

SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy



Year	HC Opp Gross Return	HC Opp Net Return	90 Day T-Bills	HC Opp 3-Yr Std Dev	90 Day T-Bills 3-Yr Std Dev	Number of Portfolios	Internal Dispersion	Composite Assets (\$MM)	Firm Assets (\$MM) ¹	Leverage Utilized
4/1/2001	11.86%	9.31%	2.65%	—	—	2	*	\$17	\$693	1.36x
2002	27.22%	20.97%	1.70%	—	—	3	*	\$71	\$931	2.19x
2003	16.79%	12.97%	1.07%	—	—	3	*	\$107	\$1,514	2.26x
2004	5.55%	3.99%	1.24%	7.30%	0.10%	3	*	\$129	\$1,448	2.15x
2005	-7.96%	-8.82%	3.00%	7.67%	0.27%	2	*	\$51	\$1,161	1.13x
2006	16.19%	14.90%	4.76%	5.66%	0.42%	1	*	\$9	\$1,307	1.98x
2007	4.63%	3.60%	4.74%	5.56%	0.27%	1	*	\$9	\$1,111	2.45x
2008	-19.39%	-20.48%	1.80%	10.09%	0.42%	4	*	\$87	\$1,120	1.02x
2009	44.69%	37.57%	0.16%	12.00%	0.55%	3	*	\$161	\$1,183	1.70x
2010	21.78%	16.57%	0.13%	12.63%	0.25%	2	*	\$53	\$1,405	1.75x
2011	2.13%	0.88%	0.08%	7.72%	0.02%	2	*	\$34	\$1,394	1.83x
2012	15.31%	11.73%	0.07%	6.06%	0.01%	2	*	\$18	\$1,476	2.24x
2013	8.28%	5.96%	0.05%	4.55%	0.01%	2	*	\$19	\$1,689	1.59x
2014	-1.19%	-2.51%	0.03%	4.41%	0.01%	2	*	\$21	\$1,593	1.15x
2015	-1.39%	-2.48%	0.03%	4.28%	0.01%	2	*	\$23	\$1,291	1.78x
2016	13.47%	11.79%	0.27%	5.23%	0.03%	2	*	\$23	\$1,404	1.70x

The disclosures on the following pages are an integral part of the composite presentation.

Compliance Statement

SSI Investment Management, Inc. ("SSI") claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. SSI has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2016 by The Spaulding Group. The verification report(s) is/are available upon request.

Verification assesses whether (1) the firm has complied with all the composite construction requirements of the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis and (2) the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation.

Definition of the Firm

SSI Investment Management was established in 1973 and is a Registered Investment Advisor based in Los Angeles, CA. SSI manages assets in domestic and global capital markets. SSI acquired the assets of Frole, Revy Investment Co., Inc. and its composites as of March 1, 2009. SSI is 100% employee owned and is not affiliated with any parent organization nor does SSI have any subsidiaries. SSI applies quantitative disciplines and fundamental research in its management of alternative and traditional portfolios for institutional and high net-worth investors. SSI manages separate accounts, limited partnerships and acts as sub-advisor to mutual funds.

Policies

SSI's policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations is available upon request.

The Composite & Benchmark

The SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy composite was created on April 1, 2001 and invests long in a diversified portfolio of convertible bonds/preferreds and short the underlying common stocks to attempt to achieve an absolute return. We expect to use leverage all or most of the time within this strategy. The composite contains fully discretionary accounts including those no longer with the firm. With interest rebates on short sales and coupon interest on convertible bonds/preferreds comprising a consistent and important component of the return, SSI believes a performance comparison versus the 90-Day Treasury Bill is appropriate. The volatility of this strategy is expected to be greater than the volatility of the 90-Day Treasury Bill due to the use of convertible and equity positions, short positions and leverage. The return, if any, above the 90-Day Treasury Bill is dependent upon higher interest income available in the convertible market and SSI's discretionary management. Any other indices shown are not necessarily comparable to SSI's Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy. These are widely recognized market indices that are shown for informational purposes only. The composite name was formally known as SSI Hedged Convertible Market Neutral Leveraged Strategy from 4/1/2001 – 6/30/2008 and on 7/1/2008 the new composite name became the SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy.

