

## **Proof Is in Performance Through 4Q21**

Model Portfolios

- This report updates the performance of our Model Portfolios:
  - Most Attractive & Most Dangerous
  - Focus List Stocks: <u>Long</u> & <u>Short</u>
  - Exec Comp Aligned With ROIC
  - Safest Dividend Yields
  - **Dividend Growth Stocks**
- The Most Attractive and Most Dangerous Stocks reports offer multiple strategies to outperform in good and bad markets.
  - Our large cap long/short strategy beat the Risk-Free Rate by 32% in 2021.
  - Our large cap short strategy beat the short S&P 500 by 23% in 2021.
  - Our large and small cap long/short strategy beat the Risk-Free Rate by 17% in 2021.
  - These strategies (and others) have beaten their benchmarks by much more since inception in January 2005.
- The Focus List Stocks: Long beat the S&P 500 (+58.4% vs. S&P +26.9%) in 2021.
- The Focus List Stocks: Short beat the S&P 500 as a short portfolio (-15.9% vs. S&P +26.9%) in 2021 and since inception.
- The Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC Model Portfolio outperformed the S&P 500 (+25.6% vs. S&P +22.7%) in 2021.
- The Safest Dividend Yields Model Portfolio outperformed the S&P 500 on a price return (+17.8% vs. S&P +16.3%) basis and on a total return (+22.2% vs. S&P +17.4%) basis in 2021.
- The Dividend Growth Stocks Model Portfolio underperformed the S&P 500 on a price return (+13.2% vs. S&P +14.2%) basis and outperformed on a total return (+16.3% vs. S&P +15.7%) basis in 2021.<sup>1</sup>

#### Trust

Only our "novel database" enables investors to overcome flaws with legacy fundamental datasets and apply reliable fundamental data in their research.

#### **Performance**

The value and success of our ratings are noteworthy. See media features and accolades.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> S&P 500 performance varies for each portfolio due to different publish dates and measurement periods. See the individual portfolio sections below for more details.



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#### **Keys to Our Success:**

- More reliable & <u>proprietary</u> fundamental data, proven in <u>The Journal</u> of <u>Financial Economics</u> and <u>studies</u> from the public & private sectors.
- Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u>, featured by <u>Harvard Business School</u>, which enables analysis of financial footnotes at unprecedented scale.
- Our <u>reverse DCF</u> models, which identify where market expectations are too high and too low.



#### Focus List Stocks: Long Model Portfolio

Figure 1 shows the 2021 performance of the Focus List Stocks: Long versus its benchmark, the S&P 500. This performance is measured from the start of calendar 1Q21 to the end of calendar 4Q21. Figure 2 shows the performance from November 2017 (inception date) through 4Q21 of the Focus List Stocks: Long versus the S&P 500. The performance of this Model Portfolio is based on the return of each stock over the course of its time on the Focus List. When a stock is removed from the Focus List, its return (or loss) will be fixed in terms of its contribution to the overall return of the portfolio. See more on our performance tracking methodology here.

Figure 1: Returns for Focus List Stocks: Long Model Portfolio for 2021

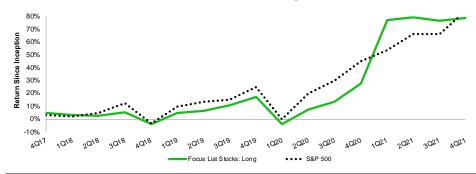
Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Focus List Stocks: Long	57.8%	1.9%	-3.0%	5.5%	58.4%
S&P 500	5.8%	8.2%	0.2%	10.6%	26.9%
Outperformance	52.0%	-6.3%	-3.2%	-5.1%	31.5%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 2: Focus List Stocks Long: Performance Since Inception





Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Focus List Stocks Long performance measured since inception date, November 2017



#### Focus List Stocks: Short Model Portfolio

Figure 3 shows the 2021 performance of the Focus List Stocks: Short versus its benchmark, the S&P 500. This performance is measured from the start of calendar 1Q21 to the end of calendar 4Q21. Figure 4 shows the performance from November 2017 (inception date) through 4Q21 of the Focus List Stocks: Short versus the S&P 500. The performance of this Model Portfolio is based on the return of each stock over the course of its time on the Focus List. When a stock is removed from the Focus List, its return (or loss) will be fixed in terms of its contribution to the overall return of the portfolio. See more on our performance tracking methodology here. Positive difference between the Focus List Stocks: Short and the S&P 500 indicates outperformance.

