Information and Advice on World Stockmarkets from Securities Research Company's . . .

International Investor

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Inside International Investor

The Crisis Paradox...... 2

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World Stockmarket Forecasts

Stockmarket	One-Year	Fundamental	Technical	Monetary	Economic	Historical	l Performanc	e (in US\$)	Share
	Forecast	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	3 mths	6 mths	12 mths	Index
Australia	68%	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	+2.8%	+5.0%	-7.5%	4,322.60
Austria	00%	Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+8.1%	-9.8%	-28.7%	2,175.10
Belgium	56%	Neutral	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+1.0%	-8.7%	-19.9%	2,230.78
Canada		Neutral	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+1.9%	-2.7%	-11.2%	12,389.40
Denmark		Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	Bearish	+12.4%	+9.0%	-8.2%	437.68
Finland		Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bearish	+0.9%	-0.1%	-24.0%	5,990.15
France	61%	Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+3.3%	-2.9%	-18.1%	2,521.00
Germany		Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	Bearish	+6.1%	+3.4%	-11.6%	6,692.96
Ireland	70%	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	+10.5%	+14.0%	+1.6%	3,101.84
Italy		Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+0.8%	-3.5%	-27.5%	17,348.10
Japan	56%	Neutral	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	+4.4%	-1.5%	-9.4%	8,947.17
Netherlands	67%	Neutral	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	+2.2%	+1.6%	-15.7%	320.09
New Zealand		Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+6.0%	-1.3%	-2.5%	1,210.24
Norway		Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	+4.1%	+9.7%	-3.1%	384.30
Spain	68%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	-0.9%	-6.3%	-22.0%	885.27
Sweden	57%	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	+8.6%	+8.4%	-10.4%	334.33
Sweden Switzerland	72%	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	+6.5%	-1.1%	-2.4%	6,130.66
Un. Kingdom	63%	Neutral	Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	+3.4%	+6.5%	-5.0%	5,852.39
USA	05 %	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	Bearish	+6.2%	+13.9%	+1.0%	1,342.64
USA Argentina	43%	Bearish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-1.1%	-8.7%	-25.6%	9,506.57
Brazil	75%	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	+10.6%	+11.9%	-5.8%	63,997.90
Czech Rep.	58%	Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	+5.9%	-11.2%	-25.5%	990.80
Chile	45%	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	+5.4%	+2.0%	-4.7%	21,020.00
China	42%	Bullish	Bearish	Bearish	Neutral	-8.4%	-12.5%	-22.0%	229.54
Greece	40%	Bearish	Bearish	Bearish	Bullish	+1.4%	-32.1%	-52.1%	797.35
Egypt	45%	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	+7.4%	+2.3%	-17.9%	4,753.65
Hong Kong	61%	Neutral	Bullish	Bullish	Bearish	+8.9%	+6.4%	-8.5%	20,783.90
Hungary	26%	Bearish	Neutral	Bearish	Bearish	+14.6%	-9.3%	-23.7%	19,026.80
India	49%	Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	+4.3%	-3.3%	-7.8%	17,748.70
Indonesia	59%	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	+3.3%	-4.4%	+14.7%	3,912.39
Israel	45%	Bearish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	+1.1%	+0.8%	-16.4%	1,015.87
Korea	51%	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	+7.3%	+6.8%	+0.8%	1,993.71
Malaysia	55%	Neutral	Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	+10.3%	+4.3%	+5.3%	1,561.66
Mexico		Bearish	Bullish	Bearish	Bearish	+6.4%	+9.9%	-3.2%	
Philippines		Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	+13.1%	+11.1%	+31.5%	4,783.52
Poland		Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	Bearish	+3.1%	-5.7%	-21.5%	41,219.40
Portugal		Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-3.6%	-14.0%	-24.5%	2,210.89
Russia		Neutral	Bullish	Neutral	Bearish	+5.1%	-1.0%	-15.5%	2,286.24
Singapore		Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	+7.7%	-0.2%	-2.2%	2,960.00
Sth Africa		Bullish	Bullish	Bullish	Bearish	+6.6%	+5.3%	-3.8%	33,892.60
Taiwan		Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	Neutral	+8.9%	+0.8%	-9.9%	7,862.27
Thailand		Neutral	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	+14.1%	+1.5%	+16.9%	1,112.91
Turkey		Neutral	Bullish	Bearish	Bearish	+6.5%	+14.8%	-17.4%	59,332.10
Venezuela		Bearish	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	+18.2%		+100.8%	133,125.00
One Vear Forecasts									

