

### **NXS INDICES**

**Dynamic Generation** 

#### THEMATIC INDEX

MAY 2018

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# **NXS ACTIVIST EQUITY INDEX**

Total return index exposed to a basket of US stocks

#### **CHARACTERISTICS**

Bloomberg Ticker	Launch Date	Currency	Return	Geographical Area	Asset Class	Calculation/Publication Agent
NXSHACTE Index	12 Apr. 2017	USD	Total Return	America	Equity	Natixis

#### INTRODUCTION

**NXS Activist Equity Index** is a dynamic strategy index with exposure to a basket of US stocks in which the top activist hedge funds have a significant stake. The index aims to allow investors to tap into the potential vigorous growth that may be offered by stocks following the announcement of activist intentions, with a view to outperforming the risk-adjusted return on the S&P 500® Total Return Index. Natixis partnered with Lutetia Capital, a leading alternative manager which has an extensive experience and a successful track record in the Event Driven & Merger Arbitrage strategies.

#### LVTETIA CAPITAL

Lutetia Capital is a leading alternative manager and investment advisor specialized in arbitrage and event-driven strategies. It has received multiple awards for the quality of its performance, including the HFM Week Performance Award in the merger arbitrage (2014, 2015, 2016) and the CTA/Managed Futures categories (2017). Lutetia Capital's disciplined investment process is supported by a cutting-hedge research program, for which the firm has received the "Innovative Company (JEI)" official status from the French Ministry of Research in 2013.

#### **OVERVIEW**

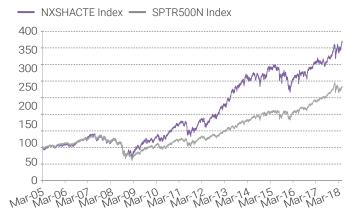
To be included in the **NXS Activist Equity Index**, a stock must: be denominated in US dollars; have a market capitalisation of over USD 1bn; show average liquidity over the preceding 6 months of over USD 10mn a day in volume and a price higher than USD 5 at the review date; be held by one of the top 10 best-performing activist hedge funds over the 3 months preceding the review date; and represent, in respect to the aggregate total assets of all the funds of the top 10 best performing activist hedge funds, more than 3% of the market capitalisation of that relevant share on the review date. From the stocks that meet these criteria, the 35 stocks that have been targeted the most recently are selected. A stop loss mechanism is used to daily monitor the position. The cash is reinvested in the S&P 500® Net Total Return Index.

#### **RATIONALE**

A company may be targeted by activist investors if it's management is not efficient or if it has profitability and cost issues. The activist investor believes that thanks to the power of decision he acquires he might bring change and make the company more valuable. This is viewed by the market as a positive signal and may lead to the outperformance of the stock in the short and the long term.

Since most of targeted companies has a market capitalization lower than USD 20bn, a disciplined systematic investment process is necessary to ensure the full replicability of the strategy.

#### COMPARISON WITH S&P 500® NET TOTAL RETURN INDEX (SPTR500N)(1) (base 100)



Statistics (calculated between 28 Mar. 2005 and 25 May 2018)

	NXSHACTE Index	SPTR500N Index	
YTD	7.66%	2.34%	
Annualised Return	11.48%	8.17%	
<b>Annualised Volatility</b>	21.02%	18.64%	
Sharpe Ratio	0.55	0.44	
Max Drawdown	-52.70%	-55.71%	
1Y	17.02%	14.25%	
3Y	6.31%	10.17%	

Past performances and simulations of past performances are not an indicator or a guarantee of future results.
(1) NXSHACTE Index was launched on the 12 Apr. 2017 and past performances has been backtested from 28 Mar. 2005 to 11 Apr. 2017 Sources: Natixis, Bloomberg





#### **CREATION PROCESS OF THE INDEX**

The stocks are selected on the basis of objective criteria determined by Natixis equity strategists. On each review date, to be included in the index, a share needs to comply with the following criteria:

- is a common Share denominated in USD currency:
- represents, in respect to the aggregate total assets of all the funds of the top 10 best performing activist hedge funds, more than 3% of the market capitalization;
- has a market capitalisation higher than USD 1bn;
- · has a price that exceeds USD 5 on the Review Date;
- has a reported value for the daily volume on the Review Date;
- · is not currently a Target as it is reported on Bloomberg;
- has an average liquidity higher than USD 10bn in daily volume, over the last 120 Exchange Business Days.

#### **Activist Funds Universe Positions**

**Funds Performance Computing:** the track of each fund in the Activist Funds Universe is computed using 13F/D/A Filings.

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Positions of the Top 10 funds based on the last 3 months performance

**Step 1:** every three quarters the pool of the top 10 funds is selected based on the last three months performance.

Market cap > USD 1bn Stock price > USD 5 Aggregate activist positions > 3% of Market Cap

**Step 2:** the positions of the top ten funds are filtered according to market cap, stock price, and aggregate activist positions.

35 most targeted positions

**Step 3:** 35 stocks that have been targeted the most recently are selected, the portfolio is equally-weighted every three quarters.

## NXS Activist Equity Index

- The buying/selling of the stocks is smoothed along a period between 1 and 20 days depending on the liquidity of the stock.
- A stop loss mechanism\* is activated if a stock experiments a loss of more than 20% below the performance of the S&P 500® Index.
- \* The stop loss mechanism: when a stock of the portfolio underperforms the S&P  $500^\circ$  Index by more than 20% since its entrance date in the portfolio, it is sold through the smoothing mechanism. The resulting amount of cash is invested in the S&P  $500^\circ$  Net Total Return Index.

#### COMPONENTS OF THE INDEX(2)

Name	Bloomberg Ticker	Name
Advance Auto Parts Inc	AAP US	Hamilto
Alliance Data Systems Corp	ADS US	HERC H
Antero Resources Corp	AR US	Chenier
Armstrong World Industries	AWI US	Michae
CBRE Group Inc - A	CBG US	PBF En
Colony Northstar Inc-class A	CLNS US	— Playa H
Conduent Inc	CNDT US	Sabre C
CNX Resources Corp	CNX US	Seagate
Cavco Industries Inc	CVCO US	Sysco (
Dillards Inc-cl A	DDS US	Taylor N
DSW Inc-class A	DSW US	TPG Sp
ELF Beauty Inc	ELF US	Unifirst
Evolent Health Inc - A	EVH US	Voya Fi
Twenty-first Century Fox-a	FOXA US	Viasat I
HD Supply Holdings Inc	HDS US	Wendy's

Name	Bloomberg Ticker
Hamilton Lane Inc-class A	HLNE US
HERC Holdings Inc	HRIUS
Cheniere Energy Inc	LNG US
Michaels Cos Inc/The	MIK US
PBF Energy Inc-class A	PBF US
Playa Hotels & Resorts Nv	PLYA US
Sabre Corp	SABR US
Seagate Technology	STX US
Sysco Corp	SYY US
Taylor Morrison Home Corp-a	TMHC US
TPG Specialty Lending Inc	TSLX US
Unifirst Corp/Ma	UNF US
Voya Financial Inc	VOYA US
Viasat Inc	VSAT US
Wendy's Co/The	WEN US

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