Figure 3: Returns for Focus List Stocks: Short Model Portfolio for 2021

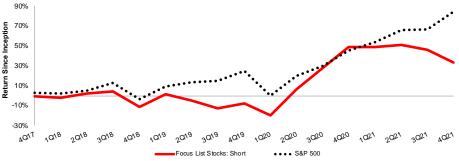
Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Focus List Stocks: Short	1.9%	8.5%	-6.4%	-17.5%	-15.9%
S&P 500	5.8%	8.2%	0.2%	10.6%	26.9%
Short Outperformance	3.9%	-0.3%	6.6%	28.1%	43.8%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 4: Focus List Stocks Short: Performance Since Inception

# Focus List Stocks Short vs. S&P 500



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Focus List Stocks Short performance measured since inception date, November 2017



#### Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC Model Portfolio

Figure 5 shows the 2021 performance of the Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC Stocks versus its benchmark, the S&P 500. This performance is measured from January 14, 2021 to January 13, 2022, which represents the performance period of 2021. The stocks in this Model Portfolio must earn an Attractive-or-better rating and align executive compensation with ROIC. For more on the methodology behind the Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC Model Portfolio, click here.

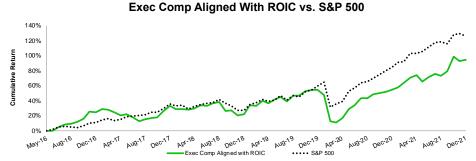
Figure 5: Returns for Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC Portfolio For 2021

Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Exec Comp Aligned With ROIC	10.6%	0.2%	4.7%	8.3%	25.6%
S&P 500	9.9%	4.5%	1.8%	5.0%	22.7%
Outperformance	0.7%	-4.3%	2.9%	3.3%	2.9%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 6: Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC Portfolio: Cumulative Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC performance measured since inception date, May 2016.



#### Safest Dividend Yields Model Portfolio

Figures 7 and 8 show the 2021 price performance of the Safest Dividend Yields Model Portfolio versus its benchmark, the S&P 500. Figures 9 and 10 show the 2021 total return performance versus its benchmark. This performance is measured from January 21, 2021 to January 20, 2022, which represents the performance period of 2021. This model portfolio offers a well-screened group of stocks that also delivers yields greater than the market (S&P 500 yields ~1.5%), dividend sustainability because of strong free cash flow, and the potential for capital appreciation as each stock is currently undervalued. For more on the methodology behind the Safest Dividend Yields Model Portfolio, click here.

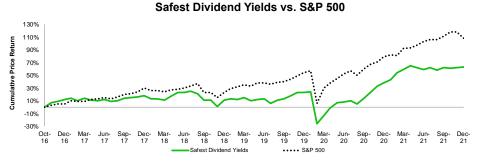
Figure 7: Price Returns for Safest Dividend Yields Portfolio For 2021

Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Safest Dividend Yields	14.9%	0.0%	2.1%	0.4%	17.8%
S&P 500	7.3%	5.6%	4.2%	-1.5%	16.3%
Outperformance	7.6%	-5.6%	-2.0%	1.9%	1.5%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 8: Safest Dividend Yields Portfolio: Cumulative Price Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Safest Dividend Yields Portfolio performance measured since inception date, October 2016

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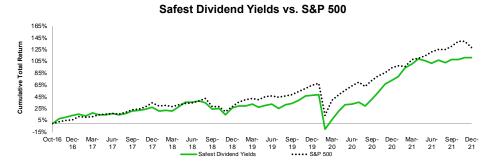
Figure 9: Total Returns for Safest Dividend Yields Portfolio For 2021

Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Safest Dividend Yields	16.0%	0.6%	3.0%	1.6%	22.2%
S&P 500	7.3%	6.0%	4.5%	-1.2%	17.4%
Outperformance	8.7%	-5.3%	-1.5%	2.7%	4.8%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs.

