

Copeland Funds Sector Update - January 2020

The stock market finished strong in Q4, reflecting the easing of trade tensions with China and growing expectations for a positive reversal in economic momentum in the near future. Investors were willing to look past a poor year for earnings, which will be lucky to achieve parity with the prior year when ultimately reported. Over the course of 2019 equities rallied as valuation multiples expanded, due in no small part to the three interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve. Volatility has remained muted (Chart 2), even if early 2020 began with a spike, related to turmoil in the Middle East. In the midst of this improving market backdrop, the Funds have added to equities and reduced cash exposure in recent months and enter 2020 in a fully invested position. Sector exposure remains selective however, with certain sectors still in a negative trend as described more fully below.

The current bull market is now the longest since the Great Depression, reaching 129 months in length (Chart 3), even if it still ranks second in magnitude to the roaring 1990's. As always, there remains much to be concerned about, such as high valuation levels, little evidence of concern about the potential for future trade battles and a potentially game changing election in November. Still, there are also reasons to be optimistic. Economic data appear to be stabilizing for many economies around the world and the recent "industrial recession" may have run its course. Employment is high and improving and inflation is non-existent, while central banks have been supportive with monetary policy. The Funds are positioned to benefit in the near run if optimism continues, fully invested in high quality dividend growth stocks, but prepared to act tactically to raise cash if pessimism resumes and signs of weakness in the market do eventually unfold.

Chart 1







Chart 3



<u>Copeland Risk Managed Dividend Growth Fund (CDGRX)</u> ~ On a total return basis, the Fund returned +1.6% in December 2019, underperforming the S&P 500® Index's +3.0%. The overweight in Industrials along with the portfolio's cash position were the main headwinds in December.

The Financials sector received a positive signal change at the end of December, due to its recent strong performance, joining Industrials, Technology and Utilities in the portfolio. With four sectors positive, the strategy will be 100% invested in dividend growth equities as we begin the New Year. In addition, the sector weightings in January will be influenced by Copeland's decision to adjust its method of implementing the sector signals in the strategy. Previously, sectors with a negative signal were sold completely and zero weighted in the strategy. Negative sectors are now underweighted in the strategy relative to the benchmark, and positive sectors will continue to be overweighted. Equities will range from 50-100% of the portfolio, while cash and short-term investments will range from 0-50%. The sector targets at present are approximately as follows: Technology (23%), Financials/REITs (22%), Industrials (20%), Utilities (12%), Consumer Staples (6%), Health Care (6%), Consumer Discretionary (6%), Energy (2%), Materials (2%) and Cash (0%).

Low volatility: due to the previous defensive sector positioning, cash levels and ownership of dividend growth stocks, the strategy has produced less volatility over the last five years than the benchmark. During the trailing five year period as of 12/31/19, beta was only 0.5 and the strategy's standard deviation (volatility) was 8.8% vs. the S&P 500 Index at 12.0%.

CDGRX

Sector	Signal - January 2020	Target Weight	
Consumer Staples	Negative	6%	
Consumer Discretionary	Negative	6%	
Energy	Negative	2%	
Financials/REITs	Positive	22%	
Health Care	Negative	6%	
Industrials	Positive	20%	
Materials	Negative	2%	
Technology	Positive	23%	
Utilities/Telecom	Positive	12%	
Cash		0%	
Total		100%	

<u>Copeland International Risk Managed Dividend Growth Fund (IDVGX)</u> ~ The Fund's +2.4% return slightly lagged the MSCI World ex USA Index, which rose +3.2% in December. The overweight to Consumer Staples was a drag on performance, while stock selection in Utilities had a positive impact.

