

Why Invest?

- **High exposure to “compounders”:** The United Global Quality Growth Fund (the “Fund”) invests in “compounders”, which are quality companies that generate sustainably high returns on capital with the ability to reinvest at similarly high returns to drive future growth. We believe quality companies are likely to outperform in a high-rate world.
- **Invest in quality companies that “beat the fade”:** Quality companies can generate high returns on capital over time and avoid the tendency for excess returns to be competed down to a just-adequate level. Hence, higher likelihood of outperformance.
- **Strategically diversified:** To ensure high quality, the Fund holds 40 to 50 names that are well-diversified across sectors. The size of any single holding ranges between 2 per cent and 5 per cent to minimise concentration risk. It is also well diversified with Information Technology, Financials and Healthcare being the three largest allocations (as of March 2026).
- **Experienced investment capabilities:** Lazard’s team sub-manages the Fund, which is comprised of experienced professionals with over two decades of sector expertise, and focuses on high-quality companies with a sustainable competitive advantage.

March 2026 Portfolio Performance

The United Global Quality Growth Fund - SGD Acc	-6.59 per cent ¹
Benchmark: MSCI All Country World Index	-5.33 per cent

Source: Morningstar, Performance from 28 February 2026 to 31 March 2026 in SGD terms

¹ Fund performance is on a Net Asset Value (“NAV”) basis, with dividends and distributions reinvested (if any).

Performance Review

Contributor-Palo Alto Networks Inc rebounded in March 2026 from investor fears of Artificial Intelligence (AI) competition earlier in the quarter and significant insider buying. We like the company due to its unique combination of best-of-breed products in many categories, as well as best of suite, providing deeper integration, simpler console management, and lower cost of ownership with bundled discounts.

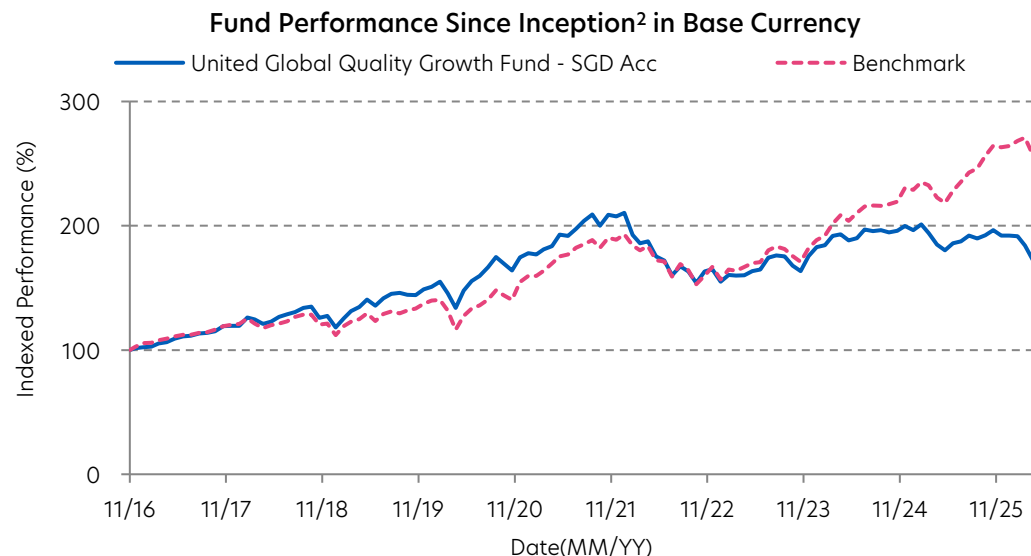
Detractor-HDFC Bank Ltd, the largest private-sector bank in India, underperformed following the resignation of the interim chair over undisclosed ethical concerns. Shortly after the resignation, HDFC’s management held several calls with investors, and we believe there are no issues with the bank’s culture or its compliance and governance practices.

Portfolio Positioning

The Quality style has materially underperformed the market over the recent past despite delivering strong earnings growth, creating a clear headwind for our approach. However, we continue to believe that high-quality companies will outperform over time and maintain conviction in our empirical studies that show high-quality companies have historically generated attractive returns. No style performs well in every environment, but even after this challenging stretch, Quality has shown a more consistent long-term record than any other style we have studied.

