# GRAVIS DIGITAL INFRA

## MONTHLY FACTSHEET 31 OCTOBER 2023

#### **FUND OBJECTIVES**

- To achieve capital growth through market cycles<sup>1</sup>
- To invest in a diversified portfolio of transferrable securities including REITs, REOCs, collective investment schemes, equities and bonds, listed in developed nations
- To offer exposure to the companies which own the physical infrastructure assets vital to the digital economy, including data centres, telecom towers, fibre optic cable companies, logistics warehouses and the digitalisation of transportation
- To deliver regular income, expected to be c.3% per annum<sup>2</sup>

#### PERFORMANCE CHART

VT Gravis Digital Infrastructure Income Fund – C Acc GBP (Total return after charges) 31.05.2021 – 31.10.2023



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	SINCE INCEPTION	12 MONTH	3 MONTH	1 MONTH	YTD	VOLATILITY
VT Gravis Digital Infrastructure	-10.76%	-8.12%	-8.50%	-4.00%	-10.87%	15.71%
MSCI World Infrastructure	5.10%	-6.05%	-1.79%	0.95%	-6.72%	12.47%
MSCI World IMI Core Real Estate	-11.73%	-9.97%	-8.06%	-4.20%	-9.43%	15.47%

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results Fund launched on 31 May 2021 Fund performance is illustrated by the C GBP Net Accumulation share class

#### **DIVIDENDS**

Dividends paid since inception for C GBP Income share class



**Fund overview** VT Gravis Digital Name Infrastructure Income Regulatory Status FCA Authorised UK UCITS **VOEIC** Sector IA Property Other Launch Date 31 May 2021 **Fund Size** £28.36m Number of Holdings 29 Share Classes Income and Accumulation Clean & Institutional (£,\$,€,¥) Min. Investment C: £100 C Acc (£): 89.24p Net Asset Value per C Inc (£): 84.28p share C Inc: 3 27% Trailing 12-month net yield C: 0.80% Annual Management Charge C: 0.80% Capped fund OCF3 C: 0.89% Synthetic OCF4 Dividends Paid End of Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct Classification Non-complex Liquidity Daily dealing ISINs C Acc (£): GB00BN2B4F43 C Inc (£): GB00BN2B4876

- 1. We expect this to be a period of 7 years
- This is an unofficial target and there is no guarantee it will be achieved. Per annum by reference to launch price of £1.00 per unit, payable quarterly, one month in arrears.
- OCF for all share classes is capped at the AMC and costs in excess of the OCF/AMC will be paid by the Investment Adviser.
- 'Synthetic' Ongoing Charges Figure (Class C Acc) is calculated using the weighted average OCF of the Fund's underlying holdings, where published, combined with the Fund's own operating charges: the aggregated OCF figure for the 2 holdings that are published is 0.09%. The OCF of the Fund remains capped at the AMC.
- 5. Part period from 31.05.2021 30.06.2022

All data, source: Valu-Trac Investment Management, MSCI Inc and Reuters.





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#### **FUND ADVISER'S REPORT**

"While the current global economic environment is mixed, the business case and outlook remain positive for next generation digital infrastructure assets."

During October 2023, the NAV of the Fund decreased by 4.00% (C Acc GBP). Since the Fund's launch, the NAV has decreased by 10.76% (C Acc GBP). In comparison, the world infrastructure index1 has increased by 5.10% in the same period, with the global real estate index<sup>2</sup> decreasing by 11.73%.

The strategy of the Fund is to invest in a globally diversified portfolio of best-in-class real estate and infrastructure companies that are listed in developed markets and are likely to benefit from the digitalisation of economies, changing the way we work, live and play.

The Fund currently invests in 29 'next generation' listed infrastructure companies operating at the intersection of real estate and technology. These are physical infrastructure assets that are vital to the functioning of the digital economy. The companies are active in four specialist subsectors: logistics warehouses supporting ecommerce (53.5% portfolio weight), mobile communication towers (21.3% portfolio weight), data centres (17.1% portfolio weight), and networks (7.4% portfolio weight).

Global economic uncertainty continued throughout October, with US treasury yields3 reaching an intra-month high of 4.99%, before retreating to finish the month 24 basis points higher at 4.85%. Looking further ahead, financial markets4 have priced in a predicted peak in the US Federal Funds rate at between 5.25-5.50% in Q1 2024, followed by a decline to around 4.0% in Q3. Economists are also forecasting a low growth economic environment, with US real GDP growth of 15% in 2024, increasing to 2.4% in 2025<sup>5</sup>. As a recession risk remains present, more cyclical property types may start struggling. In a lowgrowth environment like the one forecast, noncyclical trends like digital infrastructure make good investments as they aren't as reliant on consumer trends to drive growth.

