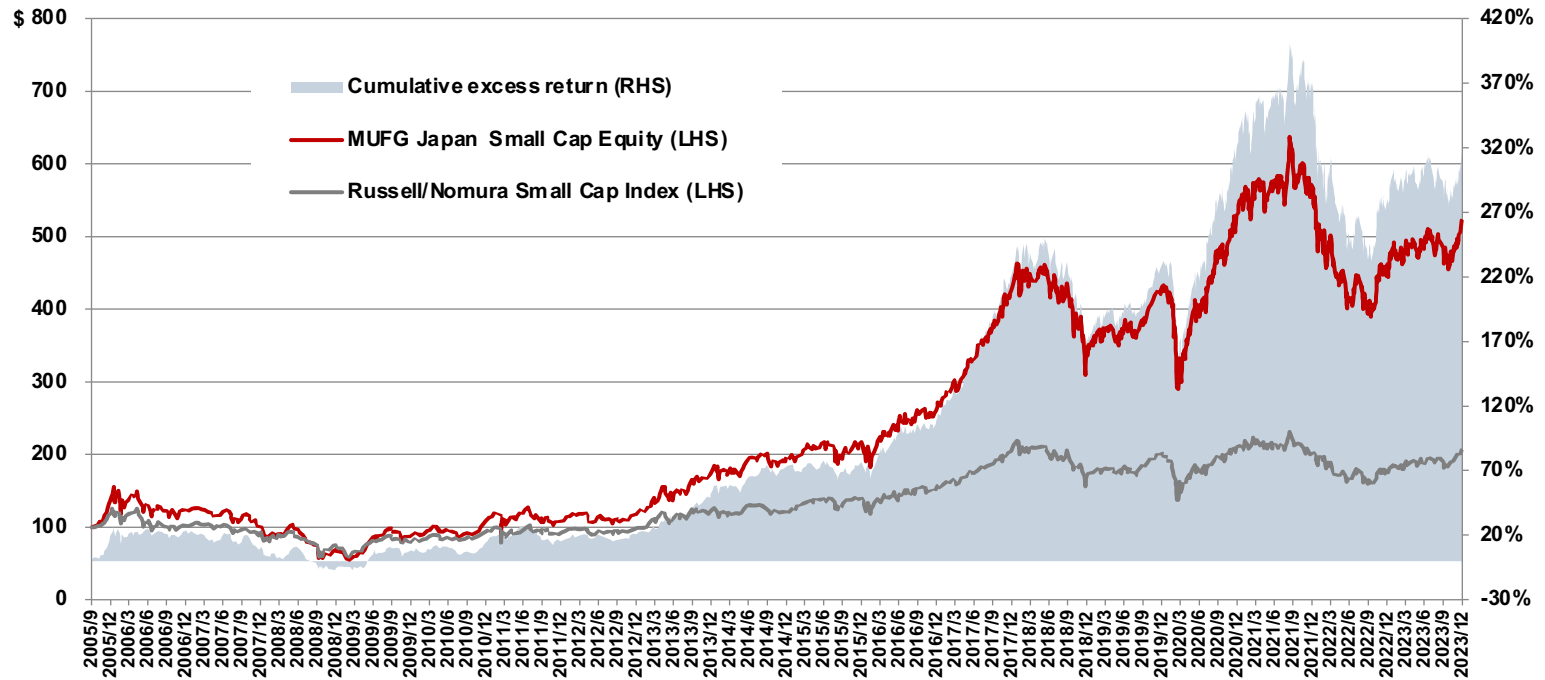
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# Historical Performance – Cumulative Excess Returns (USD)

## Japan Small Cap Equity (Net\*) vs Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index



Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation, Bloomberg.

Note: Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of assets can go down.

\* Net returns are net of investment management fees in effect for the respective period and are derived using the maximum highest published rate.

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# Our Investment Team



**Yoshiro Mizukami, CMA\***  
**Chief Portfolio Manager, Head of Japan Small Cap Equity Team**  
Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation, Equity Investment Division  
**Investment Experience:** 31 years

## **Mr. Mizukami Structured the Current Small Cap Equity Team in October 2002**

- Charter member of the Securities Analysts Assoc. of Japan (CMA)
- Bachelors Degree in Science and Engineering from Waseda University

### **Previous Employment:**

**2005-Present:** Fund Manager, Japan Small Cap Equity, Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking

**2002-2005:** Analyst, Japan Small Cap Equity, Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Corporation

**1999-2002:** Japan Equity Analyst, Mitsubishi Securities

**1997-1999:** Japan Equity Analyst

**1995-1997:** Systems

**1993-1995:** Quantitative Research

**1990-1993:** Administration, Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

\* Chartered Member of the Securities Analysts Association of Japan.

Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation.

# Japan Small Cap Investment Team



	Yoshiro Mizukami, CMA	Yoshitaka Nagano, CMA	Koichiro Ishii, CMA	Kazunori Yanagimoto, CMA	Koichi Kano
<b>Investment Experience</b>	32 years	24 years	10 years	5 years	2 years
<b>Role</b>	Chief Fund Manager / Theme Analyst	Fund Manager / Theme Analyst	Fund Manager / Theme Analyst	Theme Analyst	Theme Analyst
<b>Theme Coverage Examples</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Automotive</li> <li>➢ Human Resources &amp; Outsourcing</li> <li>➢ Semiconductor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Commodities</li> <li>➢ Decarbonized Society</li> <li>➢ National Resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Entertainment/ SNS</li> <li>➢ Capital Expenditure</li> <li>➢ FinTech</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ National Resilience</li> <li>➢ Air/Land transportation</li> <li>➢ Monetary Policy</li> <li>➢ Fintech</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ High Mature Growth Winners</li> <li>➢ Human Resources &amp; Outsourcing</li> <li>➢ Medical/ Nursing Care</li> </ul>
<b>GICS Sector Coverage Examples</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ IT</li> <li>➢ Industrials</li> <li>➢ Consumer Disc.</li> <li>➢ Health Care</li> <li>➢ Materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Materials</li> <li>➢ Utilities</li> <li>➢ Industrials</li> <li>➢ Consumer Disc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Communication Services</li> <li>➢ IT</li> <li>➢ Industrials</li> <li>➢ Materials</li> <li>➢ Financials</li> <li>➢ Consumer Disc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Real estate</li> <li>➢ Construction &amp; Engineering</li> <li>➢ Transportation</li> <li>➢ Financials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Health Care</li> <li>➢ Industrials</li> <li>➢ Consumer Disc.</li> <li>➢ Consumer Staples</li> </ul>

## Further Investment Resources

Trading	Sector Analyst (Large- & Mid-caps)
Risk Management	Exercise voting rights
Economic Research	Performance Analytics
Stewardship Committee	ESG Development Department
ESG Database	Sustainability Committee

\* Chartered Member of the Securities Analysts Association of Japan. Source: Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation. Investment team subject to change.

# Terms and Conditions

## Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy Facts

<b>Benchmark</b>	Russell/Nomura Small Cap*
<b>Tracking Error</b>	8.27% (since inception as of 12/31/2023)
<b>Target Return</b>	Around 5% excess return
<b>Number of Holdings</b>	123 (as of 12/31/2023)
<b>Active Share</b>	94.31% (as of 12/31/2023)
<b>Portfolio Turnover</b>	13.80% (Last 12M as of 12/31/2023)
<b>AUM</b>	Strategy AUM: \$987M USD (as of 12/31/2023) Composite AUM: \$68.1M USD (as of 12/31/2023)
<b>Advisor</b>	Clearbrook Investment Consulting
<b>Sub-Advisor</b>	Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

\* We use the Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index as a comparative index only