One Year Forecasts predict the probability that a stock-market will rise over the next year. Investors should seek to invest in markets with forecasts of 60-100%, while avoiding markets with forecasts of 0-40%. Bullish = Favourable. Bearish = Unfavourable.

World Stockmarket Outlook

World stockmarkets have rallied over the last month and *could* go higher as share prices recover from the recent low valuations that have resulted from the last few years of extreme pessimism.

Of course, global economic problems remain. So the next 50 years - like the last 50 years - will likely see an endless string of economic, political, monetary and other crises that drive volatility in financial markets.

While it is easy to identify economic problems, it is difficult to predict which ones will become a "crisis", or when. In no small part this is because excessive media and public concern about a problem can become selffulfilling and escalate to a crisis. The recent (current?) Italian debt crisis is an excellent example.

Italy - like many countries - has a debt *problem*. In late 2011, financial markets suddenly focused upon the <u>fact</u> that while interest rates were low the Italian government would be able to service its debts but *if* interest rates were to rise *above* 7% then the higher interest expense would increase the deficit and be unsustainable. In effect, the Italian government is <u>solvent *if* the market keeps interest rateslow but insolvent</u> *if* interest rates rise above 7%.

The risk that the Italian government *could* become insolvent *if* interest rates rose led to that very situation. Perceived high risk lowered the market price of Italian bonds, driving yields over 7%. At that rate the Italian government would not be able to pay the interest cost of re-financing maturing bonds *except* by issuing additional bonds to cover the higher interest costs - and debt levels would spiral upwards and out of control.

Concerns about a possible Italian debt crisis *created* the very conditions that led to that crisis.

So is the Italian government solvent or bankrupt? The answer is it is whatever the *market* decides. If the market *believes* Italy is solvent then the market will accept lower interest rates and *Italy will be solvent*. If the market believes it is bankrupt, then it will demand higher interest rates to compensate for the risk and *that will make Italy bankrupt*.

So a crisis can quickly appear from nowhere and just as quickly disappear. Underlying problems, of course remain. The main underlying problem is that the government sector in most developed countries have significant potential debt problems. In contrast, the non-financial corporate sector has historically low debt and many companies hold surplus cash.

The major global imbalance is under-saving and over-consumption in developed countries and oversaving and under-consumption in developing countries.

Predicting the actual crises (and their timing) that will result from these problems and imbalances is difficult, but there is much greater certainty about global trends that these situations will drive.

Inflation is likely to remain high and interest rates remain low. At 5% inflation the value of money *halves* every 14 years. This will steadily decrease the *real value* of government debts. Interest bearing deposits will be a poor investment - especially after inflation and taxation.

Shares should be an excellent investment over the medium to long term - owing to inflation and strong corporate balance sheets.

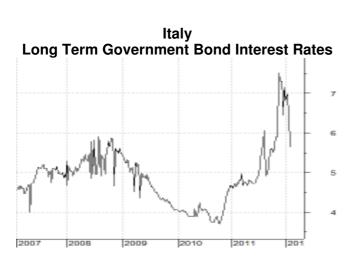
Growth in developed countries will remain low and consumption growth - which was previously boosted by debt from emerging economies - will be relatively static for a long time.

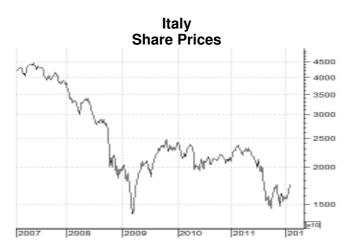
Emerging countries will no longer enjoy strong demand from developed countries, so export growth will slow rapidly. This, however, should be replaced by strong growth in domestic consumption.

