

2024 AGM Presentation

Joe Bauernfreund & Daniel Lee

### **AJOT Overview**

Market Cap:	£183m
AJOT Total Assets:	£208m
Benchmark:	MSCI Japan Small Cap
Average Annual Turnover:	36%¹
% Active Share:	>97%
Target Holdings:	15-25
Premium / (Discount):	-5.0%
Redemption Opportunity:	Every two years at close to NAV from October 2024
Management Fee:	1.0% (o/w 25% reinvested <sup>2</sup> )
AVI Ltd & AVI Employee Ownership:	2.8m shares (£3.6m)

+25.0%

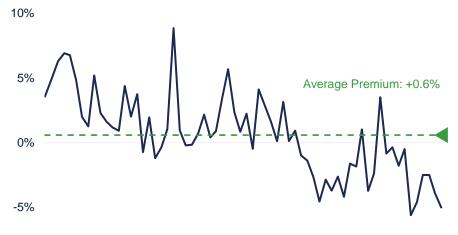
AJOT outperformance<sup>3</sup> since inception Oct-18

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### **AJOT NAV Total Return (GBP)**



### **AJOT Premium/Discount**

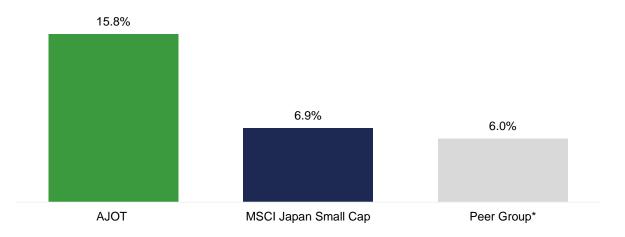


-10%					
Oct 18	Oct 19	Oct 20	Oct 21	Oct 22	Oct 23

### Review of 2023

- INCREASED concentration of the portfolio towards higherquality companies with more open shareholder registers
- INITIATED new positions in Eiken Chemical and Takuma, 2024 initiated 8 new positions
- EXITED positions where our engagement was being frustrated and reduced positions on share price strength

#### **2023 NAV TR**

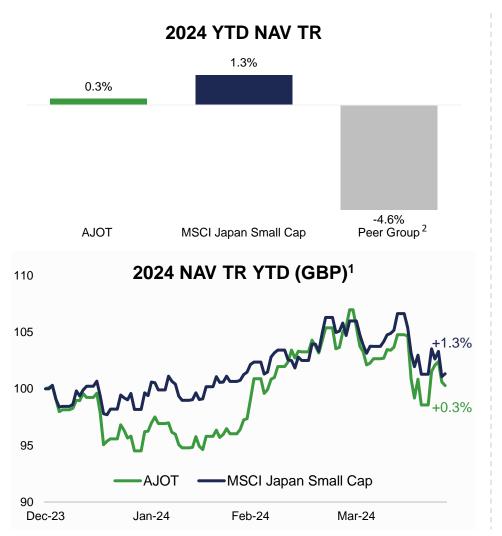


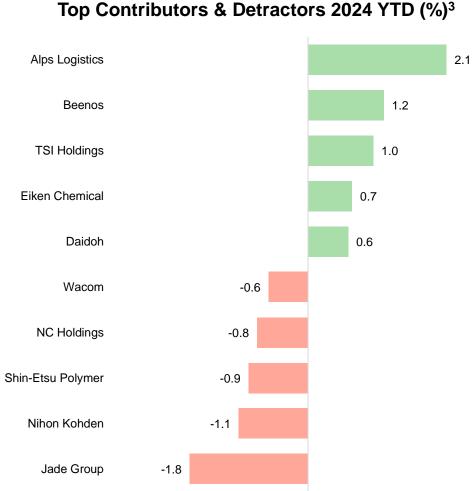
### **Top Contributors & Detractors 2023 (%)**