## Separately Managed Accounts

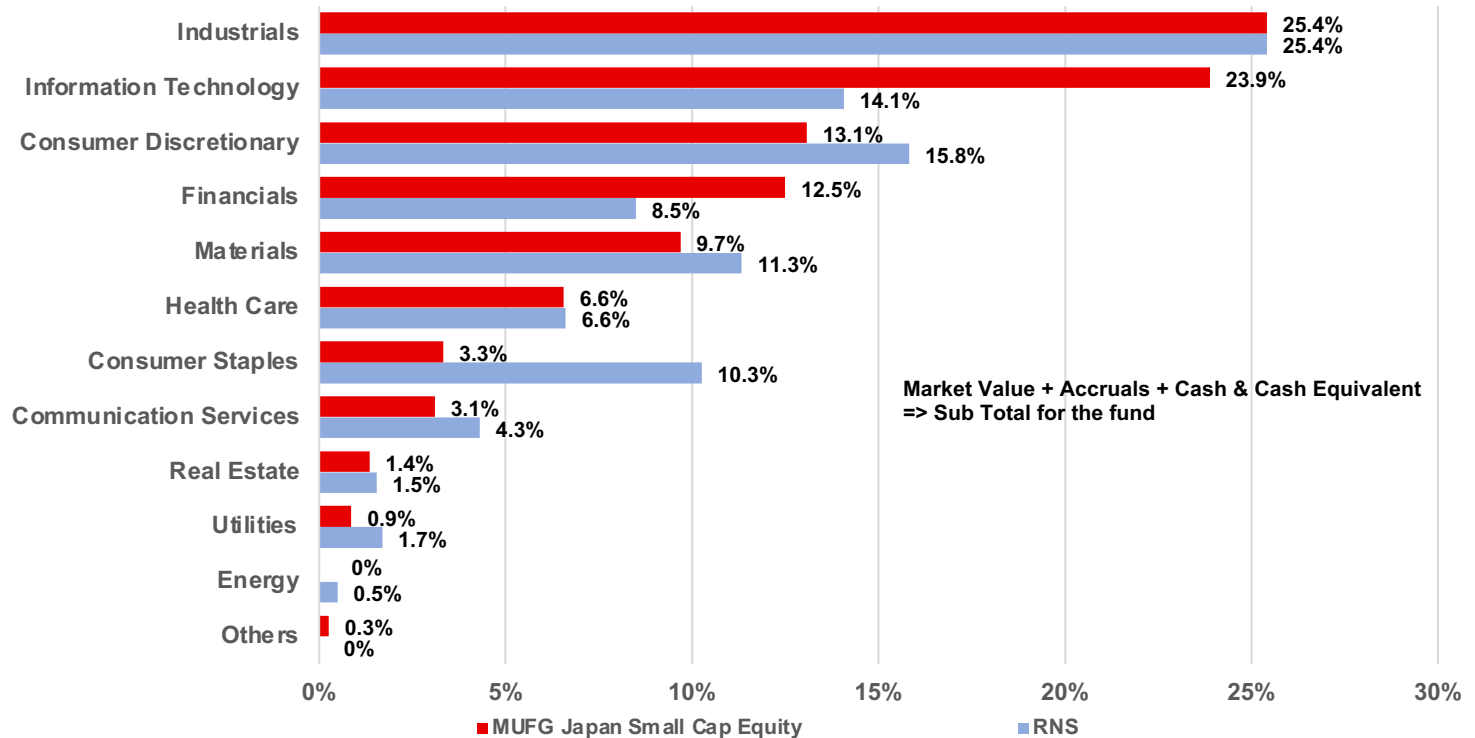
<b>Minimum Subscription</b>	\$50 Million (Negotiable)
<b>Management Fee</b>	75 Bps**
<b>Liquidation of Account</b>	One week

\*\* Management fee charged is at the discretion of Clearbrook Investment Consulting

# Appendix

# Sector Exposure

## Sector Exposure by Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)



Source: Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd. (MIBL), Bloomberg

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# Portfolio Characteristics

	Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy – Small Focus Composite*	Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index
<b>Number of Holdings</b>	123	1,199
<b>Weighted Avg. Market Cap. (\$)</b>	881.0M	1.57B
<b>P/E</b>	17.75	18.51
<b>P/B</b>	2.17	2.11
<b>ROE %</b>	11.12	8.06
<b>Dividend Yield %</b>	2.24	2.39

\* Based on representative portfolio.

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# Return Based Statistics

## Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy – Small Focus Composite vs. Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index

	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Since Incept.
<b>Excess Return (USD, Net) %</b>	-1.88	-0.90	4.22	5.41	4.62
<b>Beta</b>	1.15	1.13	1.16	1.13	1.21
<b>Information Ratio</b>	-0.45	-0.12	0.62	0.78	0.56
<b>Sharpe Ratio*</b>	0.91	-0.07	0.45	0.64	0.45
<b>Tracking Error %</b>	4.20	7.31	6.81	6.90	8.27
<b>Standard Deviation (Portfolio) %</b>	15.09	16.96	18.53	16.74	19.37
<b>Standard Deviation (Index) %</b>	12.74	13.64	14.96	13.56	14.68
<b>Upside &amp; Downside Capture Ratios</b>					
	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Since Incept.
<b>Upside Capture Ratio</b>	111.29	107.70	128.35	122.82	132.95
<b>Downside Capture Ratio</b>	130.38	108.64	104.86	94.64	106.09

\* Sharpe Ratio: the risk-free rate is not used in the calculation. The calculation shown here represents Portfolio Return divided by Portfolio Standard Deviation.