Use of Leverage, Derivatives, and Shorts

Leverage is utilized in the HC Opportunity Strategy. Leverage is defined as gross longs over capital. The strategy has the ability to be levered up to 3Xs but is generally in the 1.5 – 2Xs range and the use of derivatives is not material. The Strategy is generally fully hedged and involves buying a convertible bond/preferred and shorting the underlying common stock in order to reduce the equity exposure. Every long position is hedged with an offsetting short.

Investment Management Fees

Returns are presented gross and net of management fee. Actual results of an individual account may be materially different from the performance shown herein because of differences in inception date, transaction and related costs, restrictions, fees and other factors. All performance is based in U.S. dollars and reflect, on a percentage basis for each of the periods indicated: (a) the net increase (decrease) of all SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy portfolios during the period, dollar-weighted, including adjustments for unrealized gains and losses, the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings, the deduction of investment costs, the deduction of limited partnership and/or mutual fund costs (if any), time-weighted to adjust for additions and withdrawals, and (b) the net increase (decrease) of the 90-Day Treasury Bill. The SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Fund, SPC which is included in the SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy Composite from May 2008 to December 2009, incurred administrative costs that are approximately between two and eight basis points higher per month than the costs of other accounts included in the composite.

Net performance is reduced by SSI's investment management fees which includes performance fees. Gross performance does not include deduction of SSI's investment management or performance fees.

If performance is gross of management fees, client's actual return will be reduced by the management fees and any other expenses which may be incurred in the management of an investment advisory account. See SSI's Form ADV, Part 2A for a complete description of the investment advisory fees customarily charged by SSI. As an example, an account with an initial \$1,000,000 investment on January 1, 2003, earning a recurring 5% semi-annual gross return (10.25% annualized), and paying a .5% semi-annual management fee (1% annual fee) would have grown to \$1,340,096 on a gross of fees basis and \$1,300,392 on a net of fees basis by December 31, 2005 (3 years).

List of Composites

A list of the Firm's composite descriptions is available upon request.

Fee Schedule

SSI Hedged Convertible Opportunity Strategy charges a 1% fee annually based on equity at the beginning of the billing period + 20% performance fee with or without a hurdle.

Internal Dispersion

Internal dispersion is not shown as there has been historically less than 5 portfolios in the composite.

Additional Disclosure

*5 or less portfolios in composite for entire year

¹Firm assets prior to 2009 do not include the composite assets from Frolely Revy.

3 Year annualized ex-post standard deviation is not presented for 2001-2003 because 3 year annualized returns are not available.

Performance prior to January 1, 2000 does not comply with the GIPS standards.

SSI acquired Frolely Revy and its composites as of March 1, 2009. Prior to the acquisition, Frolely Revy claimed GIPS compliance for the periods of 1983-2008 and was independently verified by Ashland Partners & Co.

Investors must assess the suitability of any particular investment opportunity and carry out any due diligence that they require in relation to the strategy or investments or individual holdings of the strategies that SSI manages. In doing this, investors should seek separate advice. It should not be assumed that recommendations made will be profitable and any investment is at risk of loss. This summary represents the views of the portfolio managers as of the date noted at the beginning of this document. Any holdings mentioned in the accompanying summary are from its stated strategy. Portfolio holdings are subject to change without notice and are not intended as recommendations of individual securities. The information in this article is not intended to be personalized recommendations to buy, hold or sell investments. The information, statements, views and opinions included in this article are based on sources (both internal and external sources) considered to be reliable, but no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to their accuracy, completeness or correctness. Such information, statements, views and opinions are expressed as of the date of this article, are subject to change without further notice and do not constitute a solicitation for the purchase or sale of any investment referenced in the article. Changes in any assumptions may have a material impact on the results. Due to various risks and uncertainties, actual events or projected results may differ materially from those reflected in the document.

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