There were no sector changes at the end of December, with four sectors maintaining positive signals: Industrials, Technology, Staples, and Utilities. With four sectors positive, the strategy will continue to be 100% invested in dividend growth equities as we begin the New Year. In addition, the sector weightings in January will be influenced by Copeland's decision to adjust its method of implementing the sector signals in the strategy. Previously, sectors with a negative signal were sold completely and zero weighted in the strategy. Negative sectors are now underweighted in the strategy relative to the benchmark, and positive sectors will continue to be overweighted. Equities will range from 50-100% of the portfolio, while cash and short-term investments will range from 0-50%. The sector targets at present are approximately as follows: Industrials 22%, Staples 20%, Technology 14%, Utilities 14%, Financials/REITs 12%, Health Care 6%, Discretionary 6%, Energy 3%, Materials 3%, Cash 0%.

The Fund continues to have lower risk metrics vs. the benchmark for the trailing five year period, with a beta of 0.5 and standard deviation of 8.3% vs. 12.2% for the Index.

IDVGX

Sector	Signal - January 2020	Target Weight	
Consumer Staples	Positive	20%	
Consumer Discretionary	Negative	6%	
Energy	Negative	3%	
Financials/REITs	Negative	12%	
Health Care	Negative	5%	
Industrials	Positive	22%	
Materials	Negative	4%	
Technology	Positive	14%	
Utilities/Telecom	Positive	14%	
Cash		0%	
Total		100%	

	YTD as of 12/31/19	1 Year as of 12/31/19	3 Years as of 12/31/19	5 Years as of 12/31/19	Since Inception 12/28/10 as of 12/31/19
Copeland Risk Managed					
Dividend Gr A	12.28	12.28	10.38	5.13	8.44
S&P 500 TR USD	31.49	31.49	15.28	11.70	13.38
Russell 3000 TR USD	31.02	31.02	14.58	11.24	13.01
US Fund Tactical Allocation	14.21	14.21	5.86	3.47	3.95

	Load-Adj Ret YTD as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret 1 Yr as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret Annizd 3 Yr as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret Annizd 5 Yr as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret Inception as of 12/31/19
Copeland Risk Managed					
Dividend Gr A with Load	5.82	5.82	8.22	3.89	7.73

The maximum sales charge (load) for Class A is 5.75%. The performance data quoted here represents past performance. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total annual operating expense ratio for Class A shares is 1.82%. The Fund's adviser has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or absorb expenses of the Fund, until at least March 31, 2020, to ensure that total annual fund operating expenses after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement (exclusive of any taxes, leverage interest, borrowing interest, brokerage commissions, expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, dividend expense on securities sold short, acquired fund fees and expenses or extraordinary expenses such as litigation) will not exceed 1.45% of the daily average net asset value of Class A shares; subject to possible recoupment from the Fund in future years on a rolling three year basis (within the three years after the fees have been waived or reimbursed) if such recoupment can be achieved without exceeding the lesser of the expense limitation in effect at the time of the deferral and at the time of the repayment. This agreement may be terminated by the Fund's Board of Trustees on 60 days' written notice to the adviser. Please review the Fund's prospectus for more detail on the expense waiver. Results shown reflect the waiver, without

which the results could have been lower. A Fund's performance, especially for very short periods of time, should not be the sole factor in making your investment decisions. You cannot invest directly in an index. For performance information current to the most recent month-end, please call toll-free 1-888-9-COPELAND.

	YTD as of 12/31/19	1 Year as of 12/31/19	3 Years as of 12/31/19	5 Years as of 12/31/19	Since Inception 12/18/12 as of 12/31/19
Copeland International Risk Managed Dividend Gr A	13.28	13.28	8.59	3.01	3.72
MSCI World ex USA NR USD	22.49	22.49	9.34	5.42	6.14
	Load-Adj Ret YTD as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret 1 Yr as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret Annizd 3 Yr as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret Annizd 5 Yr as of 12/31/19	Load-Adj Ret Inception as of 12/31/19
Copeland Risk Managed Dividend Gr A with Load	6.77	6.77	6.47	1.80	2.85