While the current economic environment has its challenges, the business case and outlook remain positive for next generation digital infrastructure assets. Diversification by geography, size, infrastructure type and the number of assets and tenants help insulate the Fund from swings in individual markets or sub-sectors. During the month, several portfolio holdings had strong trading updates, highlighting significant positive growth stories across the Fund.

Focusing on the logistics sub-sector, Prologis, (portfolio weight 7.40%), a leader in logistics real estate that owns properties and development projects across 19 countries and leases logistics facilities to a diverse base of customers. announced several positive updates to its balance sheet. During Q3 2023, Prologis and its co-investment ventures issued an aggregate of \$1.4 billion of debt at a weighted average interest rate of 3.2%, and a weighted average term of 5.9 years. The company's weighted average interest rate on its share of total debt was 2.9%, with a weighted average term of 9.5 years. In addition, the company has no significant debt maturities

until 2026, with its floating rate debt making up less than 10% of total debt.

"We have worked hard and with discipline to build an industry-leading balance sheet, which we continue to manage prudently. Incredibly. our balance sheet has only strengthened over the last year in terms of coverage and liquidity, something we're very proud of and allows us to be opportunistic amidst challenging markets," said Timothy Arndt, Chief Financial Officer of Prologis.

In the mobile communication tower subsector, American Tower (portfolio weight 6.86%), one of the largest global REITs and a leading independent owner, operator and developer of multitenant communications real estate, raised \$1.5 billion in senior unsecured notes at a weighted average cost of approximately 5.9%. The proceeds were used to pay down revolver debt facility balances. This is expected to reduce their floating rate debt exposure to approximately \$4 billion or alternatively, make it less than 11% of their total outstanding debt at the end of Q3 2023, down from over 22% at the start of the year

Rod Smith, Chief Financial Officer of American Tower added, "We are committed to strengthening our balance sheet by enhancing our liquidity, extending our maturities, reducing floating rate debt volatility and making progress towards our leverage target.'

With economic uncertainty persisting across real estate markets, the Fund remains committed to investing in the best-in-class owners of high-quality digital infrastructure assets. This has become increasingly important as investors prioritise long-term, stable investments

#### Matthew Norris, CFA

Investment Adviser Gravis Advisory Ltd matthew.norris@graviscapital.com

#### Investment Adviser

Gravis Advisory Ltd is owned and managed by Gravis Capital Management Ltd ("Gravis").

Gravis Capital Management was established in May 2008 as a specialist investor in property and infrastructure and now manages c.£2bn of assets in these sectors in the UK. Gravis entered into a strategic partnership with ORIX Corporation in January 2021.

Gravis Advisory Ltd is also the Investment Adviser to the c.£575m VT Gravis UK Infrastructure Income Fund, the c.£377m VT Gravis Clean Energy Income Fund and the c.£86m VT Gravis UK Listed Property (PAIF) Fund.

#### **Fund Adviser**

Matthew Norris, CFA is lead adviser to the VT Gravis Digital Infrastructure Income Fund and the VT Gravis UK Listed Property (PAIF) Fund.

Matthew has over two decades investment management experience and has a specialist focus on real estate securities

He was previously at Grosvenor with responsibility for investing in global real estate securities including the highly successful global logistics strategy. He joined Grosvenor from Fulcrum Asset Management and Buttonwood Capital Partners where he ran international equity strategies which incorporated exposure to real estate equities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> MSCI UK IMI Core Real Estate Net Total Return GBP. <sup>2</sup> MSCI World IMI Core Real Estate Net Total Return.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> US government generic 5-year. <sup>4</sup> 30-day Federal Funds Futures.

Congressional Budget Office, An Update to the Economic Outlook: 2023 to 2025, July 2023



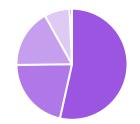
## MONTHLY FACTSHEET 31 OCTOBER 2023

#### **TOP 10 HOLDINGS**

COMPANY	WEIGHTING			
Prologis Inc	7.40%			
American Tower Corp	6.86%			
Goodman Group	6.50%			
Equinix Inc	6.20%			
SEGRO PLC	5.22%			
SBA Communications Corp	5.10%			
Crown Castle International Corp	3.94%			
Digital Realty Trust Inc	3.36%			
NEXTDC Ltd	3.18%			
Eastgroup Properties Inc	3.08%			

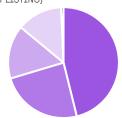
#### PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

#### SECTOR BREAKDOWN



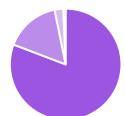
- Logistics 53.5%
- Towers 21.3%
- Data centres 17.1%
- Other 7.4%
- Cash 0.7%

### GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN (BY LISTING)



- North America 46.1%
- Asia 24.2%
- Europe ex UK 15.6%
- UK 13.3%
- Cash 0.7%

#### SECURITY TYPE



- REIT 80.7%
- Non-REITs 16.0%
- Real Estate Owners & Developers 2.5%
- Cash 0.7%

#### **DISCLAIMER**

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