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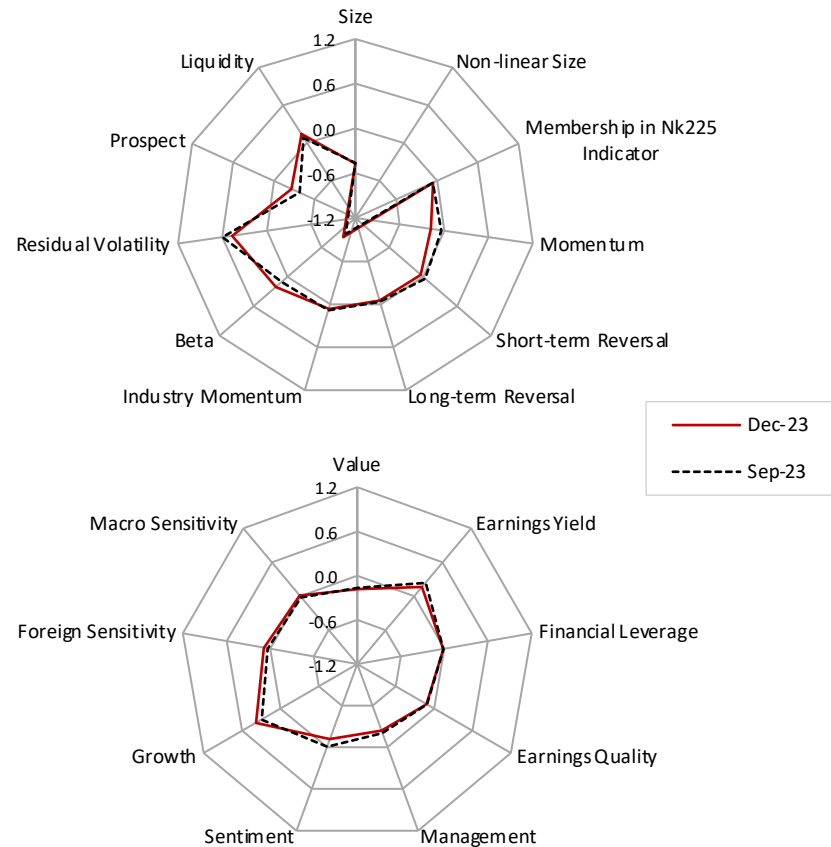


# Risk Profile

## Risk Profile on Barra Model Relative to the Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index

Size	-0.46
Non-Linear Size	-1.50
Membership in Nk225 indicator	-0.06
Momentum	-0.18
Short-Term Reversal	-0.04
Long-Term Reversal	-0.05
Industry Momentum	-0.07
Beta	0.21
Residual Volatility	0.47
Prospect	-0.37
Liquidity	0.08
Value	-0.17
Earnings Yield	0.24
Financial Leverage	-0.01
Earnings Quality	-0.11
Management	-0.20
Sentiment	-0.01
Growth	0.29
Foreign Sensitivity	0.03
Macro Sensitivity	-0.01

Source: Barra



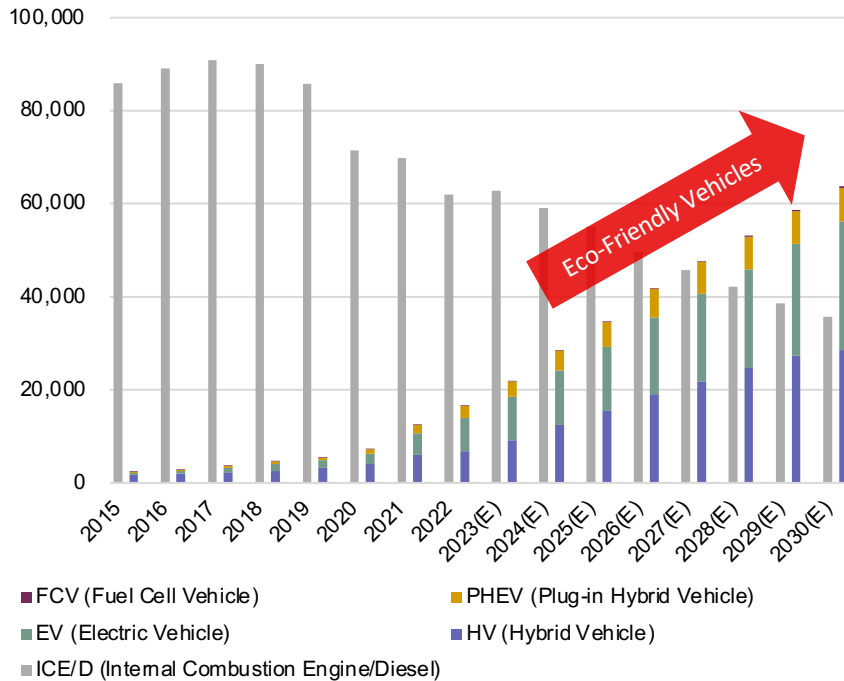
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# Investment Theme – Automotive