The maximum sales charge (load) for Class A is 5.75%. The performance data quoted here represents past performance. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total annual operating expense ratio for Class A shares is 2.58%. The Fund's adviser has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or absorb expenses of the Fund, until at least March 31, 2020, to ensure that total annual fund operating expenses after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement (exclusive of any taxes, leverage interest, borrowing interest, brokerage commissions, expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, dividend expense on securities sold short, acquired fund fees and expenses or extraordinary expenses such as litigation) will not exceed 1.60% of the daily average net asset value of Class A, subject to possible recoupment from the Fund in future years on a rolling three year basis (within the three years after the fees have been waived or reimbursed) if such recoupment can be achieved without exceeding the lesser of the expense limitation in effect at the time of the deferral and at the time of the repayment. This agreement may be terminated by the Fund's Board of Trustees on 60 days' written notice to the adviser. Please review the Fund's prospectus for more detail on the expense waiver. Results shown reflect the waiver, without which the results could have been lower. A Fund's performance, especially for very short periods of time, should not be the sole factor in making your investment decisions. You cannot invest directly in an index. For performance information current to the most recent month-end, please call toll-free 1-888-9-COPELAND.

The value of an investment in the Funds and the return on investment both will fluctuate and redemption proceeds may be higher or lower than an investor's original cost. Total return is calculated assuming reinvestment of all dividends. Total returns would have been lower had the Adviser, the Distributor, the Administrator, and Custodian not waived or reimbursed a portion of their fees. For performance numbers current to the most recent month-end please call 1-888-9-COPELAND.

Important Risk Disclosures

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Copeland Risk Managed Dividend Growth Fund and the Copeland International Risk Managed Dividend Growth Fund. This and other important information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus, which can be obtained by calling 1-888-9-COPELAND (1-888-926-7352). The prospectus should be read carefully before investing. The Copeland Risk Managed Dividend Growth Fund the Copeland International Risk Managed Dividend Growth Fund are distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC member FINRA/SIPC. Copeland Capital Management, LLC and Northern Lights Distributors, LLC are not affiliated.

Mutual Funds involve risk including possible loss of principal. There is no assurance that the funds will achieve their investment objectives. There is no guarantee that companies will declare dividends or, if declared, that they will remain at current levels or increase over time. The Funds may invest in MLP's. Holders of MLP units have limited control and voting rights on matters affecting the partnership. In addition, there are certain tax risks associated with an investment in MLP units and conflicts of interest exist between common unit holders and the general partner, including those arising from incentive distribution payments. The Funds may invest in REIT's. A REIT's performance depends on the types and locations of the rental properties it owns and on how well it manages those properties. Real estate values rise and fall in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic conditions, interest rates and tax considerations.

The Funds may invest in small and medium capitalization companies and the value of these company securities may be subject to more abrupt or erratic market movements than those of larger, more established companies or the market averages in general. A higher portfolio turnover will result in higher transactional and brokerage costs.

Foreign Investing Risk: Investments in foreign countries are subject to country-specific risks such as political, diplomatic, regional conflicts, terrorism, war, social and economic instability and policies that have the effect of decreasing the value of foreign securities. Foreign investments may experience greater volatility than U.S. investments.

Index Disclosures - You cannot invest directly in an

Index. Indexes are unmanaged and do not account for any fees, commissions or other expenses that would be incurred. The portfolio characteristics of the indexes may differ from other providers due to the source of the data and differences in calculation methodology. Historical analytics are not indicative of future results.

The **S&P 500** R **Index** consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. It is a market value weighted index with each stock's weight in the Index proportionate to its market value.

The **Russell 3000** ® **Index** measures the performance of the 3000 largest U.S. companies based on total market capitalization, which represents approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market.

The **MSCI World ex USA® Index** captures large and mid cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries-excluding the United States. With 1,020 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

Beta is a measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole.

Standard Deviation is a measure of the variability of returns-the higher the standard deviation, the greater the range of performance (i.e., volatility).

Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized.

The information presented was prepared by Copeland or other sources believed to be reliable. All reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy.

The Funds are not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not guaranteed by a bank.

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Why Dividend Growth?

Please visit the Copeland Funds website for our latest research and marketing presentations.

Click here for the Copeland Funds website

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Sales Coverage Map

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