Domestic consumption will also boost new service industries and employment - in industries like retail, real estate, finance, insurance and travel.

Continued global economic growth - even if all in emerging economies - will provide a favourable business environment for efficient, competitive businesses to grow and expand. Growth in emerging economies will also diversify the global financial system, diminishing the *relative* importance of low growth, high debt developed economies.

This newsletter therefore continues to believe that shares will be the best long term investments - and our portfolio will remain weighted towards companies in emerging economies.





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Recommended International Investment Funds

Fund Report

Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc underperformed in the year to 31 December 2011. Net assets fell 13.5%, compared with its benchmark index which suffered a 9.1% decline.

Dividend income from its investments, however, increased strongly. The trust will pay a second interim dividend (instead of a final dividend) of 14.3 pence (exdividend 3 February, payable 24 February), lifting the annual dividend 9.2% to 20.75 pence. That offers a relatively high 4.1% income yield.

The Fund Manager sees an "abundance of particularly low valuations among the *smaller small* companies", including "numerous high quality businesses" with "strong underlying balance sheets". The trust has investments in 89 listed companies, with the average yield from these investments being 3.4% - "supported by both strong balance sheets and historically high dividend cover of 3.3 times".

"In today's market" states the Fund Manager "it is not necessary to compromise quality to construct an attractively valued portfolio".

Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust follows a *value* investment style - and there is presently an "exaggerated gulf" between the low valuations of *value* shares and the higher valuations of *growth* shares. "History suggests that the relationship between the two groups will not stay at such stretched levels" and "the process of normalisation will be advantageous to the value investment style".

Fund Buybacks

Fidelity European Values plc has made six further onmarket share acquisitions, repurchasing 209,475 shares for £2.15 million.

JPMorgan European Smaller Companies Trust plc repurchased 90,000 shares on-market for £594,000.

