

#### **Focus**

The VT Price Value Portfolio is an open-ended UCITS fund incorporated in the UK. The fund's objective is to deliver attractive long term returns.

#### **Investment Philosophy**

The Fund seeks to invest on an unconstrained basis into listed businesses of exceptional quality trading at undemanding multiples. The Fund endeavours to invest according to the time-honoured principles of 'value' investing developed by Benjamin Graham.

#### **Fund Facts**

Investment Manager Launch Date Share Classes Currency Classes Dealing, Valuation Management Fees ISIN Codes

(Variations in historic performance shown by the different currency share classes of the fund relate solely to foreign exchange translation effects, as the underlying holdings are identical.)

Minimum Investment A
Minimum Investment B

Price Value Partners 16 June 2015

A, B

GBP, USD, EUR
Daily 12:00p.m. GMT
A: 0.75% B: 0.50%

A £ Acc:

GB00BWZMTX09

A £ Inc:

GB00BD8PLW60

A \$ Acc:

GB00BWZMTY16

A € Acc:

GB00BWZMTZ23

B £ Acc:

GB00BWZMV016

B £ Inc:

GB00BD8PLY84

B \$ Acc:

GB00BWZMV123

B € Acc:

GB00BWZMV230

£1000 / \$1000 / €1000

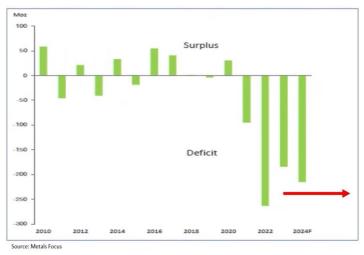
£IM; \$IM; €IM

# Factsheet as at 31 May 2024

## **Investment Commentary**

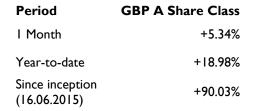
The GBP A class of the fund recorded a gain of 5.34% for the month of May 2024. This brings the cumulative return of the fund in GBP from inception in June 2015 to 90.03%. The latest net asset value of each of the fund's share classes can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

Silver has risen 27.3% year to date, finally starting to catch up with the strong gains seen from gold since the end of last year. This recent price rise however, and that of gold, ought to be seen in a longer context as both assets rose over 20 times during the inflationary 1970s period. Silver is more of an industrial metal than gold which is a pivotal factor in its current supply and demand imbalance. Electric vehicles require twice the silver content of typical combustion ones, and demand from solar projects reached 194m ounces in 2023, a 64% increase over 2022. Silver annual deficit projections have increased 30% to 184m ounces - the equivalent of 2023 production for the world's 10 largest silver mines combined. The below chart from a recent Peter Krauth presentation illustrates the magnitude of the forecasted deficit.



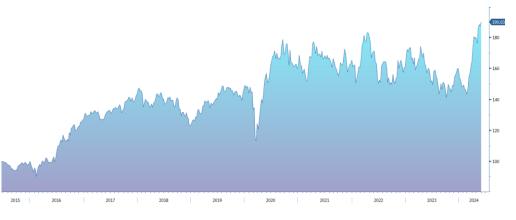
Macro narratives aside, silver producers offer some of the most compelling valuations in the commodity sector today, like Hecla Mining (+24.7%) which operates four mines across north America. Hecla produced 4.2m silver ounces in Q1, up from 4m last year, boosted by the group's newest high-grade mine, Keno Hill in the Yukon. Ramp-up to full production continued as the mine produced 646.3k ounces in Q1, processing ore grade at an industry-leading 745 grams per ton. Keno Hill's starting mine life is 11 years over which time it will produce over 50m silver ounces.

# **Performance History**



Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns.

The fund is managed independently of any benchmarks. Chart source: Bloomberg LLP.





## **Geographic Exposure\***

Country	Allocation	Country	Allocation
US	36%	Australia	19%
UK	14%	Canada	10%
Europe	6%	Cash	15%

#### **Sector Exposure\***

Sector	Allocation
Commodities - Mining	52%
Commodities - Soft	3%
Value Equity	16%
Bullion	14%
Cash	15%

# Major Holdings\*

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Fortuna Silver Mines	5.1%
Tyson Foods Inc	4.6%
Hecla Mining Co	4.6%
Endeavour Silver Corp	4.1%
SilverCrest Metals Inc	3.9%
iShares Physical Silver ETC	3.7%
WisdomTree Physical Silver ETC	
TRM Physical Gold ETC	
Torex Gold Resources Inc	
Pan American Silver Corp	

#### **Fund Metrics\***

Price to earnings ratio	20.7x
Price to book ratio	1.23x

\*as at 31 May 2024.

### **Investment Commentary**

This may increase in time if or when nearby exploration proves successful. Indeed, further drilling has also discovered wider zones and higher grades than in the current mine plan. Management reiterated group guidance at 16.5-17.5m ounces, driven by the firm's largest silver operation, Greens Creek in southern Alaska, expected to contribute 8.8-9.2m ounces. Annual production is expected at 20m ounces by 2026 once Keno Hill is fully operational, 40% above 2023 levels.

Endeavour Silver (+51%) produced 1.46m silver ounces in Q1 from its two Mexican operations, Guanacevi and Bolanitos. The average sales price was \$23.47, however the average price through this current quarter is already 22% higher. Endeavour's underground growth project, Terronera, is now over 80% complete. Over 3.2km of underground development were completed by end QI, and management expect to access the ore body for the first time this quarter with full ramp up starting later in the year. Terronera is expected to contribute 4m silver ounces annually over a starting 10 year mine life but the mineralisation remains open at depth and along strike. In addition to this growth, the firm has two exploration projects: Parral, which would add another 50% to the production profile, and Pitarilla. They may opt for a more costeffective underground mine at Pitarilla which would still lead to a trebling of production for the firm. However, given the rise in silver prices the firm might select the higher cost option that would add another 500m ounces of silver and increase the life of mine of the firm to 30 years. Given their meaningful mine lives, Hecla and Endeavour provide compelling silver exposure as commodities continue to outperform traditional assets.

Metals firm Aurubis (+3.3%) reported gross profits of €591m, up 15% versus Q4, increasing profit margins to 13.6%. The largest operating segment, Custom Smelting, represents 71% of gross margins, processing copper concentrates into copper cathodes and wire rods. Management is expanding the firm's Pirdop operations (Bulgaria) to increase refined copper production by 50% to 340kt.

#### **Fund Platforms**

The fund is available on the following platforms:

AJ Bell	Aviva	Allfunds
Alliance Trust	Ascentric	Brewin Dolphin
Co-Funds	TD Direct	Hargreaves Lansdown
James Hay	Transact	Novia
Nucleus	Stocktrade	Old Mutual Wealth

## **Important Information**

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. An investor may not get back the amount originally invested. Price Value Partners Ltd does not give you investment advice so you will need to decide if an investment is suitable for you. Before investing in the fund please read the Key Information Document and Prospectus (and take particular note of the risk factors detailed therein). If you are unsure whether to invest you should contact a financial advisor. We have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the above content is correct at the time of publication. However, markets are volatile and the portfolio may change at any time. If you no longer wish to receive these commentaries, please let us know and we will remove you from our distribution list, which is opt-in exclusively. The information above does not constitute investment advice or make any recommendation.

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