# Polen U.S. Opportunistic High Yield

March 2025

### **Investment Objective**

Our U.S. Opportunistic High Yield fund's objective is to seek overall total return consisting of a high level of current income together with long-term capital appreciation

# Why Invest in Polen U.S. Opportunistic High Yield?

- strong emphasis on due diligence and margin of safety
- U.S. high yield strategy with a Private equity style investment approach with a focus on loanto-value
- Concentrated, high-conviction Long holding periods that aim portfolio
- to deliver a compounding yield advantage

### **Strategy Profile**

Inception Date	03-31-1998	
Strategy AUM*	\$4.6B	
Style	High Yield	
Range of Issuers 50-90		
Benchmarks	ICE BofA U.S. High Yield S&P UBS Leveraged Loan Index	

# **Experience in High Yield Investing**



Dave Breazzano Head of Team, Portfolio Manager 44 years of industry experience



Ben Santonelli Portfolio Manager 21 years of industry experience



John Sherman Portfolio Manager 20 years of industry experience



Past performance is not indicative of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher. Periods over one-year are annualized. Performance figures are presented gross and net of fees and have been calculated after the deduction of all transaction costs and commissions and include the reinvestment of all income. Please see accompanying Disclosures for important information.

20250224-4240081

Benchmark data source: BNY

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\*Preliminary assets as of 03-31-2025.

All data sourced from Polen Capital unless otherwise noted.



# Top Ten Issuers (%)

	Rep. Account
Baffinland Iron Mines	3.8
Specialty Steel	3.7
HUB International	3.6
Surgery Center Holdings	3.3
Material Sciences	3.3
Aveanna Healthcare	2.8
Athenahealth	2.7
Shearer's Foods	2.5
Madison IAQ	2.5
Duravant	2.4
Total	30.6

#### **Composite Statistics**

	Polen Credit U.S. Opportunistic High Yield	ICE BofA U.S. High Yield
Alpha	1.80	-
Beta	0.77	1.00
Sharpe Ratio	0.61	0.45
Upside Capture Ratio	85.38%	100.00%
Downside Capture Ratio	69.19%	100.00%
Information Ratio	0.20	-
Standard Deviation	7.93%	8.91%

## **Portfolio Characteristics**

	Rep. Account	ICE BofA US High Yield
Number of Issuers	74	885
Top 10 Issuers	30.6%	9.4%
Top 25 Issuers	62.7%	18.1%
Average Coupon	8.5%	6.5%
Average Blended Yield	9.8%	7.7%
Average Price	\$95.7	\$96.1
Adj. Effective Duration	2.1 years	3.2 years

# Asset Allocation Type (%)

	Rep. Account
Senior Unsecured Notes	35.4
Term Loans	29.5
Secured Notes	25.3
Holdco/Subordinated Debt	4.2
Equity	3.6
Cash & Equivalents	2.0
Secured Notes Holdco/Subordinated Debt Equity Cash & Equivalents	25.3 4.2 3.6 2.0

# Credit Quality Allocation (%)



All data as of 03-31-2025 and reported net of returns unless otherwise noted. Data is for the representative account.

Top 10 Issuers Source: BNY. Composite Statistics Source: BNY and Bloomberg. Portfolio Characteristics including Number of Issuers, Top 10 Issuers, and Top 25 Issuers Source: BNY. Portfolio Characteristics including Average Coupon, Average Blended Yield, Average, Price, and Adjusted Effective Duration Source: Factset.

When calculating the asset type allocation breakdown, the manager employs a hierarchical approach utilizing holdings from Everest Security Master, Factset, Bloomberg, and BNY. Data is sourced sequentially: if a data point is missing from a higher-priority source, the manager defaults to the next available source.

When calculating the credit quality breakdown, the manager uses ratings provided by Moody's, S&P and/or Fitch. The manager will select the highest rating provided by the designated agencies. If only two designated agencies rate a bond, the rating is based on the highest of the two ratings. If only one of the designated agencies rates a bond, the rating is based on the highest of the two ratings. If only one of the designated agencies rates a bond, the rating is based on the highest of the two ratings. If only one of the designated agencies rates a bond, the rating is based on that one rating. Securities that are not rated by all three agencies are reflected as such. A credit rating is an assessment provided by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO), such as Moody's, S&P and Fitch, which evaluates the credit worthiness of an issuer with respect to debt obligations. Credit ratings are measured using a scale that typically ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest) and are subject to change without notice. Composite statistics are based on the time period from 03-31-1998 to 03-31-2025. Additional information is available upon request.



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Polen Capital claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS). GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. This presentation is supplemental information to the fully compliant composite performance disclosure available at polencapital.com.

All performance is calculated in U.S. Dollars. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.** Returns are presented gross and net of management fees and include the reinvestment of all income.

In January 2025, following an internal review of the portfolios included within the Polen Credit U.S. Opportunistic High Yield Composite, Polen Capital has redefined such Composite to exclude, effective January 1, 2024, portfolios that maintain an exposure to illiquid securities in excess of 35% of assets for a consecutive three-month period. Polen Capital concluded that portfolios with an illiquid exposure in excess of that 35% limit (as a result of client flows or otherwise) were not consistent with the Polen Credit U.S. Opportunistic High Yield strategy. As a result of this redefinition, one portfolio that was previously included in the Composite has now been excluded as of such date. Following such removal, the Composite's gross and net returns for the calendar year 2024 (as well as all prior performance periods that are inclusive of the 2024 calendar year) have been restated.