## Smart Electronics, Including Safety Technology is a Key Growth Driver for our Holdings

Expected Growth in Eco-Friendly Vehicles



Source: Mazda, Subaru, Nissan Motor, Volkswagen, Toyota Motor, Koito, Iriso Electronics, Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

(Source) Nomura Securities Co., Ltd., MUFG: Trust Bank  
 (Note) Figures from 2023 to 2030 are estimated data.

Expected Growth in Eco-Friendly Vehicles

**Weight saving/reduction**


- Plastic fastener
- Hollow rack bars
- Aluminum Wheels

**Safety technologies**

- Connectors
- Ultrasonic sensors
- Electronic wires

**Low-fuel consumption (Hybrid technologies)**

- Electric motor cores
- Lithium-ion battery



**Power-saving technologies: (LED headlights)**

- Electronics Manufacturing Services (EMS)

LEXUS LS600hL

Source: Toyota, Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

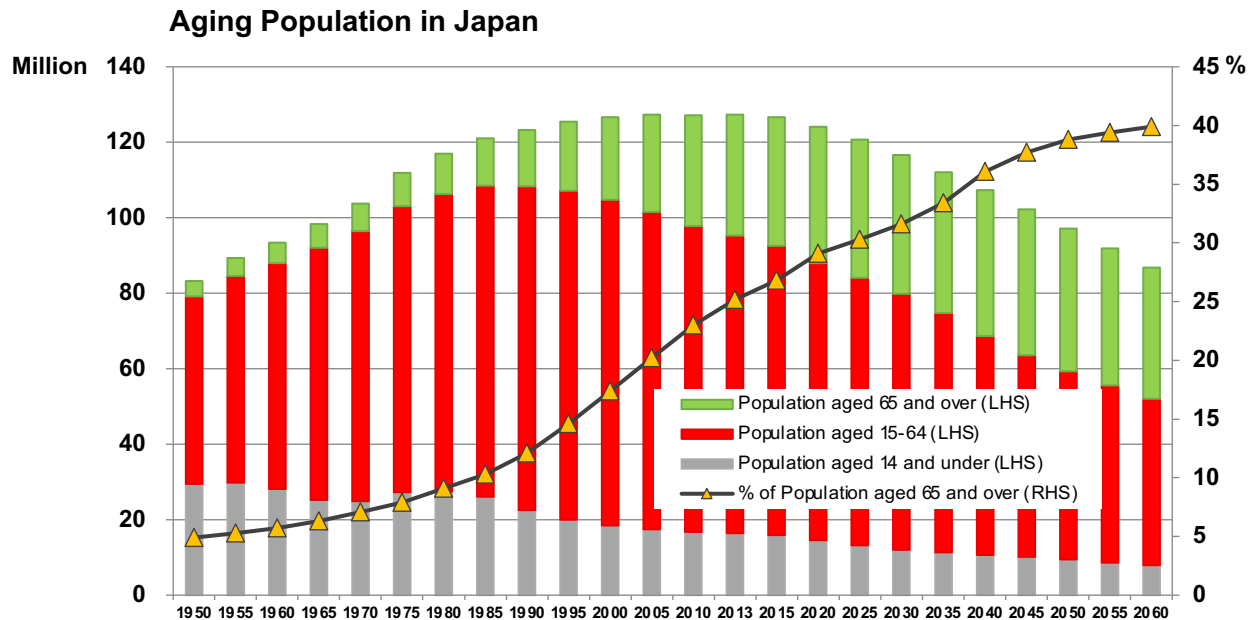
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# Investment Theme – Human Resources & Outsourcing

## The Japanese Labor Market is Tight Due to Demographics of a Rapidly Aging Society

- We focus on stocks that will benefit from a tight labor market and increased mobility of human resources: 1) Staffing agencies for manufacturers, 2) Professional placement firms, 3) Call centers/BPO, and 4) Job fairs for new recruits.



Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Morgan Stanley Securities, Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

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# Investment Theme – Succession Planning and M&A

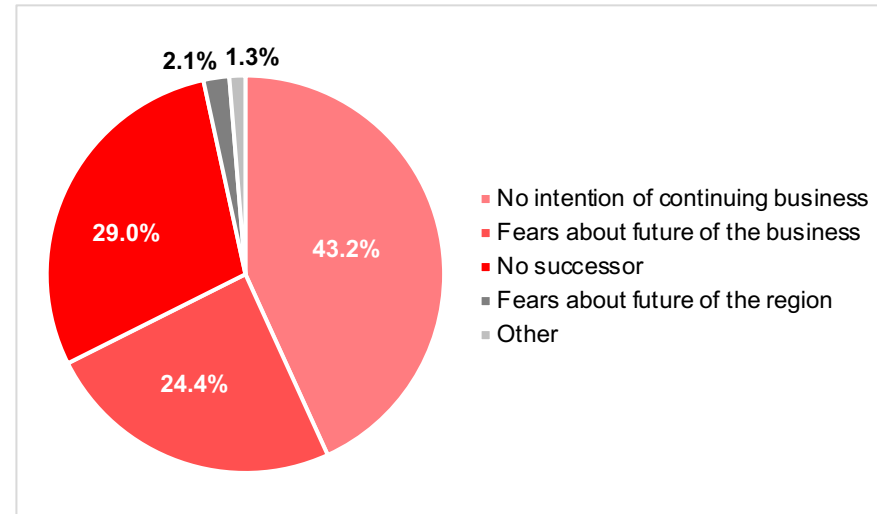
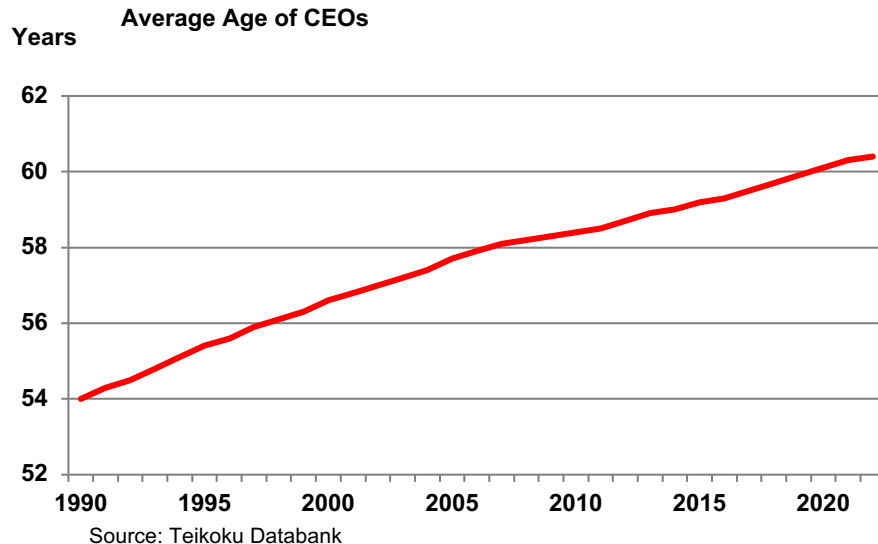
## The Average Age of Management is Rising in Japan, and the Lack of Suitably Aged Successors at Small/Mid-Sized Companies is Hindering Company Growth

**Stock/company criteria for this theme:** Business management, company shareholder base, e.g. M&A, IPO, succession, financial planning/management and real estate ownership.

### Our Holdings:

**Funai Soken Holdings:** provides management and financial consulting services for small and medium-sized enterprises.

**Yamada Consulting:** helps to smooth business succession and engages in business consulting related to Turnaround and Growth strategies, Succession and M&A.



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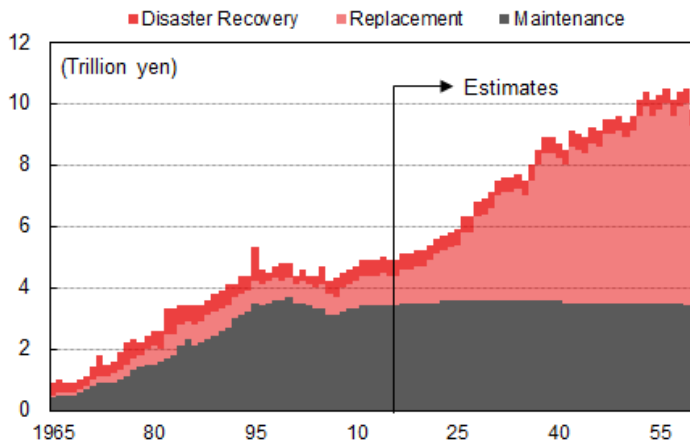
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# Investment Theme – National Resilience Plan