Figure 10: Safest Dividend Yields Portfolio: Cumulative Total Return Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs. Safest Dividend Yields Portfolio performance measured since inception date, October 2016



#### Dividend Growth Stocks Model Portfolio

Figures 11 and 12 show the 2021 price performance of the Dividend Growth Stocks Model Portfolio versus its benchmark, the S&P 500. Figures 13 and 14 show the 2021 total return performance versus its benchmark. This performance is measured from January 28, 2021 to January 27, 2022, which represents the performance period of 2021. This model portfolio mimics an All-Cap Blend portfolio with a focus on dividend growth. For more on the methodology behind the Dividend Growth Stocks Model Portfolio, click here.

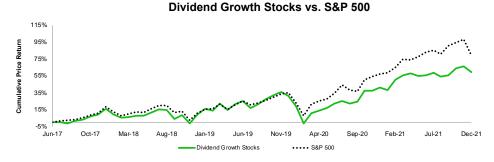
Figure 11: Price Returns for Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio For 2021

Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Dividend Growth Stocks	10.1%	0.1%	0.0%	2.6%	13.2%
S&P 500	11.2%	4.9%	4.0%	-5.9%	14.2%
Underperformance	-1.1%	-4.8%	-4.0%	8.5%	-1.0%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio performance measured since inception date, June 2017

Figure 12: Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio: Cumulative Price Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio performance measured since inception date, June 2017

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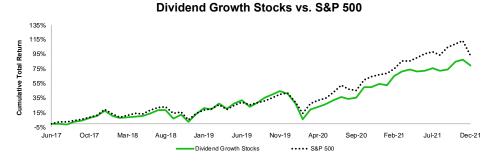
Figure 13: Total Returns for Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio For 2021

Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2021
Dividend Growth Stocks	10.7%	0.8%	0.7%	3.5%	16.3%
S&P 500	11.6%	5.2%	4.4%	-5.6%	15.7%
Outperformance	-0.9%	-4.4%	-3.6%	9.0%	0.6%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

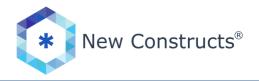
Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs. Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio performance measured since inception date, June 2017

Figure 14: Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio: Cumulative Total Return Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs. Dividend Growth Stocks Portfolio performance measured since inception date, June 2017



# Long/Short Strategies: Most Attractive/Most Dangerous Stocks (MA/MD)

The Most Attractive and Most Dangerous Stocks reports offer multiple strategies to outperform in good and bad markets. This performance is measured from January 6, 2021 to January 5, 2022, which represents the performance period of 2021.

Figure 15: Top 3 Strategies for 2021

			2021			
Strategy	Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	YTD
Long/Short	Large Cap Stocks	7.9%	6.5%	2.6%	12.5%	32.5%
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
	Outperformance	7.7%	6.2%	2.4%	12.2%	31.7%
Short	Lorgo Con Stocks	-6.6%	5.3%	-1.6%	5.4%	2.0%
benchmark	Large Cap Stocks Short S&P 500	-8.6%	5.3% -5.7%	-1.3%	-7.7%	-21.5%
	Outperformance	2.0%	11.0%	-0.3%	13.1%	23.5%
Long/Short	Large and Small Cap Stocks	-2.8%	4.7%	2.3%	13.5%	18.3%
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
	Outperformance	-2.9%	4.5%	2.1%	13.2%	17.4%

Source: New Constructs, LLC.

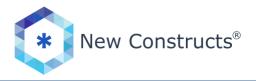
Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 16 shows the 2021 performance of the long/short strategies offered by our Most Attractive and Most Dangerous Stocks versus benchmarks.

Figure 16: Returns for Long/Short Strategies for 2021

			202	21		
Strategy	Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	YTD
Long/Short	Large and Small Cap Stocks	-2.8%	4.7%	2.3%	13.5%	18.3%
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
	Outperformance	-2.9%	4.5%	2.1%	13.2%	17.4%
Long/Short	Large Cap Stocks	7.9%	6.5%	2.6%	12.5%	32.5%
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
	Outperformance	7.7%	6.2%	2.4%	12.2%	31.7%
Long/Short	Small Cap Stocks	-13.0%	2.8%	1.8%	14.6%	4.4%
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
	Outperformance	-13.1%	2.6%	1.6%	14.3%	3.6%

Source: New Constructs, LLC



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Figure 17 shows the annualized returns of the long/short strategies offered by our Most Attractive and Most Dangerous Stocks versus benchmarks.