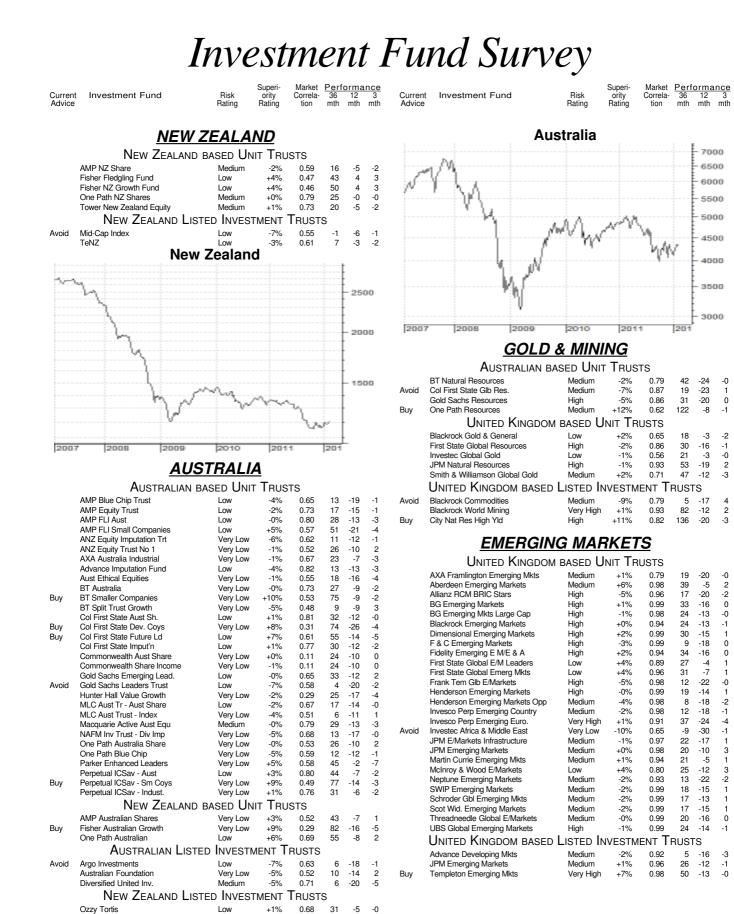
Europe BUY Fidelity European Values plc FEV 13/05/03 463.5p 1291.1 -13% 1091.0p 2078.9 +61 BUY JPM European Smaller Cos JESC 15/01/02 226.5p 765.8 -16% 718.5p 1369.1 +79	Current EF dvice Investment Fund Co
BUY Fidelity European Values plc FEV 13/05/03 463.5p 1291.1 -13% 1091.0p 2078.9 +61	Europe
	•
United Kingdom	•
BUY Aberforth Smaller Cos Trt plc ASL 15/07/03 375.5p 1042.0 -17% 604.0p 1150.9 +10	UY Aberforth Smaller Cos Trt plc A
Asian Regional	Asian Regional
BUY Aberdeen Asian Small Coys AAS 09/09/03 89.2p 247.8 -7% 618.5p 1178.5 +376	UY Aberdeen Asian Small Coys A/
HOLD HSBC Asian Fund * 10/11/98 34.4p 106.3 92.25p 175.8 +65	OLD HSBC Asian Fund
BUY Henderson Asia Pac Capital * 08/08/00 342.2p 1122.6 635.0p 1210.0 +8	UY Henderson Asia Pac Capital
BUY Scot Oriental Smaller Coy SST 11/11/03 121.9p 330.5 -7% 585.5p 1115.7 +238	UY Scot Oriental Smaller Coy S
China	China
BUY Henderson China Opportunities * 09/07/07 548.9p 1410.4 636.92p 1213.6 -14	UY Henderson China Opportunities
India	
BUY First State Indian Sub-Cont. * 13/12/10 209.2p 442.0 196.59p 374.6 -15	UY First State Indian Sub-Cont.
Japan	
BUY Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon plc BGS 11/01/94 156.0p 440.3 -6% 164.5p 313.5 -29	
HOLD Fidelity Japan Values plc FJV 10/01/06 126.0p 322.7 -15% 54.13p 103.1 -68	
HOLD Invesco Perp Japan Small Coys * 13/07/99 61.3p 182.3 47.53p 90.6 -50	IOLD Invesco Perp Japan Small Coys
Korea	
HOLD Baring Korea Trust * 12/04/94 81.1p 209.4 253.5-268.6p 497.4 +138	OLD Dailing Notea Trust
International	
HOLD Aberdeen Emerging Markets * 13/08/91 61.7p 184.0 526.06p 1002.4 +445	IOLD ADEIDEEN EINEIging Markets
BUY Herald Investment Trust HRI 12/10/04 310.8p 820.1 -18% 506.0p 964.2 +18	
BUY Private Equity Investor plc PEQ 11/12/01 122.5p 420.2 -32% 162.0p 308.7 -27	1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,

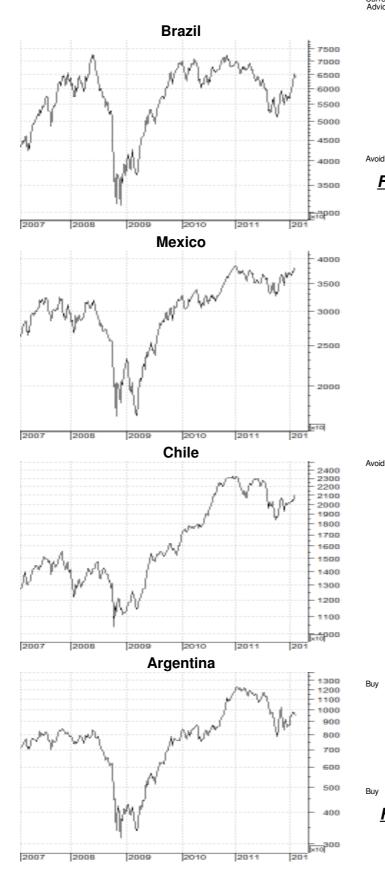
* United Kingdom based Unit Trust

The average Gains/Losses of all current investments from initial recommendation is +77.0%. This is equal to an average annual rate of +7.4%, based upon the length of time each position has been held. The average annual rate of gain of ALL recommendations (both the 16 current and 48 closed out) is +10.6%.