## We Focus on Stocks that will Benefit from the Construction/Civil Engineering Demand in Japan

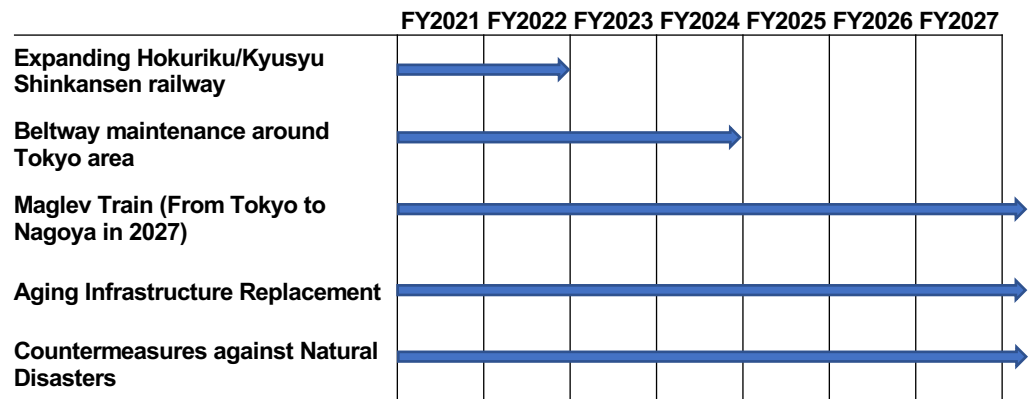
- In August 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet approved an economic stimulus package worth 28.1 trillion yen (\$260 billion). Since then, public works spending has been gradually increasing.
- Infrastructure such as road bridges, tunnels and river management systems are aging rapidly in Japan, constructed almost 30-50 years ago. Disaster defense is also required due to frequent torrential rains from recent environmental changes and relatively widespread active volcanos in Japan.

### Infrastructure Replacement



Source: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism,  
Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

### Large scale projects in progress

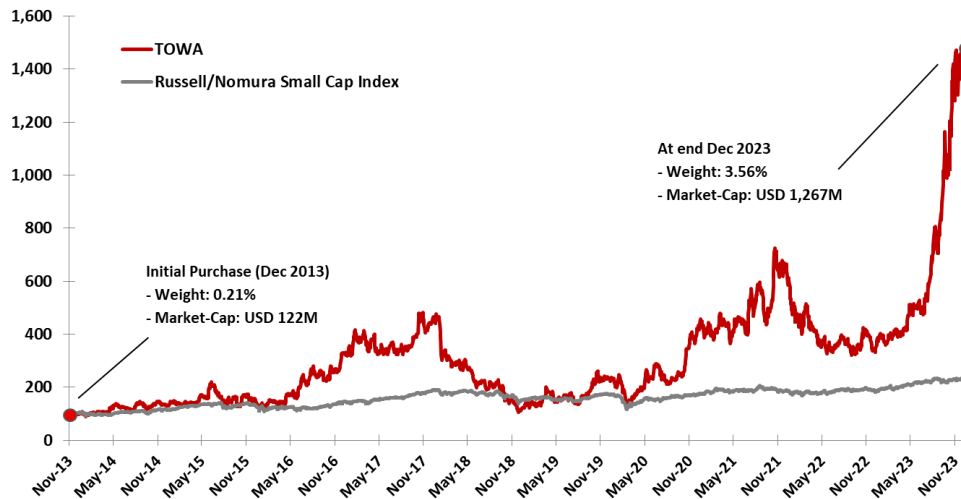


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# Investment Case Study – TOWA

- A leading manufacturer in the semiconductor molding equipment market. Molding technologies are for sealing semiconductors to ensure the reliability by electrically insulating them from the outside using a resin.
- We continue to expect mid-to-long term growth in the molding equipment, buoyed by the surging demand for accelerated computing for generative AI applications.



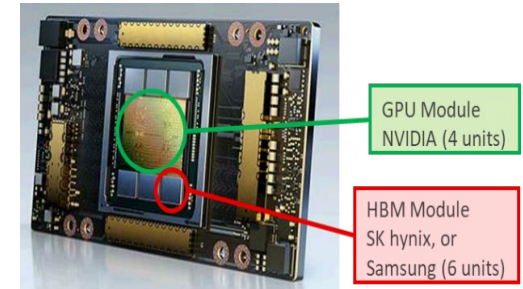
(Source) Bloomberg, MUFG: Trust Bank  
 (Note) Period: Dec 2013 to Dec 2023 (End Nov 2013 = 100)

Source: Bloomberg, Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of assets can go down. The above is for illustrative purposes only and past performance does not guarantee future results. Actual securities held in any individual account will vary and are subject to change. A complete list of all recommendations in the MUFG Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy-Small Focus Composite, within the past year are available free of charge by contacting Clearbrook at 857.919.1048.