The Polen Credit U.S. Opportunistic High Yield Composite (the "Opportunistic Composite") includes portfolios that follow the Opportunistic Composite strategy, which seeks to generate capital appreciation and income primarily by investing in high yield bonds and bank loans. Portfolios within the Composite will be permitted to invest in lower rated debt securities, equity securities, bank debt, small issues and direct private investments, but allocations to these security types will vary. Portfolios within the Opportunistic Composite will generally invest at least 25% of assets in bank loans and will invest in illiquid securities.

The Polen Credit U.S. Opportunistic High Yield representative account representative account is an account within the Composite that Polen Capital has deemed the most representative of the Composite strategy of all the accounts managed by Polen Capital within the Composite. Contractual investment guidelines and length of track record are the most important factors in determining a representative account for the Composite strategy. The Composite strategy statistics provided are based on a representative account and are included as supplemental information and complement a GIPS Composite Report, which is available upon request.

The index does not bear any fees or expenses and does not reflect the specific investment restrictions and guidelines of the portfolio. An investor can not directly invest in such index and therefore the index returns are comparable to the returns of the portfolio calculated on a fully gross, and not net, basis; investment results will differ from those of this index. The benchmark data is used for comparative purposes only.

Holdings are subject to change. The top holdings, as well as other data, are as of the period indicated and should not be considered a recommendation to purchase, hold, or sell any particular security. There is no assurance that any of the securities noted will remain in a portfolio at the time you receive this factsheet. Actual holding and percentage allocation in individual client portfolios may vary and are subject to change. It should not be assumed that any of the holdings discussed were or will prove to be profitable or that the investment recommendations or decisions we make in the future will be profitable. A list of all securities held in this representative account in the prior year is available upon request.

#### Indices:

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ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index: The ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index tracks the performance of U.S. dollar denominated below investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market. The index data referenced herein is the property of ICE Data Indices, LLC, its affiliates ("ICE Data") and/or its Third-Party Suppliers and has been licensed for use by Polen Capital Credit, LLC ICE Data and its Third-Party Suppliers accept no liability in connection with its use. Please contact Polen Capital Credit for a full copy of the applicable disclaimer.

**S&P UBS Leveraged Loan Index:** The S&P UBS Leveraged Loan Index is designed to mirror the investable universe of the U.S. dollar-denominated leveraged loan market.

#### Definitions:

**Adjusted Effective Duration:** With respect to the portfolio, the adjusted effective duration statistic provided is calculated by taking a weighted average of (i) modified duration to next reset date for all floating rate instruments, and (ii) effective duration for all fixed coupon instruments. With respect to the benchmark, duration is shown as effective duration.

**Alpha:** Jensen's Alpha measures the incremental return of a portfolio above the expected return, adjusted for market risk and using the return on a 3-month U.S. Treasury bill as the risk-free rate baseline. Alpha has been annualized for periods greater than one year.

Average Blended Yield: Average blended yield is the weighted average of (i) for instruments priced at or above par, yield to worst for bonds and yield to three year take out for loans, and (ii) for instruments trading at a discount, yield to maturity. Yield to worst is the lowest possible yield from owning a bond considering all potential call dates prior to maturity and is the statistic provided for the index as it is comprised of high yield bonds only. Yield to three year take out is the yield from owning a senior bank loan assuming the loan is retired in three years, or yield to maturity if the loan's maturity date is in less than three years.

**Average Coupon**: Average coupon is the average rate of the coupons of the fixed income securities (i.e., loans and bonds) in a portfolio, weighted based each holding's size relative to the portfolio.

**Average Price**: Average price is a market value weighted average price which is calculated only for the fixed income portion of the account.

**Beta:** Beta is a measure of systematic risk with respect to a benchmark. Systematic risk is the tendency of the value of the portfolio and the value of benchmark to move together.

**Downside Capture**: Downside Capture Ratio measures manager's performance in down markets. The ratio is calculated by dividing the manager's returns by the returns of the index during the down-market and multiplying that factor by 100. It is used to evaluate how well an investment manager performed relative to an index during periods when that index has dropped.

**Information Ratio:** Information Ratio measures a portfolio's returns above a benchmark while accounting for the volatility of those excess returns. Calculated as Excess Return divided by Tracking Error

**Sharpe Ratio:** A risk-adjusted measure calculated by using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk.

**Standard Deviation:** Standard deviation measures the dispersion of a dataset relative to its mean. It is calculated as the square root of the variance. Standard deviation is used as a measure of a relative riskiness of an asset.

**Upside Capture**: Upside Capture Ratio is a measure of the manager's performance in periods when the market (benchmark) goes up. Upside Capture Ratio measures a manager's performance in up markets relative to the market (benchmark) itself. The ratio is calculated by comparing the manager's returns in up-markets with that of a benchmark index.