We continue to focus on owning the highest quality companies globally. The fundamentals of our companies remain compelling, and valuations have become increasingly supportive following a significant de-rating. This dynamic has created uncommon valuation opportunities: 50 per cent of our holdings are now trading in the bottom half of their PE (Price-to-earnings ratio) range over the last 10 years. As a result, we believe the current period provides an attractive entry point for investors to own a collection of high conviction, differentiated Quality companies at a discount at a time when markets are overdue for a renewed focus on fundamentals that have shown early signs of emerging.

Performance (Class SGD Acc)



Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

Fund performance is calculated on a NAV to NAV basis.

Benchmark: MSCI All Country World Index.

Source: Morningstar. Performance as at 31 March 2026, SGD basis, with dividends and distributions reinvested, if any.

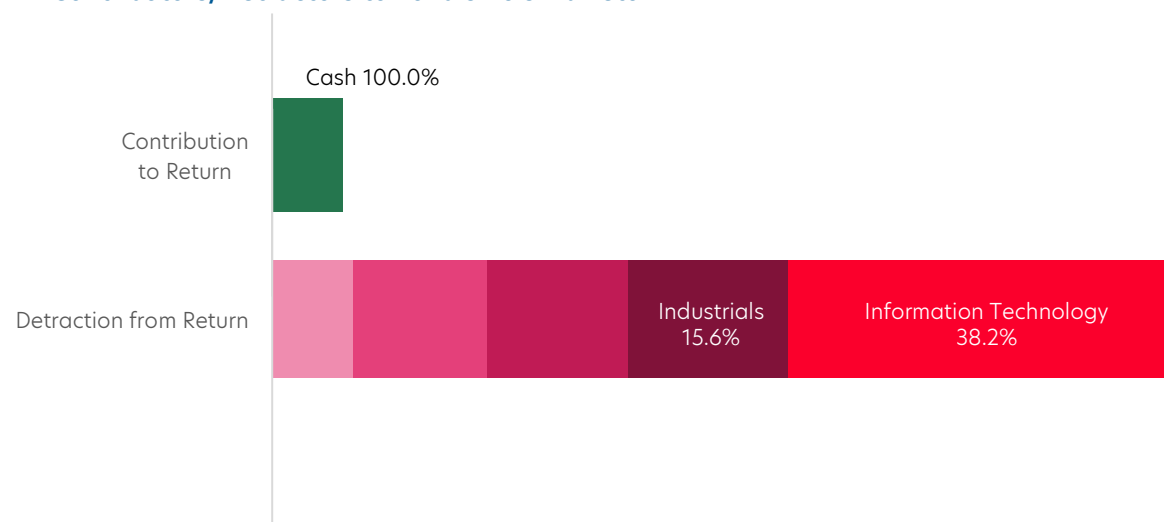
² The United Global Quality Growth Fund- SGD Acc (ISIN Code: SG9999014880) was inceptioned on 11 November 2016.

All statistics quoted in the write-up are sourced from Bloomberg as at 31 March 2026 unless otherwise stated.