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[NVIDIA A100 GPU]

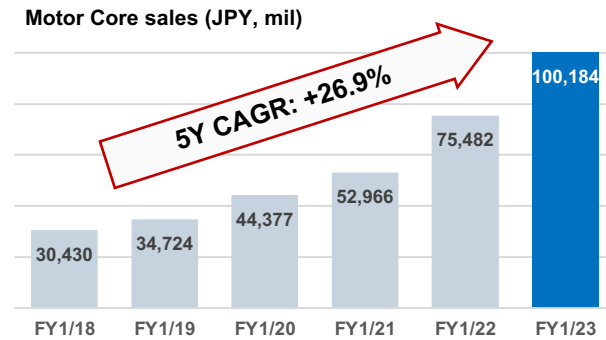
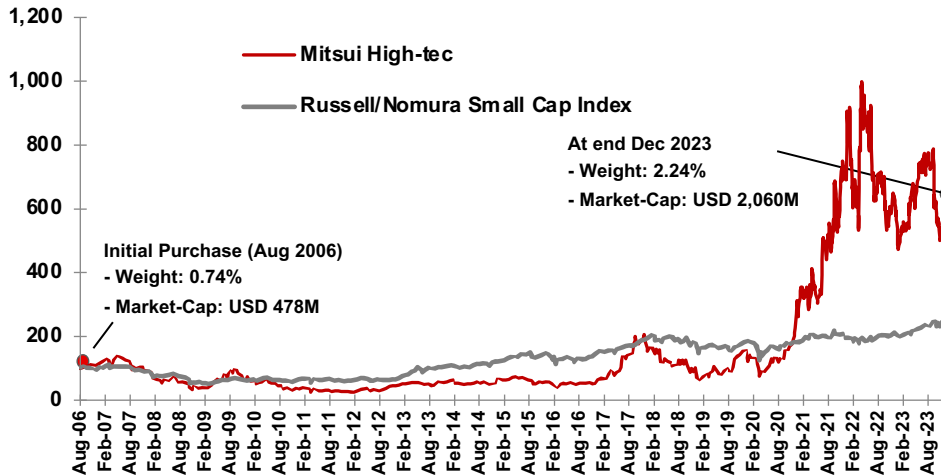


Source: NVIDIA website

- TOWA designs, manufactures, and distributes compression molding equipment for High Bandwidth Memory module manufacturers such as SK Hynix and Samsung. The firm has recently received numerous inquiries from HBM module manufacturers, due to the huge demand for graphics processing units (GPUs) manufactured by NVIDIA, a winner in the computing power race required for generative AI.
- In Sep 2023, TOWA introduced a new semiconductor molding equipment model to optimize the production of high-performance packages for generative AI. The new model is expected to have a productivity rate approximately three times higher than previous models.

# Investment Case Study – Mitsui High-tec

- A manufacturer of electric motor cores used in a variety of applications from high-precision micro motors for vibrators in cell phones, to high efficiency/output motor cores required by hybrid automobiles.
- We continue to expect upside potential from the electric motor cores used for electric, hybrid and low-emission vehicles in line with higher growth in areas associated with smart electronics and safety technology.



(Source) Mitsui High-Tec website

The firm has **high worldwide market share in production volume of HEV/EV main motor cores** and has aggressively been increasing capital spending in line with the global shift to EV. Its technology related to Motor Cores is protected by a number of patents; total 189 as of July 13, 2022 (93 patents in Japan, 46 in North America, 40 in Asia (ex Japan), and 10 in Europe).

Source: Bloomberg, Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of assets can go down. The above is for illustrative purposes only and past performance does not guarantee future results. Actual securities held in any individual account will vary and are subject to change. A complete list of all recommendations in the MUFG Japan Small Cap Equity Strategy-Small Focus Composite, within the past year are available free of charge by contacting Clearbrook at 857.919.1048.

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Composite data is calculated in JPY and converted to USD using the WM/Reuters Closing Spot Rates 4pm London close. The Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index is also converted from JPY to USD using the same exchange rate source.

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