Figure 17: Annualized Returns for Long/Short Strategies

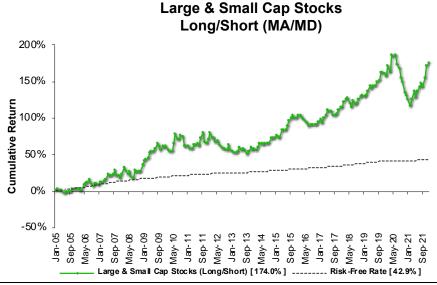
		Annualized return as of 12/31/2021					
Strategy	Portfolio	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception		
Long/Short	Large and Small Cap Stocks	18.3%	6.0%	7.1%	6.1%		
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.8%	1.1%	1.6%	2.1%		
	Outperformance	17.4%	4.9%	5.5%	4.0%		
Long/Short	Large Cap Stocks	32.5%	8.6%	5.8%	4.2%		
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.8%	1.1%	1.6%	2.1%		
	Outperformance	31.7%	7.5%	4.2%	2.1%		
Long/Short	Small Cap Stocks	4.4%	2.4%	7.4%	7.3%		
benchmark	Risk-Free Rate	0.8%	1.1%	1.6%	2.1%		
	Outperformance	3.6%	1.2%	5.8%	5.1%		

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Inception date is January 2005.



Figure 18: Large and Small Cap Strategy: Most Attractive/Most Dangerous (MA/MD) Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. The Risk-Free Rate is based on the 3-month T-bill.

Free Rate is based on the 3-month 1-bill.

Figure 19: Large Cap Strategy: Most Attractive/Most Dangerous (MA/MD) Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. The Risk-Free Rate is based on the 3-month T-bill.

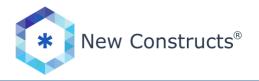


Figure 20: Small Cap Strategy: Most Attractive/Most Dangerous (MA/MD) Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception



Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. The Risk-Free Rate is based on the 3-month T-bill.



## Long Strategies: Most Attractive Stocks (MA)

Figure 21 shows the 2021 performance of the long strategies offered by our Most Attractive Stocks versus benchmarks.

Figure 21: Returns for Long Strategies for 2021

Strategy	Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	YTD
Long	Large and Small Cap Stocks	12.8%	2.3%	0.6%	7.6%	25.0%
benchmark	S&P 500 and Russell 2000	8.5%	3.1%	0.1%	3.4%	15.8%
	Outperformance	4.4%	-0.8%	0.5%	4.3%	9.2%
Long benchmark	Large Cap Stocks S&P 500	15.0% 8.9%	1.1% 5.9%	4.0% 1.0%	6.2% 7.7%	28.4% 25.4%
	Outperformance	6.1%	-4.8%	3.0%	-1.5%	3.0%
Long benchmark	Small Cap Stocks Russell 2000	10.7% 8.0%	3.4% <i>0.4%</i>	-2.7% -0.7%	9.1% <i>-0.9%</i>	21.4% 6.6%
	Outperformance	2.6%	3.0%	-2.0%	10.1%	14.8%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 22 shows the annualized returns of the long strategies offered by our Most Attractive Stocks versus benchmarks.

Figure 22: Annualized Returns for Long Strategies

		Annualized return as of 12/31/2021					
Strategy	Portfolio	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception		
Long	Large and Small Cap Stocks	25.0%	19.8%	12.7%	10.5%		
benchmark	S&P 500 and Russell 2000	15.8%	20.0%	13.0%	8.3%		
	Outperformance	9.2%	-0.2%	-0.3%	2.2%		
Long benchmark	Large Cap Stocks S&P 500	28.4% 25.4%	20.5% 22.9%	11.3% <i>15.8%</i>	9.3% <i>8.5%</i>		
	Outperformance	3.0%	-2.3%	-4.5%	0.9%		
Long benchmark	Small Cap Stocks Russell 2000	21.4% 6.6%	18.5% <i>16.7%</i>	13.7% 9.9%	11.2% <i>7.8%</i>		
	Outperformance	14.8%	1.8%	3.8%	3.3%		

