

A Story About Astoria

Background

- An NYC-based, employee-owned investment management company.
- The partners each have decades worth of experience at large-scale institutions including Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, WisdomTree, iShares, & JPMorgan. Their roles ranged from portfolio construction and research, ETF sales management, product development, and executive management.
- The firm is macro and quantitatively focused with solutions ranging from Core Risk Based ETF Portfolios, Thematic ETF and Stock Portfolios, and quantitative Factor US Stock Portfolios.
- Astoria places particular emphasis on providing clients with long-term, research-driven investment solutions with an emphasis on thematic and secular investment trends.
- \$1.4 bln in assets under management/advisement as of March 31, 2023.
- 6 Investment Committee members, 1 PHD, and 2 CFAs.
- GIPS audited and verified by Alpha Verification Services.
- Multi-Asset Risk Strategy (MARS) verified returns since 2010

Astoria's CIO John Davi

- Award-winning ETF, macro, and derivatives research strategist; 8 years Institutional Investor top-ranked analyst.
- Over two decades of portfolio construction and investment management experience advising many of the world's largest asset managers and hedge funds.
- Published hundreds of institutional research reports in his career.
- Frequently appears on CNBC, on Bloomberg, and speaks at industry conferences. Advisory board member of Inside ETFs Conference.
- Developed ETF access and hedging solutions dating back to 2002 for institutional and retail clients where billions of dollars were raised and executed.

Astoria's ETF Solutions

- Blend active and passive investment strategies utilizing 1-2% active risk.
- Benchmark: A combination of MSCI ACWI & Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index.
- The goal is to produce attractive risk-adjusted returns over varying economic cycles to participate in upside markets while hedging our downside risk.
- 3 main components of our asset allocation discipline
 - Macroeconomic policy
 - Earnings & Valuation catalysts
 - Portfolio risk mitigation via alternatives that are inversely correlated to stocks

Thematic Investment Strategies

- Goal is to outperform our benchmark by deploying quantitative stock selection techniques using metrics such as variability of earnings growth, ROE, ROA, free cash flow, debt to equity, etc.
- Stock portfolios consist of 30-40 stocks, rebalanced annually, and are equally weighted for risk mitigation.
- Examples of solutions include:
 - Inflation Sensitive Portfolio: stocks, bonds, commodities, and commodity equities expected to benefit from a rise in inflation.
 - Cyclical Portfolio: 30 high quality equities with above-average ROE, ROA, and earnings growth within their sector cohorts.
 - Dividend Growers Portfolio: 30 stocks that have raised their dividends for 25 consecutive years, with above-average ROE/ROA metrics.
 - Renaissance Risk Managed Rotation Portfolio: Captures the most relevant macroeconomic portfolio tilts via ETFs while targeting an S&P 500 standard deviation.

We Utilize the following portfolio construction tools

- FactSet: provides valuations, performance attribution, and historical time-series for macro and economic indicators.
- BlackRock Portfolio Construction Tool: provides analytics on factor, country, sector, and stock risks.
- Portfolio Visualizer: Monte Carlo simulation, optimizer, tools for exploring factor regressions, correlations, and efficient frontiers.
- ETF Action: Quantitative filter overlays to understand “what's under the hood for our ETFs?”
- WisdomTree's Digital Portfolio Developer: Quantitatively screens various ETF and factor strategies.
- Orion Portfolio Solutions: Performance reporting capabilities, inputs for GIPS auditor, front end/back end operations, and trading.

Sample of Macroeconomic Indicators

- We utilize macroeconomic models to determine where we are in the economic cycle and determine asset class overweight/underweight
- Earnings growth, earnings revision, & relative valuations to determine allocations on a country, region, and sector basis.
- Factor tilts to outperform our benchmark.
- Interest rate and Central Bank policy to determine where we should deploy currency hedging.
- Alternatives that are inversely correlated to stocks to provide downside protection.
- Inflation models to determine usage of inflation hedges.
- Credit Spreads to determine value of credit products.
- Libor-OIS spreads to analyze potential liquidity problems

Research products offered to existing clients

- Portfolio Construction Dashboards: highlight performance, asset allocation/factor tilts
- Portfolio Diagnostics: deep-dive analysis into prospective client's portfolio, tax management oversight

- Periodic commentaries on factors and macroeconomic landscape.
- Forward-looking Monthly Commentary Reports.
- Quarterly Investment Committee Outlook reports.
- CIO Thoughts: Provides forward-looking commentary on markets.
- OCIO conference calls with RIAs, family offices, and advisors on the macroeconomic landscape.