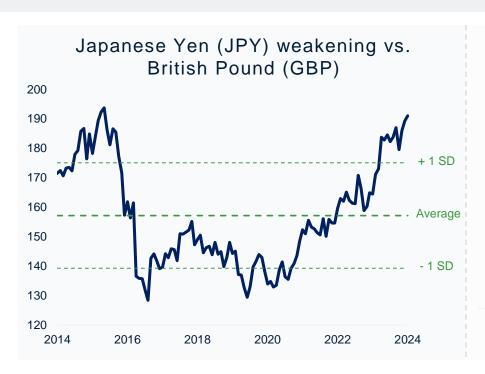
### 2024 Performance Year-to-Date

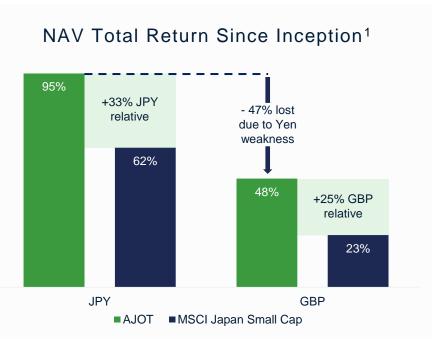






# Yen Depreciation Continues to be a Headwind



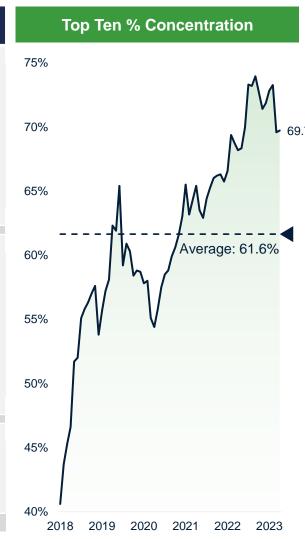


		Month	3 Month	YTD	1Y	3Y	SI*
CPD	AJOT NAV	6.5%	5.5%	5.5%	13.7%	32.0%	48.2%
GBP	vs. MSCI Jap Small Cap	3.8%	6.0%	6.0%	12.0%	8.1%	23.5%
JPY	AJOT NAV	7.5%	12.2%	12.2%	32.1%	65.5%	94.9%
JPT	vs. MSCI Jap Small Cap	4.8%	12.8%	12.8%	30.1%	35.5%	62.0%



# High Conviction Portfolio

Name	Business	Date of entry <sup>1</sup>	% NAV	% ROI (JPY)	AVI % Ownership²	EV / EBIT	NFV % Mkt Cap
Eiken Chemical*	Diagnostics	Jul 23'	9.9	+20	6.2	9.3	37
TSI Holdings	Apparel Ecommerce	Jul 22'	9.0	+67	8.8	6.2	81
Konishi	Adhesives and Civil Engineering	Inception	7.8	+103	5.3	6.0	43
Nihon Kohden	Medical Equipment	Sep 22'	7.6	+26	2.5	14.2	19
Takuma*	Plant Maintenance	Apr 23'	7.3	+33	1.9	7.6	48
DTS	IT Services	Jan 20'	6.5	+74	7.2	11.5	40
Jade Group	Apparel Ecommerce	Nov 21'	6.4	+102	8.9	10.1	5
Shin-Etsu Polymer	Moulded Plastics	Dec 21'	5.4	+50	2.0	6.9	41
Beenos*	E-Commerce	Jan 24'	5.2	+38	8.1	7.2	62
Alps Logistics	Electronics Logistics	Inception	4.6	+219	1.7	14.6	18
NC Holdings	Belt Conveyor, Parking & Renewables	Jun 21'	4.1	+10	23.6	3.3	71
Wacom	Digital Writing Solutions	Aug 21'	4.1	(5)	8.4	19.1	15
T Hasegawa	Flavour & Fragrance	Mar 21'	3.8	+41	1.2	10.2	31
SK Kaken	Construction Paints	Inception	3.0	(14)	3.3	0.0	112
Aichi Corp	Aerial Truck Manufacturer	Nov 19'	2.9	+40	1.5	4.7	54
Raito Kogyo*	Specialist Construction	Mar 24'	2.5	(2)	1.0	5.8	35
A-one Seimitsu	Machine Tools	Inception	2.5	+74	9.1	25.1	62
Kurabo Industries*	Textiles & Other	Jan 24'	2.0	+13	1.3	1.6	80
Soft99	Vehicle Cleaning Products	May 19'	1.7	+78	2.3	2.5	73
Bank of Kyoto	Banking	Feb 23' <sup>3</sup>	1.7	+16	0.7	13.8	53
Hachijuni Bank	Banking	Feb 23'	1.7	+70	0.7	6.0	64
Shiga Bank	Banking	Feb 23'	1.6	+47	1.6	0.5	95
Araya Industrial*	Steel Pipes	Jan 24'	1.2	+12	8.8	2.6	73
Pacific Metals*	Ferronickel Producer	Jan 24'	0.9	(1)	1.3	1.2	163
Aoyama Zaisan Networks*	Property Consulting	Mar 24'	0.4	-	0.5	4.5	42
Total / Average			103.8			8.7x	48%