Source: New Constructs, LLC

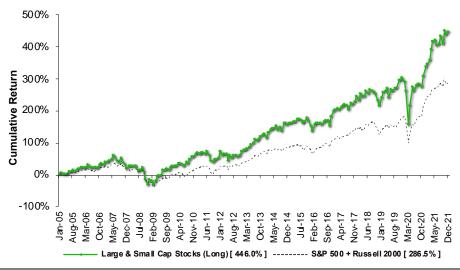
Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Inception

date is January 2005.



Figure 23: Large and Small Cap Strategy: Most Attractive Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception

Large & Small Cap Stocks (Long)

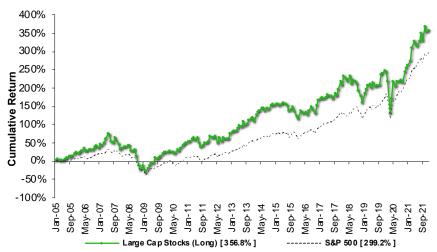


Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 24: Large Cap Strategy: Most Attractive Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception

Large Cap Stocks (Long)

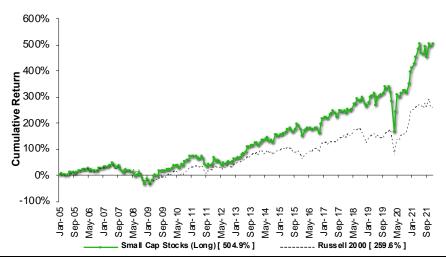


Source: New Constructs, LLC



## Figure 25: Small Cap Strategy: Most Attractive Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception

#### **Small Cap Stocks (Long)**



Source: New Constructs, LLC



## Short Strategies: Most Dangerous Stocks (MD)

Figure 26 shows the 2021 performance of the short strategies offered by our Most Dangerous Stocks versus benchmarks.

Figure 26: Returns for Short Strategies For 2021

Strategy	Portfolio	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	YTD
Short	Large and Small Cap Stocks	-14.3%	2.0%	1.4%	5.0%	-6.9%
benchmark	Short S&P 500 and Russell 2000	-8.2%	-3.1%	-0.4%	-4.1%	-15.0%
	Underperformance	-6.1%	5.1%	1.9%	9.1%	8.1%
Short	Large Cap Stocks	-6.6%	5.3%	-1.6%	5.4%	2.0%
benchmark	Short S&P 500	-8.6%	-5.7%	-1.3%	-7.7%	-21.5%
	Underperformance	2.0%	11.0%	-0.3%	13.1%	23.5%
Short	Small Cap Stocks	-22.0%	-1.2%	4.3%	4.5%	-15.9%
benchmark	Short Russell 2000	-7.8%	-0.5%	0.3%	-0.5%	-8.3%
	Outperformance	-14.2%	-0.7%	4.0%	5.0%	-7.6%

Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 27 shows the annualized returns of the short strategies offered by our Most Dangerous Stocks versus benchmarks.

Figure 27: Annualized Returns for Short Strategies

		Annualized return as of 12/31/2021							
Strategy	Portfolio	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception				
Short	Large and Small Cap Stocks	-6.9%	-17.8%	-9.6%	-8.0%				
benchmark	Short S&P 500 and Russell 2000	-15.0%	-21.0%	-14.7%	-10.7%				
	Underperformance	8.1%	3.1%	5.1%	2.7%				
Short benchmark	Large Cap Stocks Short S&P 500	2.0% -21.5%	-15.7% -21.6%	-9.1% -15.9%	-7.9% -10.1%				
	Underperformance	23.5%	5.9%	6.8%	2.1%				
Short benchmark	Small Cap Stocks Short Russell 2000 Underperformance	-15.9% -8.3% -7.6%	-20.6% -20.6% 0.1%	-10.7% -13.7% 3.1%	-8.6% -11.5% 3.0%				

Source: New Constructs, LLC

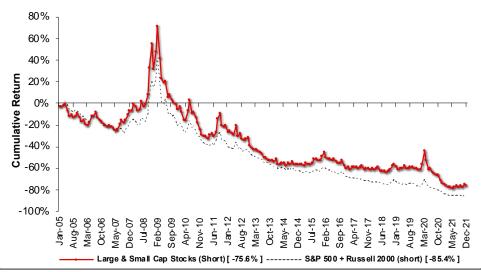
Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates. Inception

date is January 2005.