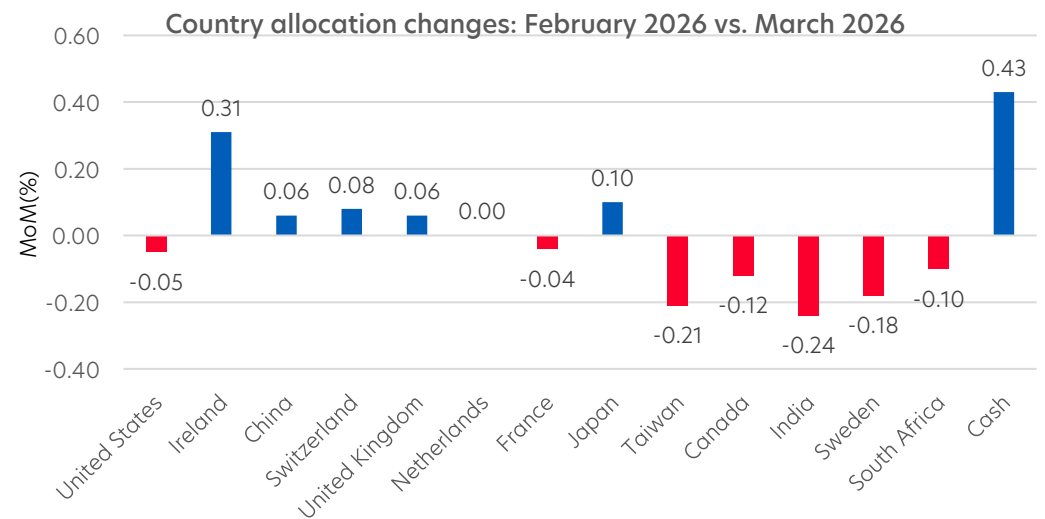
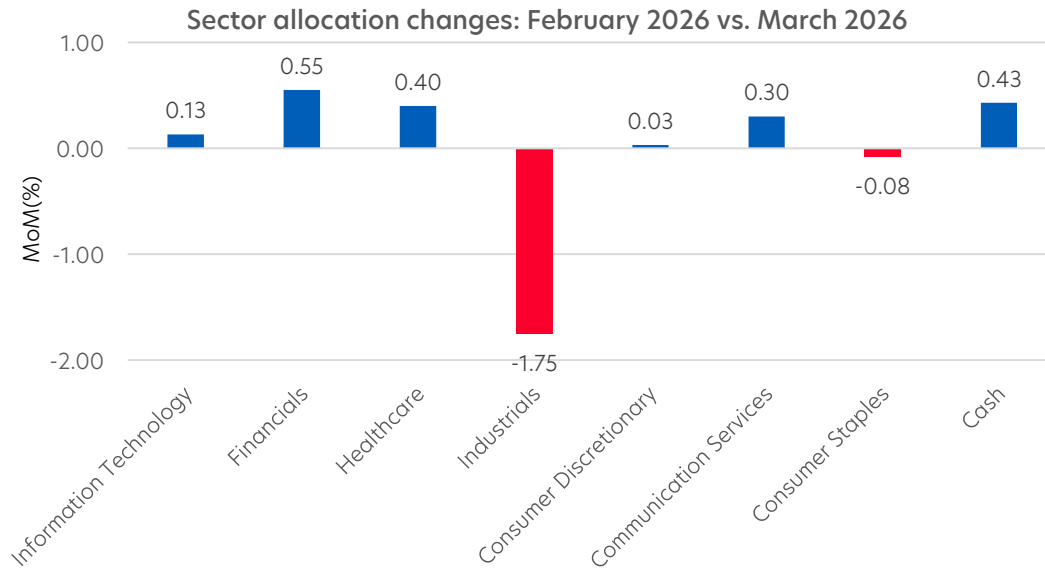
	Cumulative Performance (%)	Annualised Performance (%)			
	1 month	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Fund NAV to NAV	-6.59	-7.01	2.37	-1.31	5.94
Fund (Charges applied [^])	-11.26	-11.66	0.64	-2.32	5.37
Benchmark	-5.33	15.19	15.42	8.60	10.56

Source: Morningstar. Performance as at 31 March 2026, SGD basis, with dividends and distributions reinvested, if any. Performance figures for 1 month till 1 year show the per cent change, while performance figures above 1 year show the average annual compounded returns. Benchmark: MSCI All Country World Index. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance. [^]Includes the effect of the current subscription fee that is charged, which an investor might or might not pay.

Contributors/Detractors to Fund's -6.59% Return



Portfolio Changes



Portfolio Review

Analyst Insights

This was a very difficult quarter for the strategy, given the prevailing market environment. The portfolio experienced a significant pullback following the news of Anthropic launching new plugins tailored for the legal, finance, sales, and data marketing industries, which weighed on software and data analytics companies, businesses previously viewed by the market as having durable competitive moats. The news also broadened the market's definition of potential "AI losers," drawing in several other portfolio holdings, including consumer credit companies (Equifax and Experian), exchanges and financial data providers (Intercontinental Exchange and S&P Global), and healthcare services firms (IQVIA). While each of these companies operates highly differentiated business models, correlations across many of their respective industries increased significantly during the period, suggesting the market treated them collectively as perceived "AI losers" rather than distinguishing among their individual fundamentals.