Other Shares and Warrants

An alternative investment to those recommended above includes **Fidelity Japanese Values** subscription shares (i.e. warrants) at 6¹/₄ pence.





Current Inve Advice	stment Fund	Risk Rating	Superi- ority Rating	Market Correla- tion	Perf 36 mth	orma 12 mth	nce 3 mth
	<u>LATIN</u>	AMER	ICA				
	UNITED KINGDOM	и based U	NIT T R	USTS			
Aberdee	n Latin American	Medium	+2%	0.98		-6	4
Allianz F	RCM Brazil	High	+1%	0.99		-11	3
Invesco	Perp Latin America	Medium	+1%	0.99	40	-13	3
Martin C	urrie Latin America	Medium	+0%	1.00		-14	3
Neptune	Latin America	Medium	-2%	0.98	26	-14	2
Scot Wie	d. Latin America	Medium	+1%	0.99	28	-14	2
Threadn	eedle Latin America	Medium	-0%	0.99	34	-14	2

High Medium -1 8

UNITED KINGDOM BASED LISTED INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Blackrock Latin Amer.

JPMorgan Brazil IT

<u> </u>	AR EASTERN / PA	ACIFIC	(EXC	CL J	AP.	AN)
	New Zealand I						-
	AMP Asian Shares	Low	-2%	0.85	23	-15	4
	UNITED KINGDOM	· · · ·					
	Aberdeen Asia Pacific	Medium	+2%	0.84	27	-9	0
	Allianz Dres Tot Ret Asian Eq	Medium	-0%	0.98	17	-14	1
	BG Developing Asia Pacific	Low	-4%	0.86	2	-10	-2
	BG Pacific	Medium	+4%	0.95	42	-8	1
	Baring East	High	-2%	0.98	10	-15	-1
	CF Canlife Far East	High	-1%	0.97	13	-20	-2
	F & C Pacific Growth	High	-6%	0.98	-4	-19	-2
	Fidelity South East Asian	High	+2%	0.98	23	-17	-1
	First State Asia Pac Leaders	Low	+1%	0.96	15	-8	-0
	First State Asia Pacific	Low	+2%	0.97	21	-7	0
	HSBC Asia Growth	High	-3%	0.98	8	-18	-0
	HSBC Pacific Index	High	-2%	0.95	18	-15	-0
	Henderson Asia Pacific Capital	Very High	+1%	0.97	21	-19	-4
	Ignis Asset Pacific Growth	High	-2%	0.91	12	-13	-2
	Invesco Perp Asian	Medium	+2%	0.98	27	-12	-1
	Invesco Perp Pacific	Medium	-3%	0.89	4	-17	-3
	Investec Asia JPM Asia	Medium High	+2% -2%	0.98 0.98	29 14	-14 -19	1 0
	Jupiter Asian	Medium	-2%	0.98	14	-19	-3
	L & G Asian Income	Medium	-1%	0.98	8	-13	-3 -1
	L & G Pacific Growth	High	-4 %	0.91	14	-19	-1
	L & G Pacific Index	High	-2%	0.90	17	-15	-1
	Legg Mason Asia Pacific	Medium	-4%	0.98	7	-17	0 0
Avoid	Lloyd George Eastern Opps	High	-7%	0.96	2	-29	-1
/ 1/ 0.0	M & G Asian	Medium	+3%	0.96	28	-12	1
	Marlborough Far East Growth	High	-5%	0.95	-1	-15	1
	Martin Currie Asian Pacific	Medium	-2%	0.98	9	-6	2
	Melchior Asian Opportunities	High	-1%	0.96	15	-22	-3
	Neptune Asia Pacific Opp	Medium	-5%	0.98	-1	-16	-2
	Newton Oriental	Medium	-0%	0.95	19	-15	-3
	Old Mutual Asian Select	High	-4%	0.98	8	-15	1
	Prudential Pacific Markets	High	+0%	0.98	22	-14	0
	Royal London Far East Gth	High	-3%	0.98	13	-14	-0
	SJP Far East	Low	-1%	0.93	16	-9	-0
	SSGA Asia Pacific Eq Tracker	Medium	+2%	0.96	27	-12	0
	Santander Premium Pac Basin	Medium	-2%	0.98	11	-13	-2
	Scot Wid. Pacific	Medium	-1%	0.98	16	-14	0
	Smith & Williamson Far Eastern	Medium	-2%	0.95	9	-17	-2
	Stan Life Asian Pacific	Medium	+0%	0.98	22	-13	1
	Stan Life TM Pacific Basin	Medium	+2%	0.98	26	-13	1
	Threadneedle Asia Growth	High	-2%	0.98	13	-14 -4	-0
	UBS Asian Consumption	Low Medium	+1% -1%	0.92 0.97	22	-4 -12	-1 1
	UBS Asian Equity						1
	UNITED KINGDOM BASED						
Duri	Aberdeen Asian Income	Low	+3%	0.79	20	-2	0
Buy	Aberdeen Asian Small Co	Low Medium	+14% +4%	0.70	68 34	-6	-6 -2
	Aberdeen New Dawn	Medium	+4% +3%	0.86 0.93	34 28	-18 -9	-2 -0
	Edinburgh Dragon Trust Fidelity Asian Values	Medium	+3% +4%	0.93	28 33	-9 -15	-0 1
	Henderson TR Pacific	Very High	+4%	0.93	21	-23	-3
	Invesco Asia	Medium	+1%	0.96	26	-23	-2
	JPM Asian	High	-3%	0.96	20	-21	-2
	Pacific Assets	Medium	-1%	0.85	15	-16	-3
	Pacific Horizons	High	+1%	0.80	27	-14	0
	Schroder Asia Pacific	Medium	+1%	0.93	40	-14	7
	Schroder Oriental Inc.	Low	+5%	0.85	40	-8	2
Buy	Scottish Oriental Sm Co	High	+14%	0.90	78	-10	-1
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FAR EASTERN / PACIFIC (INCL JAPAN)