## **AVI Japan Investment Team**



Joe Bauernfreund CEO

Joined AVI in 2002 | 27 years' experience Portfolio Manager of AJOT Became sole portfolio manager of AVI Global Trust in 2015



#### Daniel Lee

Co-Head of Japan Research

Joined AVI in 2015 | 9 years' experience Previously Management and Investment Consultant at Mercer. Worked on Japan strategy since launch and previously covered Japanese equities as part of global



Kaz Sakai

Co-Head of Japan Research

Joined AVI in 2021 | 12 years' experience Previously Engagement Manager at McKinsey & Company's Strategy and Corporate Finance Practice in Tokvo, Senior associate at Lonestar, Holds an MBA from Harvard.



### Jason Bellamy (Tokyo-based)

Senior Engagement Consultant

Joined AVI in 2020 | 30 years' experience More than 30 years' experience in financial services industry, including Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, First Trust Advisors, and Aberdeen Standard



**Yukiko Nicholas** 

Japan Team Assistant

Joined AVI in 2020 | 7 years' experience Previously worked for BZW Tokyo



#### **Shuntaro Shimizu**

Senior Investment Analyst

Joined AVI in 2023 | 10 years' experience Previously at Bain & Company in management consulting and prior to that with Bank of Japan. He has a Bachelor of Law from University of Tokyo and an MBA from Stanford.



#### Luke Hutcherson

Junior Investment Analyst

Joined AVI in 2023 | 1 years' experience Previously completed internships at Tico Capital Management and Ernst & Young. He has a Bachelor of Commerce from University of Sydney and an MSc from London Business School.



### **Esme Morter**

**ESG** Analyst

Joined AVI in 2021 | 3 years' experience Graduated with a First-Class Honours degree in International Relations and French from the University of Sussex. Completed the CFA Certificate in ESG Investing in 2023.





- Japan large cap performance has gained investor attention
- Overlooked small-cap companies remain cheap and undervalued
- Commitment to corporate governance reform now well entrenched
- Strong pressure on companies from regulators to boost shareholder returns
- Increased corporate and activist activity
- Fertile, promising environment for the Strategy expecting to led to continued outperformance

+3.6%

Annualised outperformance since inception<sup>1</sup>

### AJOT Top Ten: 31-Mar-24

Name	% NAV
Eiken Chemical	9.9
TSI Holdings	9.0
Konishi	7.8
Nihon Kohden	7.6
Takuma	7.3
DTS	6.5
Jade Group	6.4
Shin-Etsu Polymer	5.4
Beenos	5.2
Alps Logistics	4.6



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