To be clear, we remain firm believers in AI's transformative potential. Several of our holdings, such as Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing, Amphenol, and ASML, have already benefited meaningfully from the early wave of demand. That said, we are focused on thoroughly assessing the AI threat to every company we hold. So far, our analysis indicates that the market is significantly overestimating the capabilities and disruption risk presented by these new tools and potential future innovations and underestimating the barriers to competition protecting incumbent businesses from potential disruption and, in many cases, the potential for AI to augment these companies' business models. As a result, we believe many companies are being inaccurately labelled as AI losers, which has placed undue pressure on their share prices. The war in Iran and the associated rise in inflation concerns also impacted performance. The strategy's lack of exposure to the quarter's top-performing sectors, including energy, utilities, and materials, resulted in a ~180 bps performance drag. We generally lack capital in these types of businesses, as they typically do not qualify as Compounders, due to their relatively low levels of financial productivity and lack of strong competitive moats. While the severe market rotation towards these businesses has been painful, we believe it is best to focus on fundamentals rather than break discipline in an attempt to predict the timing and outcome of a military conflict.

Market Review

Global equity markets tumbled in March 2026, as escalating tensions in the Middle East curbed risk appetites.

March 2026 was another turbulent one for markets around the world, marked by uncertainty surrounding the economic impact of the US and Israel’s military campaign against Iran. News that Iran had responded to airstrikes by imposing a near-total blockade of the Strait of Hormuz rattled investors, who braced for the impact on the global economy, given that one-fifth of the world’s oil and natural gas and roughly one-third of the world’s fertiliser supply passes through the narrow waterway. With oil prices soaring as a result of the biggest oil-supply disruption in history, concerns were growing that the next step would be a surge of global inflation. Markets endured a volatile March (2026), as investors searched for any signs of reduced geopolitical tensions on the horizon.

We saw a slew of policy actions from major central banks in March 2026. All eyes were on the US, where the Federal Reserve (Fed) held interest rates steady as expected, the second consecutive policy meeting in which it has done so. However, the Fed backtracked in March 2026 and signalled that all policy actions were on the table going forward, including a rate hike, citing persistent inflationary pressure caused by higher energy prices. While the Fed left the door open for one rate cut by the end of 2026, it emphasised that it was now more constrained in its ability to ease its monetary policy.

Across the Atlantic, the European Central Bank (ECB) left interest rates unchanged for the sixth consecutive policy meeting in March 2026 and warned of “the upside risks for inflation and downside risks for economic growth” due to the war in the Middle East. The ECB’s decision to revise its inflation outlook upward has led to consensus expectations that the ECB will deliver one to two rate hikes this year. In the UK, the Bank of England (BOE) also left interest rates unchanged but warned that with inflationary pressures mounting, its next policy action was more likely to be a rate hike than a cut. Elsewhere in Europe, central banks in Switzerland, Sweden, and Norway all held interest rates steady, citing a similarly uncertain economic outlook due to the conflict in the Middle East. Meanwhile, in Japan, the Bank of Japan held interest rates steady at its policy meeting in March 2026 but warned of a rate hike due to expectations that the war in Iran will exert upward pressure on domestic inflation. Elsewhere in Asia, the People’s Bank of China affirmed its commitment to an accommodative monetary policy.

Against this backdrop, equity markets in the developed and developing worlds both fell in March 2026, with the former outperforming the latter. In the US, equities fell but outperformed, as the country’s status as an oil exporter helped hedge against some of the Middle East energy risk. In Europe, equities lagged the broader global index, as expectations of rate hikes from the ECB and BOE dampened risk sentiment. In Japan, which imports 95 per cent of its oil from the Middle East, stocks underperformed on expectations that surging oil prices will stoke higher inflation. Meanwhile, in emerging markets, Chinese equities underperformed, as soaring oil prices clouded the economic outlook for the region. Iran’s declaration that it will allow ships from “nonhostile” countries to pass through the Strait of Hormuz benefited China, which imports approximately 25 per cent of its oil through the strait.

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the United Global Quality Growth Fund is seeking to provide long-term total return by investing in equity and equity related securities of companies listed and traded on stock exchanges globally.

Fund Information

Base Currency	Fund Size	Sub-Manager
SGD	SGD 550.97 mil	Lazard Asset Management

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