Australian based Unit Trusts							
BT Asian	Medium	+4%	0.95	29	-13	4	
Invesco Asian Growth	Low	-2%	0.81	-4	1	-1	
UNITED KINGDOM BASED UNIT TRUSTS							
Aberdeen Asian Pacific & Japan	Medium	+4%	0.88	18	-9	-0	
UNITED KINGDOM BASED LISTED INVESTMENT TRUSTS							
Aberdeen All Asia	High	+2%	0.91	12	-12	4	
Henderson Far East Inc.	High	-4%	0.94	-6	-17	1	
Martin Currie Pacific	Medium	-4%	0.91	-2	-13	0	
Witan Pacific	High	+1%	0.93	6	-16	-3	

27

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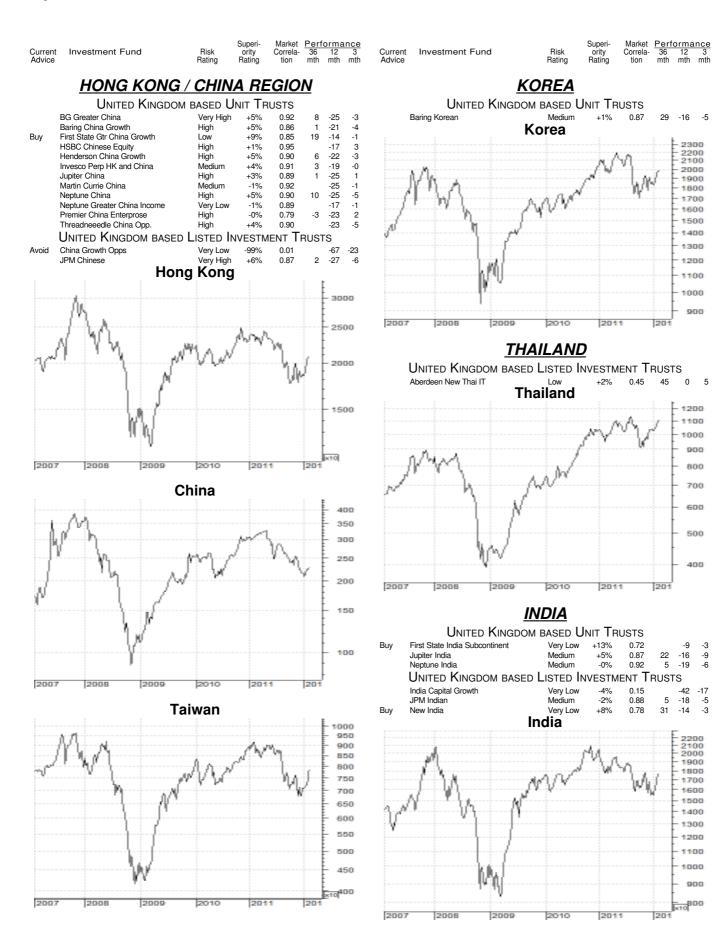
-20

