



## Statement Regarding Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG)

April 2018

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Our research focuses on identifying, thoroughly testing, and incorporating investment signals into our quantitative alpha and risk models. We understand that environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) considerations can impact businesses' profitability and sustainability of earnings, in addition to the risks associated with their securities. As such, we evaluate and selectively incorporate ESG information into our investment process.

In 2016, we became a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Investment ("PRI") demonstrating our recognition of the importance of these issues.

### **Investment Process**

We incorporate what we believe to be the best investment insights into our clients' portfolios with the objective to deliver sustainable alpha on a risk controlled basis. Consistent with this ambition, all investment and risk signals, including those associated with ESG information, are evaluated in a systematic and rigorous manner prior to inclusion in our process. For example, we have found that strong corporate governance tends to contribute to stable and well-managed firms.

At a client's request, we can also apply exclusionary screens that accommodate a variety of responsible investment considerations and restrictions specified by the client that may generally prohibit the purchase of certain securities, either individually or by region, sector, or other designated class.

### **Active Ownership**

We offer ESG specific proxy voting services to clients upon request. The proxy services we provide are outsourced to a well-known third party service provider. Our proxy service provider is responsible for monitoring events affecting the issuers of securities as required to cast informed votes; making decisions on voting securities and voting the securities in a timely fashion; and maintaining necessary records.

### **Continued Commitment to Research**

One of our core beliefs is that active management is an intrinsically dynamic activity, and we continually reinvest in research, including that related to ESG concepts and characteristics. To this end, we recognize that the risks and return potential related to ESG issues change and evolve over time. We are therefore committed to considering and evaluating various signals associated with ESG information as well as related third-party academic research to identify potential return or risk implications associated with ESG-based signals.

To ensure that progress is measured and continuous, we have established a Responsible Investing Committee that meets semi-annually to discuss our approach to various ESG related issues, both in our investment process and in our internal business practices.