Figure 28: Large and Small Cap Strategy: Most Dangerous Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception

Large & Small Cap Stocks (Short)

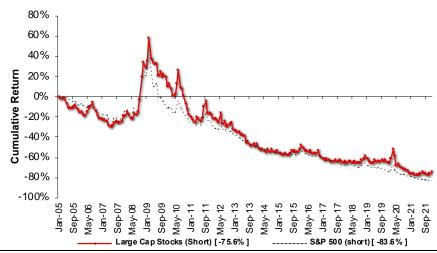


Source: New Constructs, LLC

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends and rebates.

Figure 29: Large Cap Strategy: Most Dangerous Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception

#### Large Cap Stocks (Short)

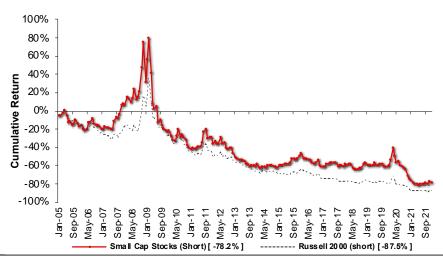


Source: New Constructs, LLC



Figure 30: Small Cap Strategy: Most Dangerous Stocks: Cumulative Performance Since Inception

#### **Small Cap Stocks (Short)**



Source: New Constructs, LLC

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## Appendix 1 – Risk Metrics

	Volatility					Sharpe Ratio				Beta			Monthly Turnover			
Strategy	1 year	3 year	5 year	Since Inception	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception
Long/Short	14%	12%	11%	10%	1.1	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	44%	44%	43%	35%
Long Large	15%	26%	23%	20%	1.9	0.8	0.5	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	39%	43%	43%	34%
Long Small	16%	32%	26%	25%	1.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.97	0.90	0.90	0.92	35%	40%	40%	35%
Long Large and Small	15%	28%	23%	22%	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	1.03	0.98	0.98	0.96	37%	41%	42%	34%
Short Large	16%	27%	22%	20%	0.1	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	55%	51%	47%	35%
Short Small	22%	31%	26%	25%	-0.7	-0.7	-0.4	-0.3	0.91	0.94	0.99	1.09	48%	43%	43%	35%
Short Large and Small	18%	28%	23%	22%	-0.5	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	1.08	1.05	1.07	1.12	51%	47%	45%	36%
S&P 500	11%	18%	16%	16%	2.4	1.2	1.0	0.5								
Russell 2000	16%	27%	23%	21%	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4								



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# Appendix 2 – Assumptions Behind Simulated Performance Analysis

The basic assumptions behind our simulated performance analysis are:

- Positions are equally dollar-weighted in all portfolios and strategies: going long with the Most Attractive, Exec Comp Aligned with ROIC, Safest Dividend Yields, and Dividend Growth Stocks and shorting the Most Dangerous.
- 2. Holdings are updated on the publish date of the monthly reports.
- Closing prices are used to open positions on the day each report was published. If a report is published on a non-trading day, then the closing price of the next trading day is used.
- 4. Positions are closed at the same time new positions are opened.
- 5. If a stock stops trading before the subsequent monthly report is published, we assume that the position was exited at the last available price.
- 6. Performance analysis excludes transaction costs, dividends, and the rebates associated with the short portfolios.

The Most Attractive and Most Dangerous portfolios are matched to the following benchmarks:

- 1. Long/Short (Most Attractive as Long and Most Dangerous as Short): Benchmark is the 3-Month T-bill, the Risk-Free Rate.
- 2. Large Cap Stocks: Long benchmark is the S&P 500. Short benchmark is based on shorting the S&P 500.
- 3. Small Cap Stocks: Long benchmark is the Russell 2000. Short benchmark is based on shorting the Russell 2000.
- 4. Combo Large and Small Cap Stocks: Long benchmark is the average of the S&P 500 and Russell 2000. Short benchmark is based on the average of shorting the S&P 500 and shorting the Russell 2000.



## Appendix 3 – Keys to Our Success

#### Key to Our Success: Better Data and Better Models

Our proprietary earnings and valuation models leverage large amounts of data from the Notes to the Financial Statements to produce better measures of profitability and valuation. Our report "Why the Footnotes Matter" provides insights into why our analysis of the Notes to the Financial Statements is critical to understanding the financial performance of companies.

#### Investment Philosophy: Cash is King

Our investment philosophy relies on leveraging a better understanding of (1) cash earnings, in place of reported GAAP<sup>2</sup> accounting earnings, and (2) the market's expectations for future cash flows for every company we cover.

Having a better model for assessing these core value drivers enables us to exercise greater discipline and enjoy greater success when implementing our "Cash Is King" investment philosophy.

We believe the performance of our Most Attractive and Most Dangerous Stocks portfolios underscores the merits of our <u>investment philosophy</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> GAAP stands for Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, the rules that govern how companies report financial performance and present financial statements.



# It's Official: We Offer the Best Fundamental Data in the World

Many firms claim their research is superior, but none of them can prove it with independent studies from highly-respected institutions as we can. Three different papers from both the public and private sectors show:

- Legacy fundamental datasets suffer from significant inaccuracies, omissions and biases.
- 2. Only our "novel database" enables investors to overcome these flaws and apply reliable fundamental data in their research.
- 3. Our proprietary measures of <u>Core Earnings</u> and <u>Earnings Distortion</u> materially improve stock picking and forecasting of profits.

#### **Best Fundamental Data in the World**

Forthcoming in <u>The Journal of Financial Economics</u>, a top peer-reviewed journal, <u>Core Earnings: New Data & Evidence</u> proves our Robo-Analyst technology overcomes material shortcomings in legacy firms' data collection processes to provide superior <u>fundamental data</u>, <u>earnings</u> models, and research. More details.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "[New Constructs'] Total Adjustments differs significantly from the items identified and
  excluded from Compustat's adjusted earnings measures. For example... 50% to 70% of
  the variation in Total Adjustments is not explained by S&P Global's (SPGI)
  Adjustments individually." pp. 14, 1st para.
- "A final source of differences [between New Constructs' and S&P Global's data] is due to data collection oversights...we identified cases where Compustat did not collect information relating to firms' income that is useful in assessing core earnings." – pp. 16, 2<sup>nd</sup> para.

#### **Superior Models**

A top accounting firm features the superiority of our ROIC, NOPAT and Invested Capital research to Capital IQ & Bloomberg's in <u>Getting ROIC Right</u>. See the <u>Appendix</u> for direct comparison details.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "...an accurate calculation of ROIC requires more diligence than often occurs in some of
  the common, off-the-shelf ROIC calculations. Only by scouring the footnotes and the
  MD&A [ as New Constructs does] can investors get an accurate calculation of ROIC." –
  pp. 8, 5<sup>th</sup> para.
- "The majority of the difference...comes from New Constructs' machine learning approach, which leverages technology to calculate ROIC by applying accounting adjustments that may be buried deeply in the footnotes across thousands of companies."
   pp. 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> para.

#### **Superior Stock Ratings**

Robo-Analysts' stock ratings outperform those from human analysts as shown in this <u>paper</u> from Indiana's Kelley School of Business. Bloomberg features the paper here.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "the portfolios formed following the buy recommendations of Robo-Analysts earn abnormal returns that are statistically and economically significant." – pp. 6, 3<sup>rd</sup> para.
- "Our results ultimately suggest that Robo-Analysts are a valuable, alternative information intermediary to traditional sell-side analysts." pp. 20, 3<sup>rd</sup> para.

Our mission is to provide the best fundamental analysis of public and private businesses in the world and make it affordable for all investors, not just Wall Street insiders.

We believe every investor deserves to know the whole truth about the profitability and valuation of any company they consider for investment. More details on our cutting-edge technology and how we use it are here.



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#### **DISCLOSURES**

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