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-2%

-8%



AUSTRALIAN BASED UNIT TRUSTS Platinum Japan Medium +3% 0.76 -17 -16 AXA Framilington Japan & Gen. Low -6% 0.95 -33 -17 Aberdeen Japan Growth Low +1% 0.90 -22 -11 Baring Japan Growth Low +4% 0.91 -28 -12 CF Canlife Japan Growth Low +4% 0.91 -28 -22 -21 HSBC FSAVC Japan Growth Low -4% 0.91 -28 -22 -20 HSBC Japan Index Medium -6% 0.86 -35 -18 Ignis Asset Japan Medium -6% 0.91 -27 -15 Buy Lagan Growth Low -0%	
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Buy BG Japan Small Medium +9% 0.81 -14 -11	-5 F
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Buy	Baillie Gifford Japan	Very High	+18%	0.86	-1	-9	-3	
Buy	Fidelity Japan Values	Very High	+16%	0.79	-2	-11	-9	
	JPM Flem Japan Small Co	Medium	+4%	0.57	-33	-14	-5	

Current Advice	Investment Fund	F	Risk Rating	Superi- ority Rating	Market Correla- tion	Perf 36 mth	orma 12 mth	nce 3 mth
	<u></u>	<u>ECHN</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>				
	AUSTRAL	IAN BASE	D UNIT	TRUS	TS			
	CFS Global Health Biotech		Medium	-2%	0.69	-5	3	4
	CFS Tech & Comms Platinum Int'l Technology		High Medium	-2% -1%	0.89 0.68	13 8	-7 -11	1 2
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	AXA Framlington Biotech		Vedium	-3%	0.64	-14	11	16
	AXA Framlington Glb Tech.	,	Very High	+6%	0.87	43	-7	1
	AXA Framlington Health		_ow	-1%	0.79	-5	2	5
	Cavendish Technology		Very High	+1%	0.92	_	-11	0
	Frank Temp Biotech		High	+0%	0.75	-5	13	11
	GLG Technology Equity		Vledium	+2% +1%	0.88 0.90	15	-5 -8	-1 -0
	Henderson Global Technolo L & G Global Health & Pharr		High _ow	+1%	0.90	-16	-8	-0
	L & G Global Technology		_ow Hiah	-3%	0.76	10	-9	1
	Schroder Medical Discovery		Viedium	-2%	0.83	-10	2	3
	UNITED KINGDOM	BASED LI	STED IN	IVESTM	ENT TI	RUST	s	
Avoid	Blackrock New Energy	-	Very High	-21%	0.86	-47	-26	-1
Buy	Herald Investment Trust		High	+10%	0.74	70	-11	-2
Buy	Polar Cap Technology		Very High	+8%	0.78	60	-14	-6
	Private Equity Investor	,	Very Low	-2%	0.19	-21	-17	0
	RCM Technology Trust		Vedium	+1%	0.72	5	-16	-9
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Next Issue:

The next issue of *International Investor* will be emailed in four weeks time on <u>Monday March 12, 2012</u>.

The print version will be delivered later that week, depending upon printing